



## FRASER VALLEY SQUARE & ROUND DANCE ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the General Meeting April 6, 2025

Chaired by Alex Galbraith; Zoom Host – Maureen Wilson

Meeting brought to order at 9:06 AM

Alex Galbraith welcomed everyone.

Attendance:

**Century House Squares** (Mark Garstin), **Abbotsford Grand Squares** (Norma Ridler), **Brent's Bunch** (Therese Mawdsley), **Chuckwagon 8's**, (\*Sandi Poje), **Circle 8's** (Janice Hiscott), **Motiv8ors** (Ray Brendzy), **Royal City Squares** (Peter & Nancy Slinn), **Stardowners** (Mary Decario), **Swinging Hubs** (Norm Cox), **Surrey Square Wheelers** (\*Judy Remenda), **Town 'n' Country Dancers** (\*Greg Dahlgren), **Valley Promenaders** (Wendy Krueger), **Wesburn Wranglers** (Caitlyn Brendzy), **White Rockers** (Lyle O'Hara)

Marion Freeman, \*Alex Galbraith, \*Jean Galbraith, \*Al Gibbs & June Fitchett, Alexandra Lamb  
\*Eva Matheson & Nelson Baranow, \*Frank McNeil, \*Blair Wallace

Absent: \*Don Allan, John Corrigan, \*Bill Fex, Dave Hammer, \*Dianne Wilson, **Chilliwack Rhythm Reelers**, **Guys & Gals**, **Quicksteppers**, **Wheeling 8's**

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

***Moved/Seconded: Norm Cox/Jean Galbraith -- to accept agenda as circulated -- CARRIED***

### Correspondence

The following have been sent since the last meeting (Feb 9, 2025) (9 cards)

**1. Sympathy cards to the family of:**

- **Heather Reynolds and Megan & Jason Wallace (mother)**
- **Margaret Stone**
- **Ron Robertson (close family friends – Cockle sisters)**

**2. Encouragement card - Merle Suian – moved into a senior's residence**

**3. Speedy recovery cards**

- **Mary Decario – gall bladder surgery**
- **Toni van Koll – surgery - breast cancer**

**4. Get well card – Tilda Bourget – osteonecrosis of knee**

***Moved/Seconded: Peter Slinn/Eva Matheson -- To approve minutes of previous General Meeting (Feb 9, 2025) as circulated -- CARRIED***

## REPORTS –

### A. Treasurer's Report – Don Allan -- (absent) *(financials are sent as an attachment to the minutes)*

#### Introduction

This memo contains supporting information for the Financial Statements that reflect the current financial position of the Fraser Valley Square and Round Dance Association (FVSRDA). The current FVSRDA fiscal year started on July 1, 2024, and the statements reflect all transactions up to March 26, 2025. The statements include the term deposit interest for term deposits that matured in August.

This memo will be distributed along with the following financial statements and registration status:

- a) A Balance Sheet that reflects the assets and liabilities of the FVSRDA as of March 26, 2025.
- b) An Income Statement that reflects the income and expenses that have occurred in this fiscal year up to March 26, 2025, 2025.
- c) A registration status report, a spreadsheet that shows the current status of the registration process.
- d) A Fund Summary that shows the income and expenses separated into the separate funds managed by the FVSRDA.

#### Comments on the Financial Statements

The financial statements reflect the following income and expenses:

- a. Valley Circle advertising and subscription income to date including the printing and mailing of the March 2025 Valley Circle.
- b. Registration fees for 2025 that have been sent in by the clubs. These fees were forwarded to the BCSRDF in November. Some additional registrations were received in February and March
- c. Ticket income and expenses for the 2024 Gala that was held on November 23, 2024. The Gala was very successful dance but unfortunately, it lost \$1194.00.

#### Comments on 2025 Registration.

The FVSRDA2025RegistrationStatus29January2025 document reflects the status of the registration process on March 26, 2025. Fifteen additional dancers were registers in March.

#### Comments on Grant Application Deadlines.

The FVSRDA has two grant funds that are used to support the operation of the clubs. At the last GM, the application date deadline was delayed to January 15, 2025. Prior to the Feb 8, 2025 FVSRDA General Meeting, four applications for DeSmit grants and one application for a Building Fund grant have been received. An additional application from the FVSRDA Promo Committee was submitted at the meeting. All the grants were approved at the General Meeting and cheques were sent out.

