



FRASER VALLEY SQUARE & ROUND DANCE ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the General Meeting April 4, 2024

9:00 AM (via Zoom)

Zoom Host – Maureen Wilson, President – Alex Galbraith

Meeting commenced at 9:00 AM

Attendance (Average nightly club attendance has been recorded beside each club):

1. **Abbotsford Grand Squares (Norma Ridler), (Mondays – 3 squares; Thursdays – 3 squares)**
2. **Chilliwack Rhythm Reelers** (Michelle Thiessen), (Tuesday plus and SSD 2 -- 4 squares; Fridays SSD 1 & 2—4-5 squares)
3. **Chuckwagon 8's**, (Sandi Poje) (2 squares)
4. **Century House Squares** (Pat Gerbrandt), (2 squares)
5. **Circle 8's** (Janice Hiscott), (Tuesday 2 - 3 squares; Sunday rounds – 18-19 couples)
6. **Guys & Gals** (Dianne Wilson), (2 - 3 squares)
7. **Motiv8ors** (Ray Brendzy), (2 - 3 squares)
8. **Royal City Squares** (Nancy Slinn), (2 - 3 squares)
9. **Stardowners** (Mary diCario), (2 squares)
10. **Surrey Square Wheelers** (Judy Remenda), (Mondays – 15 couples; Tuesdays – 4 squares; Wed – 4 squares)
11. **Swinging Hubs** (Norm Cox), (1 – 2 squares)
12. **Town 'n' Country Dancers** (Peter Slinn) (Friday afternoon plus 2 - 3 squares)
13. **Wesburn Wranglers** (Caitlyn Brendzy) (2 squares)
14. **White Rockers** (Lyle & Diane O'Hara) (3 squares)

1. Alex Galbraith,
2. Jean Galbraith,
3. Al Gibbs & June Fitchett,
4. Dave Hammer,
5. Eva Matheson & Nelson Baranow,
6. Frank McNeil,
7. Blair Wallace,
8. Maureen Wilson

Absent:

Brent's Bunch (3 squares)

Quicksteppers (7-8 couples)

Wheeling 8's (not reported)

Valley Promenaders (not reported)

John Corrigan, Don Allan, Bill Fex, Wendy Krueger, Brent Mawdsley

We have a quorum with 14 clubs and 8 executive members present (minimum 7 clubs and 4 executives required).

Moved/Seconded: Norm Cox/Michelle Thiessen -- to accept agenda as circulated -- CARRIED

Correspondence

Amended: The following have been sent since the last meeting (November 19, 2023) (2 cards)

1. ***Thinking of you card*** to:

- Mitzi Hall (illness) -- ***Update:*** Norm Cox reported before the minutes were typed up that Mitzi passed away on March 19 – Maureen will send a sympathy card to Herb and family

2. ***Get well cards*** to:

- Norm Evans (SSW) – stroke

Approval of Minutes of previous General Meeting (February 4, 2024)

Moved/Seconded: Pat Gerbrandt/Dianne Wilson -- To approve minutes of previous General Meeting (February 4, 2024) as circulated—CARRIED

REPORTS –

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

- Nothing dramatic
- Distributed the cheques to all but two of the club. He is waiting for more information from those two.

Moved/Seconded: Norm Cox/June Fitchett -- To accept Treasurer's Report, as circulated -- CARRIED

b) Vice President – Bill Fex (absent – report submitted)

I attended the Royal City Dancers' 50 plus years celebration in March and presented them with a crest celebrating the event.

I also visited many of the new dancer classes around the lower mainland and noticed that there was an enthusiastic group of core dancers. I plan on attending the upcoming New Dancer Jamboree on April 27th. I'm also looking forward to seeing all of the new dancers again next dance season.

I was very impressed with Brent's 'First Friday of the Month' dances that he has been holding at Kennedy Hall. Listening to the feedback from other club callers, I sense that they would like to see something similar done in the eastern part of the Fraser Valley to benefit THEIR clubs.

c) Valley Circle/Website – Blair Wallace

Valley Circle

- April/May are billed
- Staff has a pause until the summer issue
- Subscription numbers are increasing – 161 (2/3 dancer/couples).

