



FRASER VALLEY SQUARE & ROUND DANCE ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the General Meeting Nov 1, 2020
Via Zoom

Meeting brought to order at 1:12 PM

Welcome – Alex Galbraith

Hello to you all and thank you for attending. I announce with regret that Joyce Lucas, a very dedicated volunteer for many years, has stepped down from her position as Director. Also, this meeting is recorded, and it will be helpful to conduct a smooth running meeting if we all speak out our names and club affiliations clearly, whether making a motion, seconding, or whenever called on. Hopefully you have signed in with your club name and club affiliation as well. I hope you all have an agenda, and Treasurer's report information, and all other submitted reports, and have read them in advance. This helps to conduct this meeting in a timely matter. For ease in counting the votes during any voting procedure, please only raise your hand if you are voting "nay" or "against". This is much easier to count. So let's start the meeting.

Attendance

Present: *Century House Squares* (Jim Brown), *Chilliwack Rhythm Reelers* (Steve Armstrong), *Motiv8ors* (Dave Hammer), *Royal Swingers* (Nancy and Peter Slinn), *Stardowners* (Mary deCario), *Swinging Hubs* (Norm Cox), *Swinging Singles* (Ron Fleck, Pat Gerbrandt), *Town 'n' Country Dancers* (Greg Dahlgren), *Surrey Square Wheelers* (Donna Lonneberg), *Wesburn Wranglers* (Caitlyn Brendzy), *Wheeling 8's* (Darlene Austin), *White Rockers* (Diane O'Hara)
Don Allan, Alex Galbraith, Dave Hammer, Betty Langtry, Eva Matheson, David McVige, Sandi Poje, Ron Robertson, Blair Wallace, Dianne Wilson, Maureen Wilson

Absent: *Abbotsford Grand Squares*, *Brent's Bunch*, *Chuckwagon 8's*, *Delta Sundancers*, *Diamond Country Dancers*, *Guys & Gals*, *Quicksteppers*, *Rhythm B's* (club has folded), *Squares Across the Border*, *TW Twirlers*

With attendance taken, it was noted that a **quorum** was established.

Motion to approve agenda as amended -- M/S - Diane O'Hara/Don Allan -- CARRIED

CORRESPONDENCE –

Maureen sent a sympathy card to the family of **Sylvia Winton** (passed away on June 15, 2020)

Motion to approve minutes of July 5, 2020 general meeting as circulated -- M/S -Dave Hammer/Betty Langtry-- CARRIED

REPORTS –

a. Treasurer's Report – Don Allan (**financials attached separately**)

Motion to accept Treasurer's report as circulated -- M/S - Don Allan/Darlene Austin -- CARRIED

b. Vice-President's Report – Barbara Tryssenaar (no report, at this time)

c. Valley Circle/Webmaster – Blair Wallace

- Valley Circle – See our work at <http://www.region2.squaredance.bc.ca>
- Valley Circle Online – See our work at <http://www.region2.squaredance.bc.ca>
- Return to Dance Committee – See our work at <http://www.region2.squaredance.bc.ca>

d. Promotion Committee – Brent Mawdsley

The Promotion Committee has hired a marketing student on an 'as-needed' hourly basis, to assist with the planned social media campaign. Due to the pandemic, we are unsure when we will be able to dance together again, so have not started a full promotional effort. We have had the marketing student spend a few hours per month in July, August, and September, to:

- draft some suggestions for graphics to be used in social media posts
- set up a "Facebook Business" page from which to make all the postings to Facebook Groups
- begin identifying potential Facebook groups to post messages to

Greg Dahlgren gave an update of his Social Media Initiative.

Social Media Initiative Status

In addition to Brent's report...

- Lost the student hire as of Oct 2020
- Issues with invoice payment
- Greg to talk with Promotions and FVSRDA Treasurers to find solutions to prevent a repeat event . Greg will start looking for a replacement hire after a resolution can be agreed on by all concerned.
- A Procedures manual is 80% complete documenting how any club can do this on their own.
- Greg needs to review/edit to finalize.
- This document can/will be made available to all clubs in Canada as requested.
- Additionally, 80+ Facebook Groups have been identified as the starting point to post our Promotional posters. Groups have been identified for every Club in the Lower Mainland, as the goal of this initiative is to help every club to increase their

membership whether directly through new dancers, or indirectly with Mainstream graduates.