Two additional applications for DeSmit New Dancer grants have been received.

***Moved/Seconded: Jean Galbraith/Sandi Poje -- To accept Treasurer's Report, as circulated – CARRIED***

### B. Vice President – Bill Fex (absent -- no report submitted)

**C. Valley Circle/Website – Blair Wallace**

- April-May issue circulated
- Break until summer issue
- Website up to date

**D. Promotion Committee – Frank McNeil**

- Trifold flyers and magnetic business cards ready to distribute
- Continued request for funding for coffee news which will come later in the agenda
- Promotion Committee Social Media project is on hold for now

**E. BC Federation – Dianne Wilson -- (absent)**

- Had meeting on Feb. 23<sup>rd</sup>
- Dianne needs an annual report put up on the BC Fed website
- Jean needs to know the deadline – will ask what other regions have submitted already
- GM is on April 27<sup>th</sup> via zoom
- Board of Directors meeting is on Sept 21
- AGM will be Oct 19<sup>th</sup>
- There will also be a meeting during BC Festival 2025

**I. Canadian Society – Dianne Wilson – absent)**

- Will be having a meeting during BC Festival 2025

**G. Gala Committee – Dave Hammer – (absent)**

The Gala committee is currently working on details for Gala 2025.

- We have a tentative date for Gala 2025. It will be on Sat. Oct. 25<sup>th</sup>.
- The committee is currently looking into two possible venues.

**H. VDCTA – John Corrigan (absent) -- no report submitted**

**I. Wendy Krueger reported:**

- VDCTA is hosting a Spring Fling plus dance today at Kennedy Hall
- Tim Merino – 2:30-4:30 with rounds between tips
- John is retiring so they will be looking for a new president

**J. Scroll of Honour – Sandi Poje**

**CRITERIA REQUIRED FOR THE SCROLL OF HONOUR**

This Award is usually presented to one Dancer Couple or Person and one Caller Couple or Person annually, within the Fraser Valley Square & Round Dance Association and Vancouver and District Caller/Teachers Association.

The Honour is in recognition of the people who have gone above and beyond the call of duty and have dedicated their service to the Square Dance Community. This goes beyond the Club level, and they have shown leadership to the FVS&RD Association or B.C. Federation or Canadian Society.

Should 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 nomination, BUT** we will always hold any nominations received after the deadline and they will be submitted to the next year's committee.

**The letters are held for a period of 5 years.** Please be sure to include your name, address, phone number and your recipient's name, address and phone number.

Please send your nomination to the current Chairperson of the Scroll of Honour Committee of the FVS&RDA (see Section 2, Page 16 of Resource Book). Marked on the outside of the envelope - "SCROLL OF HONOUR"

and CONFIDENTIAL.”

This committee is made up of four couples that have already received the Scroll of Honour, usually two Caller Couples and two Dancer Couples.

If there are any questions, please feel free to call anyone on the FVS&RDA Executive list available in this book (Resource Book)

**There will be a meeting soon to select next honoree**

**J. BC Festival 2025 – Wendy Krueger reported:**

- **Registrations almost at 300**
- Thursday club colours and banner parade with two special dances on Friday and Saturday
- Friday – 50’s Rock ‘n’ Roll
- Sat – Under the Sea (with sea colours)
- BCSRDF and CSRDS will be having their meetings during the festival
- Reservations for RV dry camping is set up – Wendy is looking after that

***Moved Seconded: Norma Ridler /Janice Hiscott -- To accept above reports items C through J, as circulated -- CARRIED***

**CLUB CONCERNS-**

Jean – **How can clubs get the word out about square dancing to the general public?**

Comments/suggestions:

