

## **Boston Branch of the Royal Scottish Dance Society**

### **Minutes of the Executive Committee**

August 27, 2019

**Present:** Marsha Byrnes, Cathy Crabtree, Karen Gansz, Sharon Gilmour, Susan Haines, Jeffrey Hopper, Linda McJannet, Lance Ramshaw, John Salyards, Jeremy Thorpe

**Absent:** Winifred McGowan

- 1. Minutes from the June 26, 2019 meeting** – The minutes were approved with two corrections – replace “libel” with “liable” in the Treasurer’s Report and change the date for the Chelmsford Party to August 10.
- 2. Treasurer’s Report** (Cathy) – Cathy reports that the total liabilities and net assets stand at \$112,453. There is still approximately \$53,000 owed to Pinewoods Camp - \$36,000 for Scottish Sessions and \$17,000 for ESCape. The final invoices have not been received. The rental fees for both the Highland Ball and the Ceilidh have been prepaid.

The question concerning whether or not the Lifeguard at Pinewoods is covered under our insurance was answered. The insurance is not specific to the person, so campers are basically swimming at their own risk. It was recommended that campers are warned in advance, so it could be added to the application.

The going away party for Evelyn will be held on September 29<sup>th</sup>. The Teaching and Music Committee has requested \$350. This request was approved by Exec.

### **3. Reports from Liaisons –**

- a. Highland Ball (May 9, 2020) (Cathy) – The date of the Ball will be May 9, 2020. Marsha has offered to co-chair the Ball but still needs a co-chair. Suggestions were made for potential bands. The payment fee offered would be \$1750 for a 3-piece band. The potential band leader will be asked if they have a preference for a piper to be asked. MaryEllen Scannell and Susie Petrov have expressed interest in speaking with Exec about the last Ball.
- b. Joint Ceilidh (November 2, 2019) (Cathy) – Cathy and Linda will be representing the RSCDS portion of the event (shared with Highland Dance Boston and the Scots Charitable Society). Jeff reports that he sent the application for a grant from NHScots and the grant was approved. He would like some professional photographs to share with NHScots when he sends his report about 8 weeks after the Ceilidh. The postcards have been ordered, and Jeff would like a supply to distribute at the New Hampshire Highland Games. John Crabtree has offered to take over the job of manning the mailing list, if there is the need for a replacement. Publicity will be in full scale once September arrives, and rehearsals will start for the Boston Scottish Country Dancers.

- c. Scottish Sessions Pinewoods (July 5 – 13, 2019) (Jeremy) – There was no report from the co-chairs, but it was a very successful camp. The dates for next year's Scottish Sessions Pinewoods are July 10 – 18, 2020
- d. ESCape (July 1 – 5, 2019) (Sharon) – Jeremy would like to check in with April Birnie and Dan Potter to ask how things went this year. Cathy still needs copies of the receipts for re-imbusement purposes. The dates for next year's ESCape are July 6 – 10, 2020.
- e. Loon Mountain Games (September 20 – 22, 2019) (Jeff) – The Boston Branch will be represented at the Games with a table of information. Merrill Henderson is in charge but would like some help. SCD Workshops, including audience participation, are occurring throughout the weekend. We were asked if we would like to contribute to help underwrite the medals and trophies, perhaps for the Highland Dancing. Exec approved \$100 for this purpose. Jeff will contact NHSscots with our decision.
- f. Teaching and Music Committee (Marsha) – A musician and an at-large person are needed. Some of the meetings are done via Webex, so outlying people should be considered. Karen will contact those people suggested for the at-large position, and Susan will contact the suggested musician.
- g. Boston Scottish Country Dancers (Marsha) - The team will be starting work on dances for the Ceilidh.
- h. Nominating Committee (Marsha) – One person is still needed for the committee. Susan will contact the suggested replacement.
- i. New Hampshire Highlands (August 23 – 25, 2019) (Susan) – No report on the recent dance weekend. The dates for next year's weekend are August 28 – 30, 2020.
- j. *Tartan Times* (Susan) – Evelyn Murray and Barbara McOwen will be starting on the next issue this week. They need information on events occurring this Fall. We need to ask Barbara her thoughts on the future of the *Tartan Times*.
- k. Membership (Susan) – No report at this time.
- l. Website (Jeff) – The webmasters need updates on TMC pages and class listings and contacts. There has been an Android problem with the loading of web pages.
- m. Bookstore (Cathy) – The Bookstore managers are giving up the job. They provided Cathy with a list of their duties, including maintaining and storing the inventory, bringing the Bookstore to several events, keeping track of the finances and reporting them to the Branch Treasurer, and getting books re-published as necessary. How are we going to advertise for a new Bookstore manager(s)?
- n. SDCEA (?) – No report at this time.

- o. Equipment (John) – John reports that a repair may be needed on a slider board. Following discussions with Thom Howe, it was determined that a stipend in the \$20 to \$50 range would be appropriate, so event planners should consider this when determining their budgets.
- p. Class Liaisons –
  - Chelmsford, MA (John) – The August class party, “A Royal Affair,” had about 29 attendees.
  - Fairlee, VT (Karen) – Gary Apfel reports that the Fairlee Class did not meet during July and August. Classes will resume Wednesday, September 4. Two members of the class attended Pinewoods, and eight members attended New Hampshire Highlands. Their autumn social is scheduled for October 12 with Susie Petrov as the band leader.
- 4. Old Business –
- 5. New Business –
  - a. Branch Archivist – Jeffrey Hopper agreed to serve as the Branch Archivist, collecting meeting minutes, programs, the Gazette, etc. to be stored at UNH.
- 6. Next Meetings –
  - a. September 25 – phone meeting
  - b. October 23 -