

General Meeting Minutes

April 30, 2016 10:30 AM

Fargo El Zagal Club

The meeting was called to order by President Vern Laning

Roll was called for all the clubs:

Belles N' Beaux represented by Art & Judi Bakken

Circle Eight Plus represented by Allen & Carol Currie

L & M Squares represented by Harvey Hegvick

Saturday Fun Night represented by Merle & Norene Braaten

Prairie Promenaders represented by Hella Helfter

Minot Magic Squares represented by Duane & Gayla Haberlock

Dakota Ramblers represented by Mike & Doris Cleary

Grand Forks Valley Stars represented by Wanda Huhtala

Secretary Judi Bakken read the minutes from the October 31, 2015 meeting. Rose Hall moved and Hella Helfter 2nd to accept the minutes as read. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer's report was given by Carlyle Hillstrom. There was income from all eight clubs dues of \$320.00 and \$0.12 interest for a total of \$320.12 income. Expenses are ASCAP 123.00, North Dakota Secretary of State \$10.00, Grant of \$400.00 and \$300.00 loan to the FM Square Dance Association for the 2016 Convention Committee, Web Master Payment of \$300.00 and Vern Laning for Officer bars \$31.53. Total expensed are \$1,164.53. Current balance is \$1,447.21. President Laning commented that according to a motion from a previous meeting our checking account balance is to be maintained at \$2,000.00. If we get income from the convention we will probably be able to meet that rule. Doretta Borneman moved and Art Bakken seconded a motion to accept the Treasurer's report. Motion carried.

SEE MISCELLANIOUS REPORTS IN ATTACHMENT

Old Business

2016 Convention

Because no square dance club had put in a bid for the 2016 state convention the ND Callers Association offered to host the convention. Because the bylaws state a "club" must sponsor the convention, bylaws were studied and the 2015 Board of Directors is serving a second term with the exception of the President. Former President Larry Schwartz appointed Vern & Rose Laning Presidents for this convention.

There is no other Old Business.

New Business

2017 Convention

The Fargo Morehead Square Dance Association has put in a bid for the 2017 State Convention and the bid was gratefully accepted.

Revisions to State Constitution and Bylaws

President Vern Laning proposed revisions to our Constitution and By-Laws. Notice was sent in January 2016. These proposed revisions are mostly because of rules but there are some “housekeeping” things that need to be changed. Allan Currie suggested because of the importance of changing the Constitution and By-Laws we should go through, discuss and vote on each change separately.

- Officially the Constitution has Articles and the By-Laws should have Paragraph numbers.
- Article IV, Paragraph C to strike out: Vacancies occurring in any salaried position of the Corporation shall be filled by presidential appointment, with the advice and consent of the Officers and Board of Directors. This change was made since there are no “Paid Positions” in the corporation. Greg Morford motioned and Mike Cleary 2nd to accept the change. Motion carried
- Article VI, Paragraph A to change “The Annual Meeting and Convention shall be held on the last Friday and Saturday of April of each year” to: during the last weekend of April each year. This allows the hosting club the flexibility to choose either both days or just one. Also adding the sentence “The hosting club(s) shall determine the schedule.” Rosie Vanek motioned and Art Bakken 2nd to accept the change and addition. Motion carried.
- Article VII Amendments to change the last sentence “Any proposed amendment or revision shall be posted on Prairie Square website at least 30 days prior to the annual Meeting” to: “posted on the official state website”. Curtis Vanek motioned and Harvey Hegvik 2nd to accept the change. Motion carried.

President Laning proposed to change the By-Laws from Articles to Numbers. Harvey Hegvik motioned and Wanda Huhtala 2nd to accept the change. Motion carried.

- By-Law I, to change “Member Club dues shall be \$40 and student club dues \$20, payable annually by February 1st to the treasurer of the North Dakota Square and Round Dance Clubs, Inc.” to: Member Club dues shall be set by the Board of Directors and payable... and to add a last sentence “Dues are presently \$40.00 per year. Greg Morford motioned and Rose Hall 2nd to accept the change and addition. Motion carried.
- By-Law II, Paragraph D to change “Directors shall be elected for a term of two years, with half of the directors to be elected annually, from each of the four sections of the state, as divided by Highway 200 and 3. Clubs on Highway 200 go north; clubs on Highway 3 go west. One director shall be elected to represent each five clubs or

fraction thereof within a district, with a minimum of one director for each district. The past president will automatically become a director at large for the following year, with the same voting privileges as the other officers and directors. The directors' term of office shall not exceed two consecutive full terms.” to read “The directors shall be one representative from each of the clubs who are in good standing.” Vern Laning is not in favor of this change as it gives a lot of weight to the eastern part of the state and very little weight in the west. Mike Cleary noted this would increase the size of the board and it would be consolidated in the Red River Valley. This is a bad idea. Art Bakken agreed with Vern and Mike. No need to change what is working, proposing we leave this paragraph as it is. Rosie Vanek wondered what the directors vote on and who proposed this change. An example of the Directors voting is on the bid for every convention. Vern sent an email to all members with some revisions asking for suggestions. Bernadette McNeil was the only person responding to this email. Rose Hall thought we should have a Director for each corner of the state and not each club. After asking three times for a motion there was no motion to accept the change, suggested change died for lack of a motion.

