

EOSARDA Board of Directors Meeting
Sunday, February 15, 2009
Ottawa Citizen Building, 1101 Baxter Street, Ottawa

Attendance

Billi & Chucki Langtry, Jean & Don Clingin, Anne & Brian Gibbs, Zig Segstro, Dave Western, Gavin Currie, Linda & Bruce Warner, Gerry & Jim Sawtell, Carol & Bob Milne

Regrets: Laurie and Ken Ingram, Andy Himberg-Larsen.

1. **Call to Order** - 1:40 PM by Dave Western
2. **Agenda** - Approved (Zig Segstro/Don Clingin)
3. **Minutes** - EOSARDA January meeting - approved
4. **Minutes** - COD November meeting - Dave mentioned that these minutes have been amended to reflect that the COD unanimously endorsed 2009 SRDWeek.
5. **Secretary** - Zig offered to do the minutes for this meeting
6. **Reports**

a. Operations Committee

- Registration

Registration for dance year 2008/09 has been completed. Insurance cards and certificates have all been distributed. Any new members will be gratis till next year. We will be processing our own certificates of insurance next season as soon as clubs have registered which should speed up the process for booking of venues for the upcoming dance year.

As of today 39 clubs, 4 associations and 1222 dancers, callers and cuers are registered. These are the final number recognized by Federation & Society. Thankfully this has come to an end.

- Correspondence - no
- Committee membership - Dave circulated the latest version.
- Bob Summers - will review with OACA representatives

b. Finance Committee

- Treasurer's report

As of this date the bank balance is \$ 14,394.56 with O/S cheques of \$ 1,607.15 . This results in a book balance of \$ 12,787.41

There are NO unpaid bills

- OTF Grant application update

Gavin Currie noted that he had prepared a draft work plan based on the discussions held before Christmas, but that further work needs to be done on it before it comes to the Executive. He asked for a volunteer to work with him on this project to replace Pat Mills. He also noted that he had been trying to contact the OTF to try and clarify the impact of the application from Swinging Swallows on any application from EOSARDA."

c. Dance Committee

- Frosty Fling - Anne & Brian Gibbs - see attached
Frosty Fling to be booked for next year (Gavin Currie)
- Jamboree - Don/Jean Clingin
Callers and Cuers in place
contracts back from the callers
Support Club in place Take-A-Step Rounds may need more help
Do I put together sign in sheets, ribbon return sheets, pens etc.
Who does floats and the 50/50 tickets?
Is there any time needed for presentations? (allow for five minutes of "mike" time for the Prez)
What about door prizes?
Who does the coffee supplies : coffee urns and teapots?
the use of student volunteers is highly recommended
- there is a need for the committee to review/update the current standard procedures
- the lack of an OACA representative is of concern.

d. IT Committee - The IT committee has been discussing the best way post the Board Minutes and Council of Dancers minutes. The information will be submitted to the webmaster in MS Word or Word Perfect format and changed into PDF files for posting on the website.

e. PPP Committee - see attached

- SRDW up-date
Facilities - St. Laurent & Bayshore shopping centres have been contacted and initial response received. Application for St. Pat's (Taste of Dance) has been submitted.
Caller/Cuer - we have them for St. Laurent (Wendy & John). Jean and Gerry have agreed to cue for Bayshore. Brian Crawford has been contacted and Geoff will be when he returns.
Club Meeting - scheduled for March 22nd - very little response - message to be re-sent and followed up by Zig with 'phone calls
Taste of Dance - see attached
- callers/cuers to be contacted to determine what they would like to see taught
-it was felt that this should be limited to beginner levels, i.e. exclude Main Stream, etc.
- Square Time - new format well received
- inserts can be sent to the editors at any time prior to the deadline
- subscriptions can be submitted to the editors at any time\

f. Club Liaison, Recognition & Awards Committee

- Bob Summers felt that something should be published which would outline what Clubs' reporting requirements are in relation to EOSARDA; e.g. registration information, up-date of executive committee members, open dance details, etc. Board members to inform Bob of what these reporting requirements should be.
- Dave is to clarify the situation regarding a new (?) round dance club in Kingston
- The committee has been sharing a lot of emails during the past month to develop a mandate for the committee and divide up the tasks that each committee member will handle. Final wording of the mandate is close to being completed.
- A belated Award Certificate was created for the Seaway Squares 20th anniversary to be presented next week. The celebration was held in the fall 2008 and unfortunately no EOSARDA recognition was given at the time.
- Award Certificates have been prepared for the upcoming 40th Anniversary of the Meri Squares and also the 40th Anniversary of John Charmin calling. These are to be presented at their celebration on Sat Feb 28, 2009.
- Work is underway to get the names, dates, time, places of new dancers so the Board can recognize those who will be completing their first year.

