

FLORIDA FEDERATION OF SQUARE DANCERS  
SUNDAY, MARCH 11, 2007

**Working Weekend (Breakout Committee) Minutes**

Meeting was called to order by President Ken Brown at 9:00 am

Pledge of Allegiance led by President Ken Brown

Invocation was given by Ken Brasfield

Guest Tom & Miriam James, USDA

**Finance Committee**

Ray & Elsa Huddleston

**FINANCE COMMITTEE**

**March 11, 2007**

The Finance Committee met at 9:15 am. In Room 323. Those present were Ray Huddleston, Chairman, Dee Dee Stovall, Ken Brasfield, Cheryl Miller, Jack McKinney, Dick Stevens and George Knapp.

The chair appointed an audit committee composed of Dee Dee Stovall, Jack McKinney and George Knapp. The committee found the treasurer's books to be in complete reconciliation with the bank statement as of January 31, 2007 with no discrepancies.

2007 PROPOSED BUDGET

INCOME:

Association dues (7@ \$50)	\$ 350.00
State Convention	1,000.00
GSI (Winter Fest)	1,000.00
Interest	12.00

TOTAL PROPOSED INCOME:

\$2,362.00

EXPENSES:

President	\$ 100.00
Vice President	100.00
Secretary	150.00
Treasurer	25.00
Parliamentarian (Showcase)	500.00
USDA	100.00
Historian	200.00
Corporate Taxes	61.25
Honorariums	100.00
Miscellaneous (Delegate Badges)	100.00
Central Association	200.00
West Coast Association	200.00
Northwest Association	200.00
Northeast Association	200.00
Southeast Association	200.00

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TOTAL PROPOSED EXPENSES: \$2,436.25

Discussion followed regarding the Federation supplementing the GSI funds disbursed to each association. These funds would be used as a tool for reaching new dancers.

Respectfully submitted,

Ray & Elsa Huddleston  
Treasurers

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REPORT.doc

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Showcase of Ideas

Charlie & Val Newsome

**SHOWCASE OF IDEAS**

The Showcase of Ideas Committee met in Board Room A at 9:30 AM. The following were in attendance:

Charlie Newsome, Chairman  
Val Newsome  
Terri Little  
Barbara Hoffman  
Shirley Knapp  
Erv & Jan Oermann

Shirley White  
Smitty Smith  
Shirley Walker  
Martha Hardcastle  
Elsa Huddleston  
Bobby & Carol Hutchinson

The Chairman presented a proposed Showcase, along with three (3) WORDING SELECTIONS FOR SIGNS. The proposal was accepted as presented and a wording for the sign at National selected.

The Associations will either use the black presentation boards from last year - and update them as requested - or purchase a new one. All headings will be standard in size and wording. Size will be 1" Block Letters, black on white paper. Center section will be titled Northwest Association, Northeast Association, Central Association, West Coast Association, or Southeast Association. As you look at the presentation board, the left side will be titled, Community Activities, and the right side will be titled, Points of Interest. These entries may be both written and pictorial also. It was pointed out by Central that post cards are great for the Points of Interest.

The associations were given a 15x15 copy of the State of Florida which is to be used in the center section of the presentation board. The center section will identify the Association; their particular area will be identified by a specific color which was assigned to each Association. The remaining portion of the center section will include pictures of Association Officers (either as a group, or singly). It will also include information about the Association and its clubs -- pictorial and/or written. A listing of counties within their area will be pasted near the State map (this listing was prepared and handed out to each).

The Associations were asked to provide copies of their Association Publication, along with any copies of upcoming dances, which will be placed on the tables directly in front of their presentation board.

For the State Convention: A pink flamingo will stand to the left of the Federation Backdrop and to the right of it will be the following 20x30" sign: "Follow the Bird to the 53rd!"

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For the National Convention: We will probably leave the pink flamingo on the table, but a 20x30" sign will also be added which says:

"For a little bit of Heaven,  
and Fun in the Sun.....  
Come Dance with us in Florida!"

We also have about five (5) small flamingo pens which will be placed along the tables.

There is a sufficient supply of pencils from last year to use as "giveaways." We plan to place the pencils in a basket on each end of the tables (2 baskets) with signs, "Please Take One!".

Following recommendations from the last couple of years, we will NOT staff the Showcase tables. We will be there for the opening hour and will then check & re-supply pencils in the baskets twice daily.

