



FRASER VALLEY SQUARE & ROUND DANCE ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the General Meeting January 21, 2023

10:30 AM (via Zoom)

Chaired by Blair Wallace

Meeting commenced at 10:34 AM

Blair welcomed everyone and told us the exciting news that he was a grandpa again with the early arrival of Heather's twins (a boy and a girl) on January 16, 2023 at 1:45 AM.



Attendance:

Chilliwick Rhythm Reelers (Steve Armstrong), **Circle 8's - formerly Swinging Singles** (Janice Hiscott), **Royal Swingers** (Peter & Nancy Slinn), **Stardowners** (Mary deCario), **Surrey Square Wheelers** (Judy Remenda), **Swinging Hubs** (Norm Cox), **Town 'n' Country Dancers** (Barbara Tryssenaar), **Wesburn Wranglers** (Caitlyn Brendzy), **White Rockers** (Diane O'Hara)

Don Allan, Alex Galbraith, Al Gibbs & June Fitchett, Dave Hammer, Betty Langtry, Eva Matheson & Nelson Baranow, Sandi Poje, Barbara Tryssenaar, Blair Wallace, Dianne Wilson, Maureen Wilson

We have a quorum with 9 clubs (minimum 8 clubs required).

Absent:

Abbotsford Grand Squares, Brent's Bunch, Century House Squares, Chuckwagon 8's, Guys & Gals, Motiv8ors, Valley Promenaders, Wheeling 8's

John Corrigan, Brent Mawdsley, David McVige, Ron Robertson,

Moved/Seconded: Diane Wilson/Nancy Slinn -- to accept agenda as circulated -- CARRIED

Correspondence

The following have been sent since the last meeting (Oct 2, 2022) (4 cards)

Sympathy cards to the families of:

1. Brian Catterall
2. Kris Christensen
3. Wendy Person (SSW)
4. **Get Well card** to Allan Gibbs after his surgery:

Message from Allan Gibbs:

I would like to send a big thank you to the FVSRDA for the Get Well card following my Pacemaker surgery. It's always good to receive a note of cheer. I am feeling much better and hope to be back full time dancing. Have done a few short tips already without collapsing.

Approval of Minutes of previous meeting (Oct 2, 2022)

Moved/Seconded: Barb/Don -- To approve minutes of previous meeting (Oct 2, 2022) as amended (spelling of 'de Smit fund' has been corrected)
-- CARRIED

REPORTS –

a) Treasurer's Report – Don Allan (*financials are sent as an attachment to the minutes*)

Reminder that grants are available to the clubs

Comments on the Financial Statements

We are gradually returning to Post COVID new normal operation. Most clubs have resumed dancing and the first phase of the registration process for 2023 has been completed.

The financial statements reflect the club and dancer registration fees that were collected and forwarded. Most of the fees collected by the FVSRDA are BC Square and Round Dance Federation (BCSRDF) fees and Canadian Square and Round Dance Society (CSRDS) fees that are forwarded to the BCSRDF.

Publication of print versions of the Valley Circle has resumed. In addition, charging for subscriptions and advertising has resumed.

The financial statements reflect the subscription and advertising income and the printing and postage expenses associated with producing and distributing the Valley Circle. Aside from these two areas there are some minor expenses for badges and the Scroll of Honour award.

Comments on 2023 Registration

Eighteen clubs have registered for 2023. The 2023 Registration Report lists the clubs that have registered and the number of dancers that have registered at each club. So far 360 dancers have registered for 2023. Normally, additional dancers are added in January and later months as some clubs start new dancer classes.

Fifty-four of the 360 dancers registered for 2023 were not registered previously in the FVSRDA.

The BCSRDF refunded \$1200 in 2022 dancer registration fees. Clubs that paid these fees received a credit for the fees that they paid in 2022 when they paid their 2023 fees.