- Promo posters
- Feedback from FVSRDA on current Drafts
- Most thought we would NOT be dancing until summer 2021 so paying for promotional work may not be 'as' cost effective.
- Greg suggested a goal will be to prove this type of promotions is effective by requesting email addresses from potential new dancers that are interested of which we can use to alert those interested parties once we are ready to start beginner lessons again.
- Greg will post one round (with out a new hire) of promotional posters AND start a database of any interested parties replying with their email/phone #'s.
- A large response will be positive confirmation that this promotion type is effective.
- Year-around square dance promotional work can then be continued or delayed based on responses to this first round of promotional posting to Facebook Groups
- Part of the Promotional Committee's goal is to have on-going promotional campaigning for Square and Round Dancing continually. COVID-19 is obviously an exception to this goal. Let's see what kind of response we get from people expressing interest in starting once COVID-19 is gone.

Feedback on the Town 'n' Country poster (which may be used as a 'model')

- Lets's fixed -> **Let's**
- Take out "Lockdown", put 'social distancing' or "When we can get started again"

e. Driscoll Award – Ron Robertson

Realizing that the 2020 Gala had to be cancelled this year due to the ongoing disruption brought on by the COVID- 19 virus, I am hopeful that the 2021 Gala will be a 'go'. With this in mind, I have received a tentative contract from *Tony Oxendine* and *Ray Brendzy*. The dates are for **Friday, March 14th** and **Saturday March 15th, 2021**.

All of this is in consideration of the COVID-19 virus being under control by that time. As yet, there are no dance venues available that far in advance, the maximum capacity for gatherings is only 50 dancers, and there is no prescribed vaccine available.

f. BCSRDF – Betty Langtry (submitted report)/David McVige

- The FVS&RD Association, Vancouver District Callers & Teachers Association, and 7 clubs sent proxies to join this Zoom meeting.
- Treasurer's report was given. Total assets are \$150,183.00. Any member of the BCSD Federation may receive a report by contacting Pat Zeeman BCFedTreasurer@gmail.com. There is a summary of the report in Don Allen's report. To take part in a BC Federation meeting, you must be a member. An important note she mentioned was that dancers must belong to a club. If not, the

people who let them into a club dance will be responsible if something happens. It is a case of insurance.

- The BC Festival is basically on hold until January and probably won't happen. Many refunds have already been sent.
- There must be two BC Federation meetings per year.
- AGM must be within 15 months.
- There will be a \$500.00 'ReStart' grant for clubs when restarting dancing, to cover costs to follow BC Health regulations. There are some regulations to follow.
- The new bylaws are now in effect.

Election of Officers:

- President: Jean Wood
- 1st VP: Dennis Sutton
- 2nd VP: Peter Tennant
- Secretary: Wendy Krueger
- Treasurer: Pat Zeeman

Next meeting is not scheduled at this time, due to the COVID-19 situation.

g. CSRDS – David McVige (submitted report)/Betty Langtry

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, **insurance coverage** will carry on for 2021. Membership lists, including club lists, or names collected for the 2020 calendar year will be carried forward. Certificates of Insurance for 2021 will be issued to clubs and or dance venues, as required.

Federations, Associations, Clubs:

Lists of names collected for the 2020 calendar year will be carried forward. Certificates of Insurance for 2021 will be issued to clubs and/or dance venues, as required. Federations, Associations, Clubs need to take no action unless dancing activities resume before the end of 2020, or during the normal 2021 dance season.

With resumption of dance activities, clubs would be required to collect and remit fees, as in previous years.

h. Festival 2020 – Norm Cox

We are currently on hold waiting for word of a breakthrough in a vaccine for COVID-19. It will take a miracle to correct this virus so that we can even hope of having a festival.

Currently, we have 445 dancers still registered. The cancellation numbers just keep going up and now some 200 have applied to cancel. We have spent \$6,355.32 over and above our facility rent, for which we have been promised a full reimbursement. The only ongoing expense, at present, is for postage. We should make a decision early in the New Year, whether the festival will go ahead, or not.

Follow-up: Norm spoke to someone at the hotel and was told that it is highly unlikely that large gatherings, such as the festival will be allowed by the summer. A final decision will be made early in 2021, as to whether to cancel or go ahead with the festival in 2021.

i. Gala – Dave Hammer

Realizing that the 2020 Gala had to be cancelled this year due to the ongoing disruption brought on by the COVID- 19 virus, I am hopeful that the 2021 Gala will be a 'go'. With this in mind, I have received a tentative contract from *Tony Oxendine* and *Ray Brendzy*. The dates are for **Friday, March 14th** and **Saturday March 15th, 2021**.

