

Subj:	Federation Minutes
Date:	5/22/05 11:27:37 PM Eastern Daylight Time
From:	Kensuebrown
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**MINUTES OF
FLORIDA FEDERATION OF SQUARE & ROUND DANCERS MEETING
SUNDAY, February 27, 2005**

BEST WESTERN DIPLOMAT, LAKELAND, FL

The meeting was called at 9:00 AM. Garland and Carole McKenzie presiding. President McKenzie led the delegates in the Pledge of Allegiance. Ken Brasfield offered the Invocation. Sue Brown called the roll and stated a quorum was in attendance.

The President thanked Southeast for the refreshments during the weekend and Don and Ann Slocum for hosting a wonderful dance Saturday Night.

**Re-Organization Committee Report
February 27, 2005**

This is actually an on-going study.

The Committee includes:

Ken Brasfield Don Slocum Ray Huddleston

Jack Taylor Murl & Sally Herbert Dave & Shirley Nihart

Paul Miller Kathy McKinney

At the request of the Federation, an on-going committee was formed to investigate the role of the Federation should it become necessary for an Association or Associations to dissolve for whatever reason. After hearing the Association reports yesterday from the Southeast and Northwest, you can understand the concern for all of us connected with the Federation. The outlook for these two Associations as well as for the future for Square Dance here in Florida. When it no longer becomes viable for an association to muster without the dancers to conduct a state convention or to provide couples for the Federation board, and in general unable to conduct business, because they no longer have the willing workers to count on, the Federation has a few options. (Very few)

The committee met and discussed all of these options. (Apparent options) The committee felt **without a more thorough study of the many problems that faced the Federation, a decisive decision can not be arrived at in just one session. and was tabled until the May Meeting at the State Convention.**

Meantime an outline of our discussion and findings will be passed out to all the members of this committee to add, change, modify or otherwise arrive at ideas and suggestions. At the State Convention in May, a meeting of this committee will be held on Saturday, prior to the Federation meeting, and a comprehensive outline of action for the Federation will be discussed. The committee feels that this is too important an issue to just rush into making by-law and constitution changes. When a good viable plan is arrived at and in place that we can present to the general assembly of delegates, it will be after the committee is in unanimous agreement that this is the right course of action

So, what I am basically saying is, we met together, we know we've got a problem, and we are discussing it, but we can't come to a conclusion immediately. This is going to take some time. It is too important just to throw it together and say this is what we are going to do, then find out in a week, ten days, or months from now that we need to change it again. We are doing it as carefully as possible. Since this is not critical the changes do not need to be made immediately. They must stand the test of time.

George Knapp

Kathy McKinney asked the Association Presidents how many White Notebooks were needed for

the New Delegates. The question was raised about badges. Susan Elaine is going to try to make them.

**Finance Committee
February 26, 2005**

Those present:

Randy & Carol Poole DeeDee Stovall Sue Brown

Dewey Hendricks Sandy Brasfield

The committee felt that we should go back to the ledger type bookkeeping.

The committee felt that either the books should be audited and turned over at the November meeting, or the out-going treasurer should chair the Working Weekend break-out meeting.

The chair appointed an audit committee. This committee was composed of Dee Dee Stovall, Dewey Hendricks, and Sandy Brasfield. The books were found to be correct.

The 2005 Proposed Budget as follows:

INCOME-

Association dues 7 Associations @

U.S.D.A. credit card program

State Convention

Interest

TOTAL INCOME

EXPENSES-

President

Vice President

Secretary

Treasurer

Parliamentarian

Show Case

Traveling Banner

BMI

U.S.D.A

Historian

Corporate Tax

Honorariums

Web Site upkeep

Miscellaneous

TOTAL EXPENSES

Submitted by: Randy and Carol Poole

Finance Chairman

center

Parliamentarian Report

February 26, 2005

*****If your association received a letter from "Nationals Show Case", please do not respond. Cheryl and I mailed a request for the tables for our display as a group.**

Re: Proposal of the cost to have a traveling banner made for the Florida Federation of Square Dancers.