Moved/Seconded: Don Allan/Sandi -- To accept Treasurer's Report, as circulated -- CARRIED

b) Vice President – VACANT

c) Valley Circle/Website – Blair Wallace

- Because Blair is still missing some club information, he will not doing directory this year as there's no point in doing one so late in the dance season
- A copy of the February Valley Circle will be delivered to the clubs
- Steve (CRR) mentioned that the online link doesn't seem to be working for calendar? Blair will check with Doreen to see if there is a problem.
- Valley Circle – See our work at <http://www.region2.squaredance.bc.ca>
- Valley Circle Online (website) – See our work at <http://www.region2.squaredance.bc.ca>

d) Promotion Committee – Brent Mawdsley (absent) -- no report submitted

- “Social Media advertising Initiative” update -- Greg Dahlgren

Current activities

Facebook Group ads started again in Dec 2022 for New Dancer classes in Jan 2023. This time only two clubs participated. Chilliwack specifically declined as they were not taking any new people but they had good success in the fall from these ads with 35 new people registering “for more information”.

Wendy Krueger's Club trained in December to do these ads themselves and so far seem to be handling it very well. I am happy to train any/all clubs to do their own posting. Training took 30 minutes in a Zoom meeting with Wendy and her new club 'Advertising Executive'. I will give each club all the current sites to advertise on with training on 'how to'. You only are required to have a Facebook account... or create a Facebook account for your club to use for this purpose. Posting each time you want to advertise take between 5-10 minutes it is extremely easy. I can post to all Facebook Groups that I have found in the area of Wendy's club in 2 minutes.

I posted for Town N Country once a week starting Dec 15th for our Jan 13th New Dancer classes and we received approximately 26 people expressing interest. We did also posted one ad in the Maple Ridge Times and the Tri-City News but from all accounts we only received 1 person from these ads.

My conclusion from the last 2 years on this project is that this form of advertising is extremely effective, easy to do AND FREE (if done with very little volunteer time). I would encourage all clubs to contact me to use this for their New Dancer Classes. If you cannot do it yourselves with my training, I will continue to do it for all clubs for the following years New Dancer Classes. I will need your 'New Dancer Coordinator' contact information. Additionally any Poster you want me to use. My email is GregDa@outlook.com. All clubs should contact me in June or July to prepare for New Dancer Classes in September 2023. I usually start ads for Town N Country in June posting every couple weeks. In August I am posting weekly (or more) so plan your own clubs advertising needs accordingly.

This concludes my update on current Facebook Group advertising activity.

I will take this opportunity to update the FVSRDA on the project.

The premise of this project was to see if this form of advertising was affective and if it proved so, use it to promote Square Dancing indefinitely on a year around basis. So far so good.

Cost of the project:

This project was approved with a 5,000.00 budget to the Promotions Committee from the FVSRDA in 2019. I was to hire and manage someone to scope out and run a Facebook Advertising project. Only a little under 400.00 was spent with the original student hire whom fleshed out the project and documentation so all clubs could take on the task for their own club.

An additional benefit of this form of advertising was to promote Square Dancing year-round to raise awareness for our activity hoping to make recruitment easier each New Dancer class start-up. When the student resigned from the project, the development was 80% complete. As such I decided to run the project myself until Covid was no longer an issue and all clubs were able to get dancing again. Now that most clubs are dancing again I have no plan to hire another person to run the project. The Promotions Committee will need to discuss how this project can be used to help Square Dancing activity in the lower mainland onward and if hiring another person to work the day-to-day tasks is prudent moving forward.

This concludes the Project detail.

- **5-year calendar update-- Betty Langtry**

Of the 200 ordered, 193 have been sold, as of last count.