Website –

Online links

- 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>

- Email link is now working
- May from BCFed contacted Blair but he wasn't sure what she wanted so he passed her query on to Frank – Blair doesn't know what she wanted. When Frank spoke to her he felt that she wants to get together a forum where other regions could know what's going on in each of the regions. There seems to be a concern that communications will be lost once Island Footnotes disappears from print (going online only). Blair pointed out the ads pay for the publishing of the Valley Circle. Lyle also spoke to May about better communication between regions.
- Blair said that there is room for clubs from other regions to submit articles and ads. He would welcome receiving a copy of the BC Fed president's message to include in the Valley Circle. Blair can't publish anything unless it is sent to him.
- Michelle Thiessen had difficulty finding contacts for clubs in other regions when she wanted to do some advertising for her club.

d) Promotion Committee – Frank McNeil

We are hosting the Spring jamboree for New Dancers on Saturday, April 27th, 2024

- Poster is attached separately.
- All dancers are welcome.

We are requesting funding for the New Dancer Advertising Grant which is being offered by the Promotion Committee.

- Grants have recently been issued to Chilliwack Rhythm Reelers, Valley Promenaders and Circle 8s.
- Let us know about any New Dancer classes so we can add it to our list for danceforfun.ca
- Volunteers are always welcome to help promote our activity.
- Our next zoom meeting will be on April 21 @ 7 pm
- To be included in the email invite, contact Maureen - mw.fv.promo@gmail.com

Our New Dancer Advertising Grant is being requested more this dance season by clubs that have taken the initiative to advertise New Dancer Classes on their own.

Recently, we have issued this grant to:

- Chilliwack Rhythm Reelers - \$400.00
- Valley Promenaders - \$400.00
- Circle 8s - \$256.58

Facebook advertising is quite successful.

e) BC Federation – Dianne Wilson

- Letter from Dennis Sutton with regards to the GM coming up – They are needing a treasurer
- Consent to act as director form was sent out to the executive
- AGM is on April 28th
 - Maureen will send out the letter tomorrow which will have a proxy form to be filled out.
- There is a question as to whether the issuing of membership cards should continue.
 - It's up to the treasurer to do them.
 - Several provinces not using membership cards with all of the information being recorded on the computer.

- Michelle Thiessen would like to know we prove someone has paid for their membership/insurance.

f) Canadian Society – Dianne Wilson

- Festival in Calgary (July 17-20) has 650 attending with a wait list
 - A full education program as well as dance levels will be offered

g) Gala Committee – Dave Hammer

Winter Wonderland Gala

- When: **Saturday**, November 23, 2024
- Where: Bonsor Recreation Complex (6550 Bonsor Ave. Burnaby)
- Callers: Ray Brendzy and Tony Oxendine; Cuer: Cheryl Salter
 - 7 PM – Pre-rounds
 - 7:30 – 10:00 – Mainstream with Plus tips
 - Cost: \$20 (adults); \$10 (teens) NO TICKETS AT THE DOOR
 - Door prizes, Refreshments, Singles Board

Afternoon Plus Dance

- 2-4 PM
- \$10 each or \$5 with proof of evening ticket (*CASH only)
- Contact Alex Galbraith (605-594-6415) or Dave Hammer (604-501-0563) for tickets

Pre-Gala dance

- **Friday**, November 22
- 7:30-9:30 PM
- A1 level -- Ray and Tony calling; Nicholas and Caitlyn cueing

h) Vancouver & District Caller/Teachers Association – Lyle O'Hara

- There will be an emphasis on teaching consistency in the figures so the calls can be understood in US as well, and vice versa.
- April 27 – Spring New Dancer Jamboree (SSD level) dance (jointly sponsored by FVS&RDA and the V&DCTA)
 - Kennedy Hall (8870-120 St, Surrey)
 - 7:00-9:30 PM
 - \$8 per person at the door
 - Information: fmcneil@shaw.ca
 - Hearing assist available
- Lyle thanked the FVSRDA for \$500 for the grant which will be used for the upcoming caller's school
- Summer dancing (Sundays) is up in the air – don't have a venue as yet. Nor do they have designated
- Peter Slinn thanked Blair for including the SSD moves in one of the recent issues of the Valley Circle

i) Scroll of Honour – Sandi Poje

You have seen the criteria required for the Scroll of Honour, as stated in the Resource Book at our previous Fraser Valley meeting, so why don't you take time to check out the dancers and or callers who have previously received the Scroll of Honour. It is all written down on the FVS&RDA website and has been published in the Valley Circle magazine.

So.... now it's up to you to check out the dancers and/or callers who you think have done above and beyond to help out the square and round dance community. Please sent me your write up of their accomplishments. Nominations must be received **before February 28**, of the year of nominations and they are held for 5 years.