During the Federation meeting in October 2004, it was suggested we get in touch with the folks at www.halfpricebanners.com to investigate the cost of creating a new traveling banner. We sent an example graphic to www.halfpricebanners.com. They responded with the estimated price of \$200.00 minimum. We asked for a 6' X 3' banner and they said it would actually be more beneficial for us to order two of them for around \$218.00, since the minimum fee is \$200.00

Originally, we had asked for an 8' X 3' size, but thought that might actually be too big. Therefore, we settled on the 6' X3' size. It apparently, doesn't matter how complex the image is, it just costs a \$200.00 minimum.

We are awaiting approval of the banner design and the cost of the banner(s). Upon approval, we will order the banners(s) with an estimated "time to print" of one month.

Respectfully Submitted,

Paul & Cheryl Miller

Motion from the floor: Bruce Morgan

I make a motion to authorize the purchase of two (2)-traveling banners for the **cost of \$218. (Or not to exceed the \$250 budget of the Federation of Square Dancers.) The banner should consist of the Federation seal in the center with "Florida Federation: across the top & "of Square Dancers" across the bottom. Th banners should be 6 feet wide and 3 feet tall. 2nd Dave Henn**

A discussion followed. Items considered; material, color, pockets, printing (graphic), size to conform to Show Case tables.

Motion carried.

Showcase of Ideas

Committee Report

February 26, 2005

The Showcase Committee met in the Argos Room at 1:30 pm. Committee Chairman was Cheryl Miller and committee members attending were:

Terri Little Central

Jerry Rhodes & Ken Brown Southeast

Shirley Pfeffer West Coast

Shirley White, Bessie Stovall, Martha Hardcastle & Sally Herbert - Northeast

I would like to thank those individuals for their assistance in designing this outstanding display.

In an effort to tie our "2005" 51st Florida State Convention theme "Get On Board & the 54th National Square Dance convention theme "All Trails Lead to Oregon", and the Oregon Showcase of Idea's theme "Trail through to Education", I proposed the following idea: (attached "2005 Showcase of Ideas Display").

We will set up a train track that will run form "Northeast" (with a railroad sign displaying "5 stops to Portland, Oregon", and another railroad sign further down the line displaying "Next Stop Central". Central will have a railroad sign displaying "4 stops to Portland, Oregon" and another railroad sign displaying "Next Stop Southeast".

When we come to the Southeast, the railroad sign will display "3 stops to Portland, OR", with another sign displaying "Next Stop West Coast". We continue to "West Coast" displaying a railroad sign "2 stops to Portland, OR", and "Next Stop Northwest". As we arrive in the Northwest, we will have a railroad sign displaying "Next Stop Portland, OR".

Paul and I will provide a train track that will be used on the display and the "Train Station" registration box. Ken Brown, Southeast, has graciously agreed to make our train signs for our route from Northeast to Portland. Val & Charlie Newsome have agreed to allow us to take one of

the model engines to Nationals and also agreed to create a new name-plate naming the engine the "Education Express". Jack & Barbara Hoffman have graciously donated their motor home as transportation of the association's displays.

The cost of materials for this display will cost each association approx. \$15.00. Each association will pay for their own materials.

Giveaways for National's:

We contacted "FLAUSA" in an effort to get free giveaways for Portland. The organization would only commit to (250) Lapel pins. This amount was not enough so Paul & I selected "Imprinted Pencils" as the giveaway for nationals and have negotiated with a local condominium rental company to pay for this giveaway. We will order (5000) pencils in light colors with black imprint as follows:

**Florida Federation of
Square Dancers**

www.floridadancing.com

Beacon Resorts

www.beaconresorts.com

The company also offered to donate (2) WEEKEND GETAWAYS, which will be awarded at the National Convention. A registration box will be set up as a train station and we would like other associations to see if they can get a "donation" to entice visitors to one of your locations within the association (this can be any attraction in your area, such as, tickets to Sea World, Daytona 500, hotel accommodations, etc...). The winners will be drawn & posted in Oregon.

We have asked the associations to make a sign to be placed on their display board at Nationals "Enter to Win". Deadline for giveaways is May 27.