Betty has asked Wendy to mention them to the BCSRDF to see if they can get rid of the 8 remaining calendars.

e) Driscoll Award – Ron Robertson (no report submitted)

- Teen Festival (Caitlyn Brendzy)

- Teen Festival is on this year and will be held sometime in May around the Seattle, WA area

f) BC Federation – Betty Langtry (nothing to report)

g) Canadian Society – David McVige (no report submitted)

- Dianne Wilson reported that David is now getting around with a cane starting to drive again after having hip surgery

h) Gala Committee – Dave Hammer (nothing to report)

i) Vancouver & District Caller/Teachers Association – John Corrigan (absent -- attending V&DCTA meeting)

- Lyle O'Hara reported that the Dec. 30th Mid-Winter Dance for New Dancers was a success
- The dance made about \$550 --
- Another one is being planned -- tentative date is April 28th or 29th again at Kennedy Hall
- This next one may be at a bit higher level
- We are getting some more new dancers starting in January
- A potential problem may be whether we will have enough callers in future
- Lyle mentioned that they will be sending Heather a gift certificate from V&DCTA

j) Scroll of Honour – Sandi Poje

Special thanks to my helpers for deciding on the scroll of honour recipients, Wendy Kruger, June Fitchett, Al Gibbs, and David McVige, all recipients of previous scrolls of honours. Thanks to Alex Galbraith for taking the photos of the night. Also Surrey Square Wheelers for allowing us to present the Scroll of Honour at your special "Hawaiian Dance. Thanks to Blair for putting the write ups in the Valley Circle about the recipients, so now you know they were Frank McNeil and Peter Tamin. Congratulations to both very deserving men.

So, if you wish to nominate a person or couple for this Honour, please submit a letter highlighting their endeavors. Nominations must be received before **February 28**, of the year of nominations and are held for 5 years.

This letter only needs to be signed by one person. Please be sure to include **your name, address, phone number** or **e-mail** along with **your recipient's name, address, phone number** or **e-mail**. Please see the write-up on page 23 of your January, 2023 Valley Circle.

Please send it to Sandi Poje #11 – 19452 Fraser Way, Pitt Meadows, V3Y 0A3, B.C. Phone number 604 459 3220 or email spoje@ymail.com

Moved Seconded: Diane O'Hara/June Fitchett -- To accept above reports items C through J, as circulated -- CARRIED

OLD BUSINESS-

1. FVSRDA nominating committee report (Jean/Alex)

- No new people who have wanted to take on anything, but are working on it
- Jean had a new proposal -- Alex will run as president and Jean will stay on as past president. Blair said that there wasn't anything in the by-laws that would prevent that
- Blair pointed out the need to get new people on the executive, and that a new person filling the role as vice-president would be preferable, rather than a current executive/committee member take on that role.

NEW BUSINESS –

1. **Anniversaries** (Maureen) -- what are clubs doing for their missed anniversaries? What number are they celebrating in 2023? Are any clubs requesting a crest? List has been updated to 2027.
 - Maureen will send out a copy of the anniversary spreadsheet to the directors so that they can alert their clubs as to the need to request an anniversary crest if they want one
 - It was clarified that the name change from Swinging Singles to Circle 8's does not affect the original anniversary dates of the club
 - Don mentioned that there was a problem with insurance arising from the name change
 - Royal Swingers upcoming anniversary-- Joan Brown will contact Lynnette re: plans for celebrating
2. **BC Festival 2025**
 - Plans were discussed at the executive meeting -- There are three co-chairs: Ray Brendzy, Garnet Janus and Wendy Krueger
 - The Festival committee has not made a request to the FVSRDA for their support as yet

Moved/Seconded: Alex/Don-- Motion to approve in principal, an application for BC Festival 2025 to the BCSRDF -- CARRIED

3. **50 & 60 year pins** (Sandi Poje)

I have dancers asking me about 25 year dancer bars, 50 year pins and 60 year pins. Between Jean Galbraith and I, we have managed to track down the person who is responsible for making the 50 and 60 year pin (which we have 2 dancers who qualify for these pins). The person Jean and I contacted is Lisa Desjardine and she works for what was once called "Press Metal". Their main office has moved to somewhere in Quebec, and would take at least 6 months to create these pins. She quoted \$35.00 for each pin to be made, and a discount to \$27.00 if you order 5. She still has the mold to make these pins, but would like the order to be at least over \$100.00 to start. If we ordered 5 of each pin (50 and 60 year), that would be \$270.00, plus taxes, etc. She said it would probably take a few months to get the order filled. I spoke to Lisa around the 1st of December, and they were backlogged at that time. We did have these pins in stock, but somehow they were misplaced. This would give us a few on hand, if other dancers have reached that goal of dancing for 50 or 60 years.