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 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

Sandi needs some recipients.

Still to be addressed: It was suggested at the recent FVSRDA executive meeting that the rules be amended to reflect the fact that a person can only be awarded the Scroll of Honour once.

J) BC FESTIVAL 2025 – Wendy Krueger

- We currently have 30 people registered
- Blair has a meeting with Taryn from Langley City regarding tourism (accommodations, etc.). The City has already contacted Langley Township.
- We are Looking for volunteers. Maureen commented that we have two registrants who have indicated that they would be willing to do so.
- What is our break-even point for attendance?
- July 31 – Aug 2 (trail in on July 30 and trail out on Aug 3) – still need trail out venue.
- Suggestion: Maybe it could be linked in with the summer dancing venue
- It was noted that sometimes there have been trail-out dances in several venues – depending on how many directions of travel

Moved/Seconded: Dave Hammer/Pat Gerbrandt -- To accept above reports items C through J, as circulated -- CARRIED

CLUB QUERIES –

Janice Hiscott – Circle 8's Question – Do we need a license for 50/50 draw?

- She was told that if it's renamed 'Split the Pot' then a license isn't needed.
- Blair wondered why the question has arisen. Apparently, someone had a situation at the church. Blair suggested that we defer it to the executive to make sure that we have a good answer for that.

OLD BUSINESS –

1. Building Fund Grant – Don Allan (absent)
2. FVS&RDA Financial Committee Budget Meeting consisting of Don Allan, Alex Galbraith, and Maureen Wilson. Maureen will arrange a date for the meeting.

NEW BUSINESS –

1. Approval of new dancer grants to Century House

Motion #1: Moved/seconded – Norm Cox/ Nancy Slinn: To approve the Century House new dancer grant which will be taken from the deSmit fund. – CARRIED

2. Approval of new dancer grants to Surrey Square Wheelers

Motion #2: Moved/seconded – Norm Cox/ Nancy Slinn: To approve the Surrey Square Wheelers new dancer grant which will be taken from the deSmit fund. -- CARRIED

3. Approval of request by the Promotion Committee that the FVSRDA make a \$1000 contribution which is to be earmarked for funding the new dancer advertising grant

Motion #3: Moved/Seconded: Norm Cox/Lyle O'Hara – That the FVSRDA make a \$1000 contribution to the Promotion committee, which will be earmarked for funding the New Dancer Advertising Grant. The money will come from the building fund New Dancer Advertising Grant – CARRIED

- Yvonne will send a financial statement from PROMO COMMITTEE to the FVSRDA
4. CallerLab proposal – Ray Brendzy (CallerLab board of governors)
 - CallerLab is proposing that the dance levels be more defined as there is a lot of confusion, at the moment, as to how to enter the square dance world. They have opted to make some changes to clarify the situation. The proposal was received with a positive response from the callers.
 - Breakdown (level names yet to be determined):
 - Entry level – 50 moves (close to SSD) could be called MAINSTREAM
 - Extended SSD -- 60 moves of remaining Mainstream and Plus-- Could be called Plus
 - Next would be Advanced at about 70 moves, then Challenge
 - Everything is quite fluid – most members are in favor of the concept of only having one direction through Square Dancing. Caller Lab has many members outside of Canada but less than 30 in Canada. If you want to have a say, join CallerLab.

GOOD & WELFARE-

- Bill Mallory's celebration of life was April 6 (Dave Hammer will send address to Maureen)
- White Rockers presented a Four Score and More badge to one of their members
- Royal Squares celebrated their 50+ anniversary, and Steve Edlund was honoured for 40+ years of calling. They had 9 squares and the callers were great.

ORDER OF THE DAY-

- Plus Teach with Ray
 - Fridays 7:30 – 9:30 held Wesburn Community Centre in Burnaby, even though they are an A1 group. People need to check with Ray as to whether they are dancing that night or not – 8 week course
- Stardowners
 - A1 teach starting the first Thursday in May for 6 weeks.
 - Trifle dance on April 18. It's a mainstream/plus level dance at Centennial Lodge in New Westminster
- Surrey Square Wheelers
 - Happiness dance is on Sat. April 20 at Brookwood Hall. It's a mainstream level with plus tips and rounds

NEXT MEETING –

- Executive Meeting: Sun. May. 26 @9 AM via Zoom
- Annual General Meeting (non-election year): Sun. June. 2 @ 9 AM via Zoom

ADJOURNMENT @ 10:19 AM by Nancy Slinn

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