A sign-up sheet for volunteers to staff the tables at nationals has been given to each association representative, please sign up to help.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul & Cheryl Miller

Parliamentarian Florida Federation of Square Dancers

HISTORIAN MEETING

February 27, 2005

In attendance: Manny & Sherry Gonzales

Zonnie Taylor

Judy Frye

Eivor Brown

Suggestions discussed at the meeting:

1. Possibility of having right **after the main meeting, but some break-out meetings seem to last too long**
2. **Donna Hendricks reported she found a certificate relating to Square Dancing in her school. We can use it in our history records – So we welcome anything like that.**
3. **Each Convention Chairman appoint a photographer dedicated exclusively to take pictures from beginning to end for the Historical Records. That would be an added committee to State Convention.**
4. **Also each Association should have a dedicated photographer to take (gather) & forward photos and articles to the Historian. We need to strive for a representation each association**

Meeting adjourn @ 3:30 PM

Manny & Sherry Gonzales, Historians

PRESIDENTS COMMITTEE

Jack and Barbara Hoffman, Anita Taylor, Dave Henn and Jan Smith

All associations are having problems to get dancers to volunteer for board positions, particularly long term commitments.

Also discussed the cost of halls versus the number of dances per year. And each Associations formulas for membership fees.

The sale of coupon books, flea markets, and raffle baskets as fundraisers were also discussed.

Elsa felt that getting input from other Association Presidents is an excellent way to get new ideas. She plans to take these ideas to her next Association Board Meeting.

Elsa Huddleston

PRESERVATION, EDUCATION AND PUBLICITY COMMITTEE

February 27, 2005

Senior Games:

We Recommend that the Federation Board Appoint a State Chairman to work with the State of Florida Committee and recommend that each Association select a Chairman to work with the clubs in that area.

Publicity Committee

We discussed the following problems or conditions that may contribute to the decline of Square Dancing.

- A. The number of dancers is declining**
- B. The length of time to learn (8 months) may be too long**
- C. We have a Hillbilly perception**
- D. At what age should we aim our efforts**
- E. Do we have too many clubs**
- F. People work schedules may prevent attendance at dances**
- G. Dress may be a detriment**

What are some actions to consider

A Charge dancers on a quarterly basis to encourage attendance

- B. Improve level of dancing**
- C. Change name to modern square dancing**
- D. Get younger dancers to do demo's**
- E. Include competition in square dancing**
- F. Encourage neat and clean dress at dances**
- G. Form a daytime club for Seniors**
- H. Encourage more visitation between clubs**
- I. Introduce Square Dancing to Home School Groups**

These are some of the items we discussed at the meeting.

Respectfully submitted
Joe Hardcastle
Presented by Smitty Smith

U.S.D.A. INSURANCE COMMITTEE
February 27, 2005

Bruce Morgan, Chairman
Helen Rhodes, Southeast
Penny Green, West Coast & Singles
Shirley Nihart, Northeast

We met in Jerry & Helen Rhodes room at 1:30 PM 05/26/05. The Insurance Books were audited by the committee and found to be in order.

Submitted,
Bruce Morgan
Helen Rhodes
Penny Green
Shirley Nihart

Convention Procedures

Charlie & Val Newsome Jim McConnaha Su Brown
Ken Brown Ann Slocum Colleen Morgan
Brad Taylor

The purpose of this committee was to review problems of current conventions and share possible solutions.

As was mentioned in the State Convention report, enlisting a Badge vendor has not been possible, Su Brown again offered to investigate possible sources handling Liability Insurance.

Ken Brown mentioned a possible Record vendor.

A suggestion was made to add the parking fee to the price of admission and eliminate fees charged at the gate. This has not seemed possible since many of the dancers share rides.

Another point for discussion was the Syllabus at Convention.

Val stressed that Guidelines are just that, and the final decisions are still made by the General Chairman.

The State Convention review committee recommendations were passed by all entities. A new Review Committee consisting of the same members, or possibly other members should be formed to review the existing Convention Procedures as soon as possible. It was further decided to ask Bruce Morgan to Chair this Committee.

Bruce and Colleen Morgan agreed to chair the Review Committee. It was decided that no action be taken until the Reorganization Committee, Chaired by George Knapp, submit their findings.

It is imperative that all work together. Charlie and Val pledge their support to all future conventions.

Old Business:

Carole McKenzie stated the Federation is still looking for a volunteer to serve on the U.S.D.A. board.

NEW BUSINESS

Val Newsome announced that this years Convention will hold a Mini Grand March. Each Association President will select Four Couples to be their representative.

<DIV align=justify>

Kathy McKinney asked the delegates to take the message back to their Association – Support the advertisers who have placed their advertisements in the Program Book.

Don Slocum mentioned to take a book along after the convention to en