- By-Law III, Paragraph A to change: 4) the president shall appoint a Historian. 5) The president shall appoint an Insurance Coordinator. 6) The president shall appoint a License Coordinator when a vacancy occurs.” to remove #s 4 & 5 and change #6 to read “When a vacancy occurs, the president shall appoint a Historian, and Insurance Coordinator or a License Coordinator as needed.” Rose Hall motioned and Harvey Hegvick 2nd to make the changes. Motion carried.
- By-Law IV, To change “The directors shall be responsible to the president, the Corporation, and shall be assigned definite geographical areas by the president, within their district. Each director shall promote the affairs of the Corporation at all times and shall perform such duties as outlined in the Directors Handbook.” to insert “and” between “to the president and the Corporation.” also remove “and shall be assigned definite geographical areas by the president, within their district.” Bina Krebsbach motioned and Diane Chepulis 2nd to make these changes. Motion carried.
- By-Law VII, Allowances: to strike this By-Law completely. Mike Cleary motioned and Wanda Huhtala 2nd to remove. Motion carried.
- By-Law VII, Paragraph A: “The Corporation shall maintain a web site the official publication “Prairie Squares” which shall be kept current by a web master.” Insert the words “an official website” before the word web site, strike out “the official publication “Prairie Squares” and insert “(presently Prairie Squares: www.squaredancenorthdakota.org). Greg Morford motioned and Diane Chepulis 2nd motion to accept the change. Motion carried.

In Paragraph C: “Full names and e-mail addresses of all officers, directors and area served shall be published on the web site.” Want to strike “directors and area served”. Rosie Vanek disagrees with this change. They had trouble finding who the directors were. They found them on the website. After asking three times for a motion there was no motion to accept the change, suggested change died for lack of a motion.

In Paragraph D: "Full names and e-mail addresses of all officers of the North Dakota Square Dance Callers & Curers shall be published on the web site." Want to add "and members" behind all officers" and add "and Cuers Association behind Square Dance Callers. Greg Morford motioned and Curtis Vanek 2nd to accept these changes. Motion carried.

In Paragraph F: "The web master shall maintain an e-mail listing of board members, which shall be used to send special information to members. This list shall not be sold. The web master shall give reports semi-annually to the board of directors. The board of directors shall prescribe other duties of the web master." Change to add the word "Board" before members, and change the word "semi-annually" to "at each meeting" Curtis Vanek motioned and Art Bakken 2nd motion to make changes. Motion carried.

- By-Law IX, "Any caller or round dance leader on staff at the North Dakota Square and Round Dance Convention shall be a member of the North Square Dance Callers Association or the North Dakota Round Dance Council." Suggested change to delete this by By-Law entirely. Allows local club to hire national caller or whomever they choose for the convention. Wanda Huhtala motioned and Everyone 2nd to accept the change. Motion carried.
- By-Law IX, "These By-Laws may be amended at any regular Annual Meeting of the Corporation by a majority vote of the member clubs present. Any proposed amendment or revision shall be posted on "Prairie Squares" Web site at least 30 days prior to the Annual Meeting" to change the words "Prairie Squares" Web to "the official website" Rose Hall motioned and Greg Morford 2nd motion. Motion carried

USDA Organization

Floyd & Judy Engelhard, Vice-Presidents of the Plains Region for the United Square Dance Association, came to talk to us about the National Convention, USDA and to help USDA become more visible to the square dance population.

National Convention Delegates

North Dakota receives 4 votes at the national convention. The 2016 National Convention representatives are Greg & Mary Ann Morford, Mark & Bina Krebsbach. The alternate delegate is Sandy Sathre.

Election of 2016 – 2017 Officers

The State Officers for 2016 - 2017 are:

President - Curtis & Rosie Vanek

Vice President - Harvey Hegvick

Treasurer - Pat & Ann Conley

Secretary - Corene Geffre

Northwest Director – Wayne & Dorothy Lamon

Southwest Director – Vern & Rose Laning

Northeast Director - Sandy Sathre

Southeast Director – Allen & Carol Currie

Hella Helfter motioned and Allan Currie 2nd the motion to accept the roster of officers.
Motion carried.

Callers Report

Bernadette McNeil gave the Callers' Report. The caller's convention will be held on October 28 & 29, 2016 at the El Zagal Shrine, 1429 3rd Street North in Fargo. They will have workshops for callers and dances in the afternoon and in the evening. Thor Sigurdson will be calling the evening dance on Saturday night.

There were 15 people pre-registered for the 2016 Convention. There were 98 dancers on Friday night and hopefully more dancers for Saturday night. It is a very good turnout. The 2017 State Convention will be held at St. Anthony of Padua Activity Center on April 28 & 29, 2017.

Announcements

Mark Krebsbach asked to be excused because he needed to get a hair-cut. He would have gotten one before the meeting but he did not need one before but now does.

Vern Laning announced that the 2018 State Convention will tentatively be in Bismarck. We are hoping Minot will have some interest in hosting.

Vic Schwahn noticed that Mark Krebsbach had returned from his hair appointment and didn't look any better.

Vern reminded all outgoing officers to turn their books over to the new officers at this time.

Greg Morford made a motion to adjourn. Meeting adjourned

Respectfully submitted

Art & Judi Bakken