

FLORIDA FEDERATION OF SQUARE DANCERS

Courtyard by Marriott, 308 No. Woodland Blvd., Deland, FL 32720

Sunday, January 22, 2023

CALL TO ORDER (Terri Little)

Terri Little called the meeting to order at 9:05 AM.

INVOCATION (Judy Anderson)

Judy Anderson Offered the Invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE (Cal & Ann Maki)

The pledge of Allegiance was recited by all.

ROLL CALL & INTRODUCTION OF VISITORS (Linda Tester & Terri Little)

Linda Tester called roll and determined a quorum was met. Terri Little introduced visitors

MINUTES FROM LAST MEETING (Linda Tester)

The minutes from the last meeting on Sunday following the Fall Festival 2022 in Jacksonville was presented for approval. There were no corrections. Sheila Reid made the motion to accept and Brian McDonald seconded the motion and the motion was carried.

CORRESPONDANCE (Cal & Ann Maki)

No Report.

Terri Little advised that there was a card for everyone to sign for Ed Drexel and Terry Weatherby, out-going presidents. She will send the card and a present to them as they will no longer be involved in square dancing due to health issues.

FINANCIAL REPORT (Jenny Green)

Jenny Green provided copies of the financial report. The financial report was filed for audit and was found to be in order.

PARLIAMENTARIAN REPORT (Cal & Ann Maki)

No Report

SUNSHINE REPORT (Cal & Ann Maki)

Cards were sent to Shelia Reid, Keith Stevens, Elmer Sheffield and Cheryl (Miller) Kull. Please advise the Federation Vice President of any cards that need to be sent out.

FLORIDA CALLERS' ASSOCIATION (Mark Fetzer)

No report

ROUND DANCE COUNCIL OF FLORIDA (Cindy & Tom Bunn)

PER TERRI LITTLE, Cindy Bunn Round Dance Council President sent her this message. The RDC met 01/21/2023 to discuss proceedings and elect new officers. The next meeting will be held 11/17-19/2023 at Strawberry Square with Debbie and Tim Votes(?) as clinicians.

FLORIDA SQUARE DANCE CAMPERS (Angela Brown & Tim Hill)

No Report

ASSOCIATIONS REPORTS

CENTRAL (Terri Little)

A 5th Saturday Night dance will be held on 4/29/2023 with the location TBD. The central clubs are dancing as usual but the numbers are down.

NORTHEAST (Linda Tester)

As probably all other associations in the state, our numbers are also down. We do have two clubs holding classes, the Rollaways on Tuesday night, and the Moose on Thursday night. We do have a new club that has started up in High Springs called the High Spring Dances with caller Bill Cassidy. They dance on Thursday nights. We lost our Monday night club, the Mandarin Mmarauders. They lost their facility and are unable to find another at this time. Unfortunately, our 5th Saturday Night dances have not been well attended. Our next dance will be the 5th Saturday Dance on 4/29/2023 from 1:30 (early rounds) 2-4:30 (squares).

NORTHWEST (Barbara McDonald)

Their five clubs have started out strong so far this year. There was a very good turnout for the dance to honor Elmer Sheffield's many years of calling.

SOUTHEAST (Annie Minor)

There is lots of good dancing going on in the Southeast. The weekly newsletter has been resurrected, and is getting great feedback.

WEST COAST (Penny Green)

The West Coast Association was disbanded. They still have a few things to work out but will no longer be a part of the Federation.

PUBLICATIONS

GRAPEVINE (Stephen Bigelow)

No Report

KEEPIN' POSTED (Ailene Picheco)

The next issue will come out in April.

PANHANDLE PRESS (Barbara McDonald)

With the help of their son Barbara was able to overcome some computer problems. She bought a new computer but it had no operating system so she had to send it back. She got the replacement and can continue with the publication.

WEBSITE (Bruce Morgan & Keith Olds)

Since the last meeting, Bruce has had problems with his computer. He took it to Best Buy Geek Squad and ended up buying a new computer. This new computer does not have a CD drive and he lost most of the programs he uses. Bruce is not able to get into the server that is used to update the Federation's website. After talking to Google and Go Daddy, in order to get the share saver software needed it would cost \$5,000-6,000 plus an additional \$5.00 a month. Our Federation website is now dead and a decision needs to be made. If anyone has any suggestions please get with Bruce and/or Keith. A suggestion was made to make a private FB page for now. Keith Olds suggested a special committee be formed of himself and Bruce to figure this problem out and bring it to the next meeting at the Working Weekend. Terri Little made it official that Keith and Bruce meet and report back at the Working weekend.

2023 CONVENTION REPORT (Keith & Angie Olds)

The 2023 convention is in the BLACK! There were 350 paid dancers. The final report will be given out at the Working (Weekend. Randy Poole closed up with the Venue rep (Ronnie) and was told the venue was happy with us. We were pretty happy with the venue although we know we had problems. We will probably not have vendors in the future at this venue as the vendors said there was not much traffic where they were set up. And there was not a good place for them with the way the halls were set up. Keith said he spent a lot of time talking to dancers regarding any problems they encountered during the weekend. Probably the biggest was needing better visible signage. But it seems half of the comments (complaints) was the signage issue and the other half was comments (complaints) on the acoustics. Also, different flyer with different time went out for the Trail End Dance. Even so, there were 20 squares at the trail End Dance. Another concern was having the RV signs out much earlier in the day.