- Wendy – using signs that the promo committee provided at OAP hall; Century House – sandwich board; sign on fence at Chilliwack, Abbotsford and Kennedy Hall
- Nancy – we used to have a demo group – Diamond Country Dancers – don’t exist anymore – needs to go to the Caller Teachers – if we don’t have any callers, then it is difficult to set it up. –
- Many areas don’t have any clubs anymore
- Send request to VDCTA to set up some opportunities (esp. with Festival) for people to demonstrate
- Therese – use pre-recorded demos – contact Brent for recordings
- Robson Square – either venue not available or it was too expensive
- First Friday – Brent using it to create awareness – thought about attaching it to Brent’s Bunch
- Opportunities have disappeared
- Tyler has done some demos, but we are short of dancers
- Jean – suggested that some summer demos outside would work better, rather than in a hall
- Alexandra – biggest draw is printed posters – Circle 8s and Wesburn – find someone who can make posters and post them around the area
- Make a poster committee -or get grandchildren to do it for a nominal fee

**OLD BUSINESS-**

**1. 65<sup>th</sup> FVS&RDA/Valley Circle anniversary (amended to exclude New Dancer Jamboree)– Jean Galbraith**

I have obtained a venue in Kennedy Hall and a date of May 25<sup>th</sup>. The hall is booked for 1-5 pm, and the cost is \$250.00. I have asked some callers if they were available to call/cue on that date. I have not received a budget from FVS&RDA for caller contracts, but in the meantime, the V&DCTA have proposed an idea, with the help of the Promo Committee, I think, to combine the dance with New Dancer Jamboree, and make the dance level all-inclusive, so that new dancers could join the fun. At the last V&DCTA meeting, they agreed to accept this idea with full SSD program, with Ray Brendzy presiding as the MC. I feel that this is a great idea, a great opportunity for the FVS&RDA and V&DCTA to join in organizing a great event, and I fully support it. Of course, it’s a good idea for all these things to be sent to me directly, so I can better

control the overall organization of the event and get the input of the FVS&RDA Exec and Valley Circle Editor, who after all, are the main players. Anyway, I am excited by such great support, because my main concept for the dance was to involve as many clubs, dancers, callers and cuers as possible to celebrate an astounding 65 years.

Date confirmed

\$10 (\$5 with festival ribbon)

Singles board

50/50 draw

Valley Circle one of the longest running magazines that is still printed

Jean could use some recommendations for providing refreshments – Eva is not available  
Sandwiches, celebration cake etc.

## 2. Joint FVS&RDA/V&DCTA meeting –

**Frank has talked with John Corrigan** -- possible September meeting

Next caller teacher meeting is Sept 20<sup>th</sup> -- Wendy suggests that this meeting be used for the joint meeting

The next meeting after that will be in November.

## NEW BUSINESS –

1. **Don Allan** (absent) – **DeSmit New Dancer Grant requests – Surrey Square Wheelers and Town ‘n Country Dancers**

***Motion #1 -- Moved/Seconded: Norm Cox/Jean Galbraith – That we approve a grant of \$500 for the SSW from the DeSmit fund and a \$500 grant to Town ‘n’ Country from the building legacy fund -- CARRIED***

## 2. FVSRDA ad for Festival 2025 program

Customary for FVSRDA to congratulate the BC Festival 2025 and welcome dancers to our area

Cost of a full-page ad is \$40.25 (Price for various sized ads is on the Valley Circle website)

## 3. Promotion Committee Funding special request

The Promotion Committee is planning an ongoing **awareness campaign** which will require a larger financial commitment from the FVSRDA. Below is some information for running ads in the Coffee News in areas in the Fraser Valley.

The following is a proposal for ad funding as per our mandate to **“Promote our Dance activities with emphasis on Public Awareness and Recruitment of new Dancers.”**

**With this Mandate in mind the Promotion Committee is requesting financial funding of \$10,000 for the 2025 - 2026 dance year to expand our advertising reach beyond social media.**

For the past several years the Promotion Committee has been depending heavily on non-paid advertising in social media. This has shown great promise with many new dancers coming to our startup dances throughout the Fraser Valley. However, the recruitment has slowed down since the first year and the Committee feels we need to supplement this advertising with some additional advertising.

In order to accomplish this, we have contacted several print media companies but have not been successful in getting a good response as they are not willing to work with non-profit organizations with limited funding. The Coffee News has responded with a media package that includes pricing and on looking at the possibilities the Committee have decided we should try this media for a limited time to see what response we will get from the public.