I did telephone Lisa on Monday, January 16th and she is away until January 23rd so I will contact her later.

I would like approval to order 5-50 year pins and 5-60 year pins for a total of approximately \$270.00 plus taxes, etc.

Moved/Seconded: Sandi/Diane-- Motion for Approval for Sandi Poje to order 5-50 year pins and 5-60 year pins for a total of approximately \$270.00 plus taxes, etc. -- CARRIED

(new) CLUB NEWS, REQUESTS & FEEDBACK –

This section has been added to the agenda so that clubs can ask questions of the FVSRDA

1. Janice Hiscott (Circle 8's) would like more info about advertising

Suggestion is for her to:

- contact Greg Dahlgren re: facebook advertising -- contact Greg (send contact to
- contact Don Allen for info on applying for the various grants that are available

2. Betty mentioned that the best way to reach Ron Robertson is by phone, as he doesn't have computer at the moment. She was able to get a hold of him for promo committee regarding depositing calendar money

3. Blair will contact Anni Christensen and find out what her plans for returning to the dance floor, now that Kris has passed away

4. Maureen will send out a list of current contact information to the FVSRDA executive and reps

5. June Fitchett -- we need to something about getting a new director
Eva & Nelson and she would go as a director, if approved

6. Lyle O'Hara

- wondering when the next promo committee meeting will be. Betty will contact Brent/Therese

- Reps of Kennedy hall -- looking for people to get onto the executive of Kennedy Hall -- need a few more bodies (N. Surrey area) -- John Corrigan is president of the association. The Langtrys and the Mawdsleys are on the board. They are looking into getting air conditioning in the hall.

Moved/Seconded: Diane O'Hara/Alex Galbraith-- Motion to put forward the names of Eva Matheson and Nelson Baranow as directors -- CARRIED

GOOD & WELFARE –

Steve Edlund is recuperating from a broken kneecap and is gaining more mobility each week, although he is unable to drive, at this time

ORDER OF THE DAY –

Surrey Square Wheelers

1. **Round Dance Teach** is now offered as part of the regular beginner/mainstream evening:

Beginning on January 18th, Wednesday beginner/mainstream nights have a new start and end time (from 7-9 PM to 6:30-9:30 PM). Krista Baird is offering one hour round dance teach sessions from 6:30-7:30, with the regular square dance session start time moving to 7:30 PM. There is no extra charge for participating in both the round dance and the square dance sessions. (\$6 for members/\$8 for guests)

2. **Annual Recycle Sale** will be held at Brookwood Hall on Saturday, Feb. 4 (11:00 AM - 3:00 PM). Because of the lack of space in the venue there is no room for outside sellers to set up tables. *(flyer sent as separate attachment)*

3. **50th annual Happiness dance** (money donated to the Centre for Child Development -- their charity of choice) will be on Saturday, March 25 at Kennedy Hall - admission by donation *(flyer sent as separate attachment)*

Chilliwack Rhythm Reelers

1. Feb 24 huge Recycle Sale

All items \$5 or less - Sale: 6:00-8:00 PM; Dancing: 7:00-9:00 PM

(flyer sent as separate attachment)

2. Mar 18 - Duet Night featuring Scott Coon (Seattle) and Brent Mawdsley

Achelitz Hall -- mainstream with rounds 6:30 - pre-rounds; 7:00 dancing

(flyer sent as separate attachment)

NEXT MEETING – TBA-- early May?? AGM -- Preferably a zoom meeting as voting can be done at a zoom meeting via a poll -- anonymous and with instant results at the end of the poll

ADJOURNMENT @ 11:45 AM by Don Allan

~Respectfully submitted by Maureen Wilson~
Please forgive any typos -- they weren't intentional...