All of this is in consideration of the COVID-19 virus being under control by that time. As yet, there are no dance venues available that far in advance, the maximum capacity for gatherings is only 50 dancers, and there is no prescribed vaccine available.

j. Vancouver & District Caller/Teachers Ass'n – John Corrigan (no report, at this time)

k. Scroll of Honour – Barbara Tryssenaar (no report, at this time)

Moved Seconded: Norm Cox/Dave Hammer -- To accept above reports items C through K, as presented/circulated -- CARRIED

OLD BUSINESS-

1. COVID 19 effect on Registration & Insurance for upcoming season -- follow-up

Don explained more about the registration process:

- At the July 5, 2020 meeting, we indicated that the registration process and fee collection for 2021 "has been deferred to a date yet to be determined". I think at the time we were optimistically hoping that dance might resume in early 2021.
- Recently, the BCSRDF has requested that clubs pay their club registration fees for the BCSRDF and CSRDF.
- Since clubs not active, it is unlikely that registration forms and fees could be collected in the near future. In order to keep the FVSRDA and it's member clubs in good standing, a motion was passed at the FVSRDA executive meeting that the FVSRDA will advance the 2021 fees for clubs that were registered in 2020.
- ***"The Treasurer should send BCSRDF 2021 club fees (\$10) and CSRDS 2021 club fees (\$5) for each club in the region that was registered in 2020 and the FVSRDA, to the BCSRDF Registrar."***
- These fees will allow the clubs and FVSRDA to remain being members of the BCSRDF.
- The executive also examined the FVSRDA bylaws to see if there were similar issues with FVSRDA membership. Bylaws 2.16 and 2.21 imply that clubs will not be in good standing if they have not paid their fees by Oct 30. To get around this issue, the FVSRDA proposed a motion that: ***"The FVSRDA member club fee for the 2020-2021 dance season (2021) will be set to \$0 (zero dollars) for the member clubs that were registered in the 2019-2020 dance season."***
- This resolution must be approved at the General Meeting. ***(Nov 1 -- approved -- see Motion #1 below)***
- This motion amends the motion that was passed at the July General Meeting were it was agreed that "fees for 2020-2021 season will remain the same as last year". ***(Nov 1 -- approved -- see Motion #2 below)***

Motion #1 - Moved/seconded: Don Allan/Blair Wallace- For each club in the region and for the FV association, Don will send \$15 to the BCSRDF-- CARRIED

Motion #2 - Moved/seconded: Don Allan/Nancy Slinn: The FVSRDA member club fee for the 2020-21 dance season will be set to \$0 (zero dollars) for the member clubs which existed in the 2019-2020 dance season. -- CARRIED

As these two motions were passed at the Nov 1 meeting, then, no action is required by the clubs at this time, regarding submitting fees to the FVSRDA. However, BCSRDF registration forms and CSRDS registration forms for each club have to be included with the fee payment. The plan is to complete these forms with information contained in last year's registration forms. If the contact person for any club has changed, the club should provide the FVSRDA Treasurer with the name, address and position or the new contact person ASAP (i.e. by **November 8, 2020**). The BCSRDF has requested that registrations be submitted by **November 15, 2020**. In addition, the FVSRDA and BCSRDF should be informed of any changes in the club executives that have occurred since the 2019/2020 Club Directory information was submitted.

Any clubs which have changed their contact information and/or executive members are to let Don know, as soon as possible -- preferably before November 15th.

Secretary's note: The following query (and subsequent answer) was submitted to me after our meeting, but I am including it as a clarification of an item discussed during the meeting. I'm not sure if it needs more clarification at a later meeting

QUESTION: If the Canadian SD Society is paying the insurance for clubs, why are the Associations and clubs paying both Canadian Society and BC Federation dues?

ANSWER -- (Pat Zeeman): The CSRDS is covering the cost of the insurance without collecting dues until clubs can get started again. For the sake of my already horrendous spreadsheet, and to try to keep things a little easier for everybody, I am collecting the CSRDS dues at the same time as the BC Fed dues. I use Excel to track the membership dues, and last year that spreadsheet was 121 rows by 34 columns. If I collected the CSRDS dues only from those clubs who have restarted, that would add more columns, and I would probably have to send reminders when the clubs paid for the members on restart that they still owed me club CSRDS dues. If it happens that the clubs don't restart, I will talk to the rest of the Federation Executive about carrying forward the CSRDS portion that was paid.

2. COVID-19 effect on Valley Circle publication (Blair Wallace -- follow-up)

- Valley Circle will be published online for the foreseeable future
- For those who don't have e-mail, send Blair their names, if you haven't already done so
- Blair will send a virtual invoice -- will run ads - no billing until physically dancing
- Virtual dancing sessions can be advertised in the Valley Circle, as well. Contact Blair with the details.

NEW BUSINESS –

1. COVID committee report -- Blair

As of Friday, October 30th, new COVID rules and restrictions have come into play, as outlined in the Powerpoint that he presented
(Powerpoint sent as a separate attachment)



Blair also showed a clip from 'Totally Under Control' which refers to square dancing being a spreader of COVID in Washington state. Copy and paste the following link into your browser, if the link isn't active:

<https://www.screencast.com/users/JBWcomputer/folders/Capture/media/8279e4f0-ced1-4d4e-bdeb-b57165484aea/embed>

You can view entire documentary on Amazon Prime Video

2. Nomination Committee for elections 2020-2021 - David McVige has agreed to run it

3. With regrets -- Director, Joyce Lucas has stepped down from her position as a FVSRDA director. We are grateful for all of the hard work and dedication she has put into that position in the past. And we wish her well.

