

Canadian Square and Round Dance Society
Board of Directors' Meeting
Summary of the February 17th, 2008 Meeting Minutes

President, Alan Clays, "Called the Meeting to Order" at 4:00 p.m. CST.

All provinces were represented. Board Members Bill and Bonnie Taylor sent regrets as they did not have access to a telephone while on their travels.

The October 6th, 2007 Pre-AGM Minutes were accepted.

The following Business Arising from these Minutes were discussed:

- What does the Society do for you? - Marion had prepared a document for discussion. When this document has been completed it was recommended that all publications receive this information and have it printed in the local dance newsletters.
- All members that have paid for their CSRDS membership should have a CSRDS membership card with a number on it. Even the CSRDS requires a number.
- There had been some discussion that the CWDIA would be forwarding funds to the CSRDS. At this time, the CWDIA is continuing to operate as an organization, so there will be no transfer of funds at this time.

The October 6th, 2007 Post-AGM Minutes were accepted.

The following Business Arising from these Minutes were discussed:

- The **Forgivable Loan** to hosting Convention Committees: Both 2008 and 2010 Convention Committees accepted this position. The necessary documents are yet to be signed.
- The **Terms of Reference for the Convention Co-ordinator** were revised and accepted by the Board.
- **Convention 2006's Final Report** was studied. Chairman, Barry Coleman, was praised for taking the time and for making the effort to include the trials and tribulations of hosting a national convention.

Some items discussed included:

The deadline date for the final report to be handed in to the CSRDS Board. *(The Board felt that the deadline date remain as stated in the Letter of Agreement.)*

The reimbursement for 'out-of-pocket' expenses should be included in the guidelines. *(The Board felt that this is up to each individual convention committee.)*

Six years is too long a time to be planning a convention. *(The Board agreed that the full committee did not need to be active for all six years. The six years is necessary to secure a facility to accommodate a national convention.)*

The organizing committee should have input into the matter of the distribution of profits. (The Board believes that this should be considered.)

The need to confirm the ratification of any new rules and regulations adopted by the Board since the last AGM as well as the rules and regulations confirmed at the last AGM. *(The Board will check into this matter.)*

The Secretary was asked to send a Letter of Thanks to 2006 Convention Chair, Barry Coleman, for the time and effort that he put into the Final Report for Convention 2006.

The 2010 Convention Committee in Nova Scotia have taken some of the 2006 recommendations to heart.

- **Letter to Peter Graham:** The CSRDS secretary had written and forwarded a letter (on November 5th, 2007) to Peter Graham indicating that there was no need to change the date on the CSRDS Bursary Application. The secretary, nor the two Board Members, Alan Clays and Chuck Jordan who had initially received a letter from Peter Graham, had received a response.

Treasurer, Roy Church, reported that the CSRDS Insurance premium for 2008 was \$20,112.00. At the end of December 2007 the Bank Balance was approximately twelve hundred dollars.

Membership Chair, Martin Mallard, had made some suggestions for us to ponder. These suggestions were:

The Board needs to set a deadline date for accepting Memberships. (A surcharge of approximately two thousand dollars is being paid by CSRDS due to late arrivals of memberships.)

The printing of certificates be done by the person distributing the data in each province. (This would reduce the mailing costs. And, it would provide immediate issuance of the certificates to the clubs.)

A set price for membership fees for each province be based on the membership percentage per province. (This would eliminate the surcharge of two thousand dollars.)

The policy be put out for a quote so we have comparative prices every three years.

Change the present policy year of January 1st – December 31st to May 1st - April 30th. No decisions were made at this time. Martin will be contacting the insuring company for answers to the CSRDS concerns. Martin was also asked to check on the legality of just checking off your name on a prepared list. Or, must there be a full signature or initials beside the pre-printed names?

Publicity/Promotion Chair, Marion Knight, reported that she was not impressed with the number of calls received from the TV promotion this year. Marion volunteered to check with the TV stations regarding their distribution area and time of this commercial.

Marion reported that she would like to focus on promoting round dancing this year. The challenge is to find out how to do it.

Special Donations Chair, Norman Demeule, reported that the fund remains at \$240.00.

Communications: Web and Toll Free Line Chair, Marion Knight, reported that the CSRDS Web site is now on her new computer. Marion stated that the Toll Free Line and the Web E-mail address are the best PR devices at this time.

Professional Development Chair, Chuck Jordan, thanked Marion and Gary for assisting with the updating of the Professional Development information on the CSRDS web site. Chuck reported that there were thirteen awarded bursaries this past year.

Honours and Awards Chair, Gary Geldart, reported that at this time there was only one nomination accepted for the Award of Excellence. There has been no other activity to date.

Convention Co-ordinator, Norman Demeule, reported that the Terms of Reference for the Convention Co-ordinator has been revised. And correspondence has taken place regarding the 'Forgivable Loan'. Norman agreed to update Volume I and Volume II of the Convention Guidelines and the Letter of Agreement.

Convention 2008 Chair, Dan Roy reported that as of January 30th, 2008 there were 1301 dancers registered. Dan reported that the Hilton and the Delta no longer have vacancies. Other hotels within three blocks of the convention site are: Holiday Inn Express, London Executive Suites and the Marriot Suites. Bed and Breakfast is available at Western University. Check Festival 2008's Website at www.swosda.ca/2008 for complete information.

For Convention 2010, Bob Ruohoniemi reported that the 2010 convention committee has re-budgeted for 1600 registrants as their break-even point. They will be re-issuing registration forms and preparing informational packages for the New England Convention, the Toronto and District Convention, and, for Festival 2008 in London, ON.

They have a few more fundraisers planned: raffle for a quilt and a special dance this summer. The committee is also practicing for a presentation to be made in London, ON.

Historian, Inge Ruohoniemi had no report at this time.

Director's Manual Chair, Bob Ruohoniemi, reported that the manual was a work in progress.

Nominations Chair, Roy Church, reported that some provinces had not communicated to him as of this meeting. The Board re-nominated David and Marion Knight to represent our interest in the Territories. The other provinces that still need to communicate their nominees are BC, AB, and QC.

Under New Business the following items were discussed:

Membership Losses: Alan expressed concern regarding the ten percent loss each year. Is there something that the CSRDS can do to change this pattern? Discussion centered around the target population, the use (or lack of use) of the DVD: Dancing Keeps You Young, combined effort between callers/cuers and dancers, the possible elimination of the word 'square' when promoting dancing, the ABC Dance Program, and, Fun Nights should probably follow graduation rather than in September.

Influx of dancers following the 2006 Convention in Montreal: Gary reported that of the 112 dancers that started, 85 graduated in the spring.

Quebec's Request for PR Funds: Gary reported that BBS and RDA plans to spend at least \$10,000.00 for advertising during the two-day Baby Boomer Convention in Montreal this spring. The BBS and RDA is requesting assistance with the cost of translation of the DVD: Dancing Keeps You Young. The Board approved to provide Quebec with \$1400.00 to assist them with the translation costs of the DVD. This money is to come from the CSRDS PR budget.

The meeting times to be held in London, ON during the convention were set up. Alan was to relay this information to Dan Roy. The AGM is set for Friday, July 18th, 2008 commencing at 9:30 a.m. The Pre-AGM is set for Wednesday, July 16th (time yet to be determined) and the post AGM is set for Saturday, July 19th at 9:30 a.m.

Alan adjourned the meeting at **6:00 p.m. CST.**

This summary was prepared by CSRDS Secretary, Lorraine Kozera.