

Boston Branch of the Royal Scottish Dance Society
Minutes of the Executive Committee

October 28, 2020

Zoom meeting: Marsha Byrnes, Bill Card, Cathy Crabtree, Karen Gansz, Susan Haines, Winifred McGowan, Linda McJannet, Lance Ramshaw, Jeremy Thorpe

1. **Minutes from the September 30, 2020 meeting** – The minutes were approved with corrections to the capitalization of Bill Card’s name in the “At-Large member” section, a re-wording in the “Equipment” section, and Winifred had already noted that the *Tartan Times* report belonged in the New Hampshire Highlands section.
2. **Treasurer’s Report (Cathy)** - Cathy reports that the cash balance stands at \$74,004. The prepaid revenue stands at \$14,080, which is Pinewoods deposits for next year. Other than Membership fees, there has not been much activity. A push for Membership still needs to be done. Expenses for the month include the state filing fees for the Secretary of State, the deposit for Memorial Hall to hold the date for the Ball (the church in Weston does not want payment for the 3 Friday night Welcome Dance until February), Square fees, some *Tartan Times* expenses for postage, and Professional Services honoraria for workshops led by Jen Schoonover and Susie Petrov.
3. **New Business** –
 - a) Votes for HQ AGM – The HQ AGM will be held on November 7, 2020 at 9 AM. Jeremy Thorpe, Jean Farrington, Cathy Crabtree, and Linda McJannet are the Branch delegates. Jeremy reminded the delegates to be certain to submit their votes.
4. **Reports from Liaisons** –
 - a) Nominating Committee (Marsha) – One member-at-large for the Executive Committee is still needed. A couple of suggestions were discussed.
 - b) ESCape (Jeremy) – The committee was able to pay all of their staff, and there were some refunds (\$2181) to the campers. The \$1400 extra will be split between CDS and RSCDS. What should be done with this \$700? It was moved, seconded, and approved to give the money to the SDCEA for the COVID-19 Relief Fund.
 - c) Scottish Sessions Pinewoods (Jeremy) – Warren Anderson has been named as the Interim Executive Director of Pinewoods Camp, Inc.
 - d) Teaching and Music Committee (Marsha) – The TMC used to select the musicians for the Ball, and the Welcome Dance and Brunch musicians were selected by the Ball chairs in consultation with TMC. The policy was changed in 2006 so that the Ball musicians are now selected by Exec. No one seems to know why this change occurred.
TMC is thinking about providing virtual workshops. Albany provided a

virtual Fall Frolic, and NEFFA will be virtual for 2021.

TMC has updated the musician and teacher lists and posted them on the website.

- e) Highland Ball (Marsha) – No new information at this time.
- f) Equipment (Lance) – Nothing to report at this time.
- g) Loon Mountain Games (Karen) – Nothing to report at this time.
- h) Joint Ceilidh (cancelled) (Cathy) – Nothing to report at this time.
- i) Boston Scottish Country Dancers (Marsha) – Nothing to report at this time.
- j) Membership (Susan) – The deadline for membership is November 15, 2020. Linda will draft a “join the Branch” letter for Jeremy to send out. Thank you to Linda for also sending a basket of “goodies” to John and MaryEllen Scannell for their years of dedication as Membership chairs.
- k) New Hampshire Highlands (Susan) – Nothing to report at this time.
- l) *Tartan Times* (Susan) – Barbara McOwen and Evelyn Murray are putting together the Nov/Dec issue, so if anyone has anything to include, now is the time to send it to them.
- m) Website (Lance) – Meyer Billmers is wondering when he should change the members list. Lance will relay to him that the Membership deadline was pushed to November 15th.
- n) Bookstore (Cathy) – Nothing to report at this time.
- o) Class Liaisons –
 - Brunswick, ME (Karen) – Patti Tillotson reports that they had their online Brunswick Fall Dance Party on Oct 17, and it was a success. At the last minute, there needed to be a change in musicians, and Katie McNally and Neil Pearlman stepped in to help, plus Ed Pearlman helped in making all the technical parts work. About 40 people attended. Patti thanks the Branch for the music subsidy. It was much appreciated and made sure they were able to cover their costs of the evening. Patti also made an announcement concerning Branch membership and hopes that some will follow through and do it. The Brunswick Class Zoom classes still continue.
 - Cambridge, MA (Lance) – The Cambridge Class is doing just fine!

5. Old Business –

- a) SAGM – The SAGM will be held on Monday November 9, 2020 as a Zoom meeting hosted by John Crabtree. After the meeting, there could be breakout rooms for chatting.

6. Next Meeting –

- a) Wednesday December 2, 2020 at 7:45 PM via Zoom