g. OACA

- It was decided that the summer dance program for basic dancers would be held again this year. Day and time to be announced when location is found.
- The present location for the Dancing in The Park program is basically disgusting with all the goose droppings throughout the area. Also it has been noted that participation from the public has been minimal and there fore it was decided not to have this event, unless a more suitable location could be found.
- The issue of whether callers/cuers should pay admittance for EOSARDA dances was discussed within our own group, the general consensus was that because we the callers spend a lot of time preparing, teaching and also encouraging the dancers to attend these dances it should remain that callers and cuers do not pay for EOSARDA Dances.

h. RDTA

- Valentines Dance was a success with 34 couples attending and raising in excess of \$700 for the Heart & Stroke Foundation.
- We had a productive meeting on February 7th. The round dance leaders will buy their ribbon when attending an EOSARDA dance, if they are not working.
- Next meeting to be held at the home of the Clingin's April 26th for lunch.

7. Old Business

- a. Free list for EOSARDA dances - Gerry Sawtell
 - cuers voluntarily pay to attend dances if they are not working at the dance
 - callers who are not working the dance do not pay admission for themselves or their spouses
 - callers and cuers working at a dance do not pay admission for themselves or their spouses

This subject generated a lively discussion, with many options/variations being proposed/suggested. A final decision was deferred to the next meeting to allow for some research to be conducted - Billi Langtry
- b. Refreshments @ Board meetings - Anne & Brian will no longer provide this service after the March meeting. Unless a new volunteer is found, coffee and treats will not be provided at subsequent meetings - members to provide their own coffee. Dave will store the coffee equipment for now.
- c. Branding Initiative/ Web site
 - it was agreed that this initiative was not urgent and that it could be included in the Trillium Grant application
 - our website to be changed so that our currently- approved logo be shown
- d. Swingin' Swallows OTF Application for 2009 - this club had requested a 2-year grant and received one year. EOSARDA was the "sponsor". Swallows now wants to apply for the 2nd year. Registration procedures have changed so that technically EOSARDA now becomes the applicant, being the non-profit organization. This may jeopardize EOSARDA's attempts to obtain a grant. Conversely, we have a moral obligation to "support" the Swallows' 2nd year request. OTF is to be contacted to determine what our status will be if we support the Swallows' application. Assuming a favourable answer from

the OTF, Dave will register EOSARDA with them in order for the Swingin' Swallows to be able to proceed with their grant application.

e. Dance signs - Anne reported that the new signs were used for the Frosty Fling. The signs were great, thanks to Gerry for doing this.

8. New Business

a. Fees for use of Citizen Building - \$25 fee applicable as of April. It was decided to stay with this building for the balance of the fiscal year and payment was approved (Chuck/Gavin). For next year, alternatives will be explored by Bruce.

b. Dancing in the Park - Bruce received the application from the City. It was decided to discontinue this function. (See OACA report)

c. Re-order promotional postcards - Board members who have a supply of the postcards on hand are to bring them to the next board meeting. A decision to order additional cards will be made at that time.

d. The motion from the January meeting setting up the composition of the various committees (Item 8 (d) last item) to be amended to: " all Directors and Officers, with the exception of the RDTA and OACA Representatives, are expected to participate actively on at least two of the afore-mentioned committees." (Gavin/Bob)

e. Posting Board agendas and minutes on website - this was supported but only approved agendas and minutes.

f. EOSARDA Dangles

- the current application form is to be amended by Bruce & Dave taking into consideration the discussion that took place. The draft is to be circulated to Board members. It will eventually be put on our website.

-Dave made a suggestion for a method to recognize volunteers. The subject was tabled for the next meeting.

g. EOSARDA Dances - first item on the agenda for the next meeting

h. Next Board meeting - due to the absence of many members on March 15th, the meeting date was changed to March 8th, same time and place, pending confirmation of availability of the Citizen Building.