We are attempting to get a Barbie & Ken doll dressed in the Federation attire and if we are able to get the dolls dressed (outfits sewn, etc), they will be placed somewhere in front of the Federation backdrop.

The Associations will set up their presentation boards at the State Convention and we will transport everything to the National Convention.

When we checked the Parliamentarian supplies we noticed that our backdrop was dirty and beginning to crack. We looked into a replacement and found a company who will make a 6x6' polyester & poplin backdrop, silk-screened digitally, with graphics of our choosing. The material is FOLDABLE, WASHABLE, and, if necessary, can even be IRONED. It will be fitted with grommets at the top, where "S" hooks can be inserted and attached to the pole behind the Showcase curtains. The price would be around \$475.00.

After discussing this matter with both the board and the committee, we've been asked to make the following motion. The Board has already verbally agreed and approved the wording & graphics.

*The motion is as follows:*

*"Federation to purchase a new backdrop as described in the above paragraph for a cost of no more than \$500.00. Graphics will include the words "Florida Federation of Square Dancers; the State of Florida; and a Dancing Couple."*

Respectfully submitted,  
Charlie & Val Newsome  
Parliamentarian

**Note: The motion was seconded by Jack Hoffman; the President called for a vote; motion was carried.**

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## Working Weekend (Breakout Committee) Minutes

### Historian Committee Breakout Meeting

The group met in room 309. The committee was chaired by Manny & Sherry Gonzales. In attendance were: Kathy McKinney, Sandy Brasfield, Mary Lee Van Valkenburg, and Mary Butlak. Northwest and Southeast associations were not represented.

The following were points of discussion:

3. OPTION: To obtain a centrally located (Plant City or Lakeland) storage area for storage of the majority of the Historical records, articles not readily used while maintaining or displaying historical records. A storage space of about 4 X 6 X 8 feet (approximately) of climate controlled storage is recommended. The estimated cost would be approximately \$80.00 to \$100.00 per month. Funding was discussed as to whether each association contributes or the Federation pays the cost.

1. Transfer all records, i.e. written articles, photos, correspondence, etc. into CD's for a more condensed mode of storage to eliminate the many notebooks, boxes and articles that have to be stored. Note: Electronic equipment would have to be purchased for this procedure. Photos of all dresses/shirts would be taken individually and kept as historical records on CD's.

Items such as banners, table cloths, etc. used primarily for display only at the State and National Convention would be maintained by the office of the Parliamentarian who's responsibility is to transport/or ensure these displays are at the National Convention. Or the office designated by the Federation President.

Each Association maintain their own Publications, while the Historian obtains one copy each for abstracting articles and photos for the History records.

2. That a committee, with the help/advise of Jack and Zonie Taylor plus selected other individuals conduct a staffing meeting to determine what is to be maintained as Federation Historical Records and how to appropriately dispose of materials that will not be considered Historical records.

This committee will then present its findings and recommendations to the Federation Board for approval and/or vote if required during the Federation meeting in May at the State Convention.

So at this time I feel that we should wait until the committee reports back its findings and thorough study of the maintenance and disposition of the historical records. The committee will then provide probable solutions and provide the Board and Delegates with the staffing recommendations.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Manny & Sherry Gonzales  
Historian Chairman

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**Preservation, Education & Publicity      Joe Hardcastle**

**THE EDUCATION/PUBLICITY COMMITTEE**

March 10, 2007.

The Education/Publicity Committee met in room 110 of the hotel at 10:30 AM. Attending the meeting was: Joe Hardcastle, Zorn Walker, Tom Brown, Ever Brown, Charlie Per, Sarah Pergrossi and Terri Wilaby.

A discussion was held on the present status of square dancing and it was generally agreed that overall attendance at many square dance functions such as state conventions, 5th Saturday dances, fall festivals and other charitable dances was declining at a rate of about 10% annually.

It was also agreed that about the only way to reverse this trend is to build or rebuild the classes. Many things have been tried in the recent pass, such as, demonstrations, flyers, signs, etc and we must continue these efforts at every opportunity. These efforts have not been very successful so we need to try other methods as well as continue the old ones. Some things we considered were as follows; separate classes from club dance night in order to concentrate more on the dancers learning the calls instead of concentrating on the club night functions, have a series of classes of 10 weeks starting with the basics, the next 10 weeks learning the mainstream calls and the third 10 weeks learning the plus calls. We believe this enable the students to better and quicker learn the calls and make them better dancers.