2024 CONVENTION REPORT (Keith & Angie Olds)

Keith and Angie have agreed to be the 2024 (January 19-20, 2024) State Convention Chairs. There were 130 ribbons presold by the end of Saturday night. Dawn Dewitt and Charles Tharp will be the co-chairs for 2024 and the Convention Chairs for 2025. WAYS AND MEANS (Jenny Green) Packets are being assembled for each Association. They will be handed out at the Working Weekend.

2025 CONVENTION REPORT (Dawn Dewitt & Charles Tharp)

There will be a show on Friday night and the convention will have a show worthy theme. But for now, the theme is being kept under wrap. Volunteers are still needed.

FYI FROM TERRI LITTLE

Cheryl Miller has remarried and her new last name is Kull. There are many opportunities to volunteer your service to the 2025 State Convention. Please see one of the State Convention

Chairs. The 2025 State Convention has requested their seed money. This request has been forwarded to the Federation treasurer.

HALL OF FAME (Ailene Picheco)

A big congratulations to Terri Little as recipient of the 2023 Hall of Fame reward. This award is not just for dancers. It can be awarded to callers, cuers, publishers, instructors statewide who contribute to square dancing. To nominate someone you think is deserving, send a resume to your Association president. In the process of updating the Federation plaques at Strawberry Squares, some issues have come up with the original vendor and the medal that is on the Hall of Fame plaques. Randy Poole is going to take his plaque to a vendor he uses for square dancing to see if he can duplicate it. Randy will report at the Working Weekend.

HISTORY (Ailene Picheco)

No Report

ASCAP/BMI REPORT (Richard & Carol Douget)

The 2023 ASCAP (\$154.00) and BMI (\$175.00) bills were paid by Richard and Carol on 12/21/2022. The invoices have been filed to the Federation treasurer for reimbursement.

INSURANCE REPORT (Carol Poole)

The beginning balance as of 10/1/2022 was \$2951.59 (\$254.80 Central, \$830.20 NE, \$0 NW, \$204.75 SE, \$68.25 Temple Twirlers, \$102.75 Shuffling Squares, Total income \$1520.75). Paid USDA Insurance \$2141.05. Our ending balance as of 12/31/2022 was \$2336.29. As of 1/13/2023 Central had 6 clubs and 99 dancers, NE had 8 clubs and 167 dancers, NW has 1 association, 3 clubs and 95 dancers, SE had 1 association and 9 dancers and the WC had 3 clubs and 78 dancers. The Federation has 25 dancers and the convention had 8 dancers. So as of 1/13/2023 there were a total of 20 clubs and 521 dancers. This number is 5 clubs and 100 dancers less than we had in September 2022. Next year the Federation and Convention's insurance will be filed at the same time and split the cost evenly. Also, next year the State Convention insurance will be filed only as State Convention and not the 69th State Convention. If anyone has interest in taking over the state insurance, please see Carol. It is a work at home job. You make your own hours with many personal days. It is busy in December and January. The pay is nil but the rewards to help clubs with their insurance to keep their halls is PRICELESS.

ARTS (Ailene Picheco)

The next meeting is 9:00 AM Sunday 6/25/2023. All dancers, callers and cuers are welcome.

OLD BUSINESS

NEW DANCERS' HANDBOOK (Penny Green)

Report given by Jenny Green. The handbooks will be sent out through the Email Tree so everyone will have it.

PAST PRESIDENTS (Terri Little)

A gift card was purchased for Ed and Terri and will be sent to them with the card that was signed by the Federation today.

Tom Hendricks a past Federation Board member passed away and a card will be sent to family.

The West Coast has disbanded. Our by-laws/articles say in order to be in the Federation, you must be a member in good standing with your association. There is no longer a West Coast Association. A suggestion was made to rezone the counties and have them absorbed into one of the other associations. Bruce Morgan has done work on this when the SE left the Federation. Since Jenny Green lived in the West coast, she will review info from Bruce and report back to us at our next meeting.

Cal Maki asked if there is a standing By-Laws committee and was advised by Terri Little that we will make a committee when needed. Bruce has done extensive work on the By-laws in the past. He will distribute what he has and we will go over it at the next meeting.

Cal Maki also asked about the Corporate Seal. No one seems to know where it is. We are going to check with Cheryl Miller Kull if she knows where it is.

NEW BUSINESS

A suggestion was made that the West Coast be divided 1/2 to SE and 1/2 to Central for insurance purposes. Jenny Green will investigate this.

Terri Little brought up that Dennis Taylor is listed with Wells Fargo bank as the "owner" of our accounts. Dennis has moved out of Florida and is no longer dancing. A motion was made by Jack Hoffman to remove Dennis and put Terri Little as "owner". Bruce Morgan seconded the motion and the motion was carried.

Brian McDonald made a motion to remove Jack Hoffman as executive signer and replace him with Jenny Green. Shelia Reid seconded and the motion was carried.

For the 2024 State Convention, Jenny Green worked very hard to create an online registration form with QR code. There was a lot of discussion from the floor. Both pros and cons. From most comments it sounded mostly pros. Keith Olds stated the 2024 convention would use these online forms and bear the monthly cost of \$20.

The next meeting will be at 9:00 AM Saturday, May 20, 2023 in Plant City.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted

Linda Tester, Secretary