4. Funding for virtual new dancer class starting up in January, via Zoom

Virtual New Dancer Class Proposal (presented by Caitlyn Brendzy)

We would like to propose that the Brendzy family is planning to offer a virtual 2 couple, new dancer class. This class could be for a single person, a couple or in some cases three and four people, depending on how big your family is, and is to be done in the safety of your own home. We have been offering virtual dances 5 days a week, for the past two months. We have a great deal of previous experience working with 2 couple phantom dancing, as this style of dance is more common at the higher levels where the concept of phantoms is part of the dance list. We have lots of ideas on how to make this work in our household, and are willing to use a variety of teaching strategies. We are hoping the Fraser Valley will support this endeavor, and help keep the square dance movement alive. We would like to ask for some funding to support this project, as it will be a new dancer class. We hope the association will help with advertising and spreading the word to all dancers. This is perfect for new dancers, but also for people who are unfamiliar with the online platform. All of the Brendzys are very familiar with Zoom, as it is used in schools and also with their current at home dance program. This is meant as free service to everyone, in order to keep square dancing alive.

- The Brendzy family is hoping that the FVSRDA will support the endeavour -- asking for funding as it is a new dance class.
- The idea is supported by several clubs -- lots of prep that goes into it -- no remuneration for Ray, Nicholas and Caitlyn
- Looking for a grant to help with advertising to keep up the awareness of the virtual dance classes.

Discussion followed:

- Don pointed out that a grant is usually given to a club, not individuals. He also asked for an idea of what amount of grant they were they hoping for. The FVSRDA grant is for \$250 and Ray stated that \$250 is better than nothing.
- Norm pointed out that there are other grant programs available from BCSRDF which give up to \$500.
- It was suggested that they apply to both -- application form is available online
- It was suggested that they don't want to set a precedent if everyone isn't a new dancer -- they need to make sure that most of the people are new dancers

GOOD & WELFARE

Maureen has recently sent the following cards:

- **Bette Berglund** -- passed away August 21, 2020 (condolences)
- **Grant Ward** -- passed away September 30th, 2020 (condolences)
- **Don Racine** -- passed away October 8, 2020 (condolences)
- **Joyce Lucas** -- has stepped down from her FVSRDA director's position. Maureen sent her a 'thank you' card and arranged for a flower delivery for all of her work as one of our FVSRDA

Maureen will send condolence cards to the families of the following, upon finding out a contact address:

- **Marj Parker** - Swinging Singles -- passed away Oct. 9, 2020
- **Violet Horne** - passed away Aug 13, 2020

ORDER OF THE DAY

1. Stardowners Club Report (submitted by Mary deCario)

Virtual 2 couple dancing is currently one of the only ways to keep our dancers involved and in touch with square dancing. For instance, the Brendzy family has been offering five dances per week online since the beginning of September, at multiple levels. The dances include levels of square dancing from basic through to Challenge 1, as well as Phase 2 round dancing. No fee is being charged, and these services are offered free to dancers around the world in order to keep our movement alive. Other callers are also beginning to do the same. We would like to see the Fraser Valley Association help promote these dances in any way possible. This could be through a website, or through the online Valley Circle, or by contacting dancers.

2. Wesburn Wranglers Club Report (submitted by Caitlyn Brendzy)

Wesburn Wranglers have two items to be reported on. Although our PNTSDF teen square dance festival was cancelled this past May, there were two events that our club participated on recently.

Firstly, the club created a video presentation which represented the activities of the club. All teen clubs were invited to participate in this activity, and there will be recognition for this at a later date. We would be happy to share this video if the Fraser Valley would like to put this on their website or anywhere else. It is about 6 minutes long.

The second thing we did was participate in a virtual Halloween dance in place of this year's competition. It was held on Hallowe'en, virtually, and most of the participants came in costume. Wesburn's entire club participated, and it was nice to see some of our friends from the USA. My dad (Ray Brendzy) was the MC of the dance, and my brother (Nicholas Brendzy) and I also participated by calling, cueing and helping with line dances.

Check out the Wesburn Wranglers' video clip. Copy and paste the following link into your browser if the link doesn't work.

<https://youtu.be/hNrA49FS3dM>

NEXT MEETING – TBA

ADJOURNMENT @ 2:41 PM by Diane O'Hara

Respectfully submitted by Maureen Wilson

*Please note: Any typos are purely **coincidental** -- please alert me to any that you spot.*