There have been many cases where it took dancers 3 years to learn to dance and most of them would quit before then. Other possible suggestions may be to have classes over three weekends, have classes during the summer for youths, demonstrate at county fairs, have callers modernize their music as Tim Mariner has, consider teaching some women to dance the means part in class so they could have partners when the classes were finished.

These are some of the suggestions that were presented.

Respectfully submitted,  
Joe Hardcastle

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**U.S.D.A. Insurance**

**Bruce Morgan**

Attendees:

Bruce Morgan – Chairman  
Jack Hoffman  
Dave Henn  
Shirley Pfeffer  
Dave & Shirley Nihart  
Betty Stevens

Committee discussed many things. Several of the attendees were there for the first time. Audits were performed by Jack Hoffman, Shirley Pfeffer, and Betty Stevens. Everything was found to be in order.

**State Convention procedures – Tim Wilaby**

Discussed a number of topics. Downsizing rooms, getting butts into the seats.

- 1) Procedures meetings need callers & cuers representatives at meeting.
- 2) Jim McConnaha gave presentation. (See Convention Facility Search Committee Report)
  - a. Convention facility search – Lakeland facility still the best.

*Motion : Jack McKinney made motion to have committee apply for grant. George Knapp seconded. Motion was approved by vote.*

**Convention Facility Search Committee Report**

March 11, 2007

Since our last report, much has taken place in our search for another facility. More miles have been covered trying to come up with a facility that even if it was carpeted, would be satisfactory for our event, both price wise and room wise. Nothing was found that, at least at this time, was better than the Lakeland Center.

After arriving at this conclusion, Jan and I had lunch with Tony Delgado, Deputy City manager of the City of Lakeland. We had become well acquainted with him when we were General Chairman of the State Convention in 1999. Tony at that time was the assistant Director of the Lakeland Center. We have remained in contact since that time and during that time he had been promoted to Deputy City Manager and given oversight of the Lakeland Center.

At our luncheon meeting we explained the problems that square dancers were having with the Center and that we were looking for another venue. He was quite upset about our problems and our looking

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for another future location. He advised us that he would look into the situation and we would hear from someone in the near future.

In early January, we received a telephone call from Mike LaPan, Director of the Lakeland Center. He wanted to meet for lunch with us anyplace of our choosing: In Lakeland, Orlando, or near our home in Rockledge. We agreed to meet with him and Brenda Townsend in St. Cloud.

He repeated Tony Delgado's concerns of our thinking of leaving the Lakeland Center with our state convention and advised they would try to take care of our concerns. After hearing of our concerns about not being able to get a contract until one year prior to a convention, he advised Brenda that she should give us a contract at least 2 years in advance and if that did not work out for us we would discuss more time. Also, Brenda was advised she should return our phone calls more promptly and to meet with us as needed. Brenda agreed that she concentrates more on what is happening on a day to day basis than on the long term events such as ours. Other minor problems, such as NO more carpeting is planned at this time, were discussed and it would appear that they are very interested in retaining our event.

However, the best thing to come out of this meeting was that they would assist us in applying for and receiving a grant from the Convention & Visitors Bureau to help offset our costs of putting on the convention. He has, since the meeting, sent me the necessary forms and I have discussed them with Don Slocum, General Chairman of the 54<sup>th</sup> Convention and with Randy Poole, General Chairman of the 55<sup>th</sup> Convention.

Mike advised it is too late to apply for this year's convention, but we would have better luck applying for two years at a time and then the two conventions split the money. His suggestion was to apply for something like \$5000 for the two years. Mike is on the board that OK's these grants and he had other advice that should help in applying for the grant.

It would be our suggestion that we apply for this grant in the name of the Federation as the sponsoring organization, in a two year time frame and then the Federation split the money between the two Conventions.

Jim & Jan McConnaha  
Facility Search Committee

### **Old Business**

George Knapp, went to Cuers association to talk about the change to the state convention procedures. Mrs. Pergrossi asked for George to cover some of the changes to state convention. Eliminate I-4 corridor restriction on convention location.

Jack McKinney says federation should meet with callers & Cuers during convention.

Put on agenda for federation rep to be at callers & Cuers meetings.

### **New Business**

New business: None



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**Announcements**

i. **President's Meeting**

Presidents meeting invitations have been given

ii. **Next Federation Meeting** – Sunday, May 27, 2007 - The Lakeland Center –  
Room to be announced

iii. **Entertain a motion to adjourn**

Bruce Morgan made motion to adjourn. Ken Brasfield seconded.