The Coffee News is divided into Zones in the Fraser Valley. There are 29 Zones total, but the Committee has decided that we will advertise in only 14 of them to reduce costs. As well we will use the Coffee News for four months this summer, June, July, August, and September, again to keep costs down. The Coffee News estimate is \$32/Week/Zone, and this works out to \$7,168 plus Taxes. It will allow us to change the ads once per month and they will assist in setting up the ad artwork. In order to achieve the time goal, we will have to be financed and ready by the end of April.

The Coffee News ad will incorporate a QR code which will direct readers to our DanceForFun Website where they will get information on new dancer classes and dance locations as well as other pertinent information about our Association. A map of the Coffee News Zones for the Fraser Valley is attached with the proposed Zones noted. Advertising will be primarily in areas where we know new dancer classes will be held, but these can and may be changed over the campaign.

The Committee believes we should be advertising all year but feel this would be too expensive to start so will start slowly. Awareness takes time to happen, but we need more awareness to address the limited intake of new dancers.

The additional funding in the request is to allow the Promotion Committee to provide new pamphlets and brochures and more actively pursue in person demos throughout the Fraser Valley during the summer.

The Ads include:

- QR Code
- 2" tall by 3" wide
- Changes can be done once per month
- Artwork can be added and changed, so we can target July and August or November December for new dancer classes
- Include the Danceforfun web address
- Could include the 1-800 number.

There was some discussion as to how effective Facebook vs Coffee News advertising would be. In the end, it was agreed to try advertising in the Coffee News, perhaps for a shorter period than originally planned for.

- *The FVSRDA has a policy of distributing up to 15% of the Building Legacy Fund in a year. This made \$10,984 available in this fiscal year.*
- *So far this year, \$2500 in grants were approved and \$2000 was committed to fund Cuer School tuition.*
- *As a result, \$6484 is available in this fiscal year for further grants.*
- *The next fiscal year starts in July – money will be available again at that point*

***Motion #2 -- Moved/Seconded: Nancy Slinn/Maureen Wilson – We provide \$6000 from the building legacy fund to the Promotion committee for advertising in the Coffee News -- CARRIED***

#### **4. Zoom Meetings vs Face to Face Meetings**

**Langley** venue options (Maureen) – requesting space for a two-hour meeting (with set up and take down time); supply our own food and beverages; theatre seating for maximum 50 people (one head table with chairs and rows of chairs for attendees)

##### **a) Timms Community Centre (20399 Douglas Cres, Langley)**

*Date(s) available:* Sunday, June 22 or Sunday, June 29 (1:00-3:00 PM)

*Cost:* \$55.50 per hour (can rent for 3 hours with 15-minute set up and take down before and after the meeting)

*Food:* We are allowed to bring in our own food and beverages (will have to supply our own coffee  
*Room setup:* theatre seating for maximum 50 people (one head table with chairs and rows of chairs for attendees)

**b) Langley Senior Resources Society** (20605 51b Ave, Langley)

*Date available:* Sunday, June 22 only (1:00-3:00 PM)

*Cost:* minimum 4 hours at \$100/hour (= \$400)

*Food:* We cannot bring in outside food, but they will cater food and beverages for an extra cost

*Room setup:* theatre seating for maximum 50 people (one head table with chairs and rows of chairs for attendees)

It was decided that the Langley Senior Resources Society was not suitable for our needs. Maureen will check to see if the Langley Library has meeting rooms to rent, and, if so, will compare the facility and cost to Timms Community Centre and will book the one that is least expensive for June 22<sup>nd</sup>.

**GOOD & WELFARE-**

- Merle Suian – moved into a seniors' residence
- Angie Rahberger – in hospital
- Tilda Bourget – osteonecrosis of the knee
- Mary Decario -- surgery
- Toni van Koll – surgery for breast cancer

**ORDER OF THE DAY-**

Upcoming events:

- none

**NEXT MEETING** – EXEC – May 4 @9 AM VIA ZOOM

GM – May 18 @ 9 AM VIA ZOOM

**ADJOURNMENT** @ 10:28 AM by Nancy Slinn

*~Respectfully submitted by Maureen Wilson~*

*Please forgive any typos -- they weren't intentional...*