Meeting adjourned (Brian/Billi)

Report to EOSARDA on Frosty Fling 2009

Frosty Fling 2009 attracted about 180 attendees, including callers and cuers. We're not sure of the exact number since more tickets were sold than the number who signed in at the dance. (Last year's Frosty Fling attracted approximately 144 people.) The evening was a profitable one with approximately \$540 in revenue over expenses.

We believe that the Used Clothes Boutique was a very successful addition to the dance and hope the MacPhees and Shepherds will continue next year. Although very organized, they were a little overwhelmed with the hordes of sellers and buyers who swamped them at the dance. We're not sure of the total raised for the Weekend Walk for Breast Cancer, but it is in the range of \$700-\$800.

We had asked the school to provide us with two student volunteers and they sent us three—we could easily have used four. We could also have used more tables (we ordered 12) and it was suggested that we put the flyer table inside the square dance hall next time.

We have had very positive feedback from some of the basic square dancers, who said they thoroughly enjoyed the evening. Wendy VanderMeulen and John Charman did a great job. Feedback from round dancers has been positive, as well, except that they would have liked more breaks. (Round dancing can be more physically demanding than square dancing.) We also owe a round of thanks to Jean and Don Clingin and Gerry and Jim Sawtell for their wonderful contribution to an enjoyable evening.

However, we have had criticism from Geoff Clarke about the length of the dance (two and a half hours) and the separation of the round from the square dancing. We think EOSARDA should discuss the length of the evening. Geoff said that the number of squares on the floor had dropped from 15 squares earlier in the evening to 10 nearer the end. Maybe that doesn't matter if the dancers at the end were still enjoying the dancing.

As to the question of the separate round dance hall, on polling several of the round dancers we found they overwhelmingly preferred their own room, since the noise level from the sidelines is eliminated. Others said they came out for the round dancing alone and probably wouldn't have come to a mixed floor of rounds and squares.

Geoff also objected to our having Phase 3 dances when we advertised Phase 2 only. As this is a legitimate objection, we would recommend that next year's Frosty Fling should advertise its program as mainly Phase 2 with some 3s. It should be noted that there were still lots of dancers on the floor for the phase 3s, and some specifically asked for rumbas, which start at phase 3. All these items should be taken into consideration by next year's convenors.

We would like to thank Gavin and Pat Currie for their help with the contract and at the dance. We would also like to thank the Meri Squares for their able help at the dance.

Ann and Brian Gibbs
Frosty Fling Convenors

P&P Committee Report

18 January, 2009

On December 8, 2008 a Working Group of the P&P Committee met with Gavin Currie to provide him with advice and guidance on the possible contents of the draft application for a Trillium Foundation grant. From that meeting came the discussion paper that the Board will be considering under new business.

Also in December, I was contacted by Ms Paula Sherwood of the 1,000 Islands Mall, who was looking for groups to put on demonstration dances in the mall as part of their Equitation Weekend that will take place on February 19 - 21. I passed this request on to both the OACA and the RDTA, with a strong recommendation that dance clubs in the area participate in this event and a request that they poll their members to see which Callers and Cuers would like to take part. Passing this request on to the two Associations was consistent with the advice that I had previously received from the Caller and Cuer reps as to how such requests should be handled. I also requested feedback from both groups on the results of the request.

When I hadn't heard anything further from either group by early January, I initiated follow-up action and included two people from the SVSRDA in the follow-up action.

I have now been advised that the Good Time Squares and Harbour Lites will be taking part in this event and that the Swingin' Saints and the Rock and Roll Squares are also considering taking part. I have requested to be kept apprised of developments in this regard.

Over the lunch hour today, the Square and Round Dance Week '09 Organizing Committee met to begin planning for this year's event.

The Organizing Committee is pleased to make the following recommendations to the Board:

- Square and Round Dance Week '09 should take place between September 12 and 19, 2009
- Square and Round Dance Week '09 activities should include:
 - the Grenville Gremlins' Hospice Dance (Saturday, September 12)
 - Demo Dances at St. Laurent and Bayshore Malls (both on Sunday, September 13)
 - Demos dances in as many of the major regional malls in Eastern Ontario as possible
 - Taste of Dance II (Saturday, September 19)
- All EOSARDA affiliated dance clubs should be encouraged to run events during the Week.
- EOSARDA should both coordinate and publicize as many Square and Round Dance Week-related club events as possible
- EOSARDA should conduct a regional advertising campaign in late August and early September aimed at publicising Square and Round Dance Week-related events

Dave Western
Chair
P&P Committee