



MISSOURI FEDERATION OF SQUARE N' ROUND DANCE CLUBS, INC.

Minutes of December 15, 2019 (postponed to January 5, 2020)

Corrected and approved February 16, 2020

President Bev Stuart called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m. at the First UMC Celebration Center in Sedalia, Missouri.

Invocation: Dave Byers

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag: Bev Stuart

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Roll Call: Penny Byers reporting. Full Quorum achieved. (5 Executive Board / 12 District Directors / 9 Staff & Past Presidents) Visitors: SW District – Lisa Corbitt and Central District – Thelma Kelley.

President Bev Stuart thanked the hosts, WC District, Diamond B's Club for a great luncheon.

Approval of Minutes: President Bev Stuart asked for corrections or additions to the October minutes. Edythe Weber moved to accept the minutes as presented. Motion was seconded and carried.

Treasurer's Report: Rosa Davis was absent, but sent her report. The Treasurer's report will be submitted for audit. Rosa will have the account balances at the next meeting.

Membership and Club Longevity: Rosa Davis sent her report. 7 clubs will have longevity awards for 2020. The first two were to get theirs in December. There are 46 clubs who paid their dues by December 1. One of those clubs didn't send proof of insurance, so I will be sending rebates to 45 clubs.

Correspondence: Penny Byers reporting. Cards that were signed and sent out were: Sympathy: Ray Wittman, Mary Pitts and John Stover. Penny read a thank you card that was sent to Liz from Vicki Wittman.

Boundaries and Relations: Dave Byers reporting. No Report.

Constitution and Bylaws: Fred & Carolyn Goucher. Changes will be voted on under new business.

Publications: Carol Morris reporting. No Report

DOIN'S Editor: Edythe Weber reporting.

We had to call or email over 12 clubs to get 2020 schedules. I was making some of these calls well into December, past the deadline of November 25th.

If you have TBA because you didn't get a caller or cuer before you sent the list, please update us when you get that name.

Thanks to several clubs that provided new location directions for the pull-out section of the locations. Remember to pull that out of the Jan/Feb issue. Keep it in your glove compartment.

We had three clubs request copies of the Jan/Feb issue for lesson graduations. Thanks for completing the form. It is so helpful.

DOIN'S Circulation: Ruth Ann Reynolds reporting. Subscriptions 291, 1 exchange copy and 16 for staff, historian and post office for a total mailing of 308. Electronic Doin's emailed 59.

We received 78 renewals, 26 new subscriptions and 25 copies went to new students. We will be sending out 41 postcards to subscribers whose subscriptions will expire with the Jan/Feb issue.

Financial report: The balance brought forward on October 20, 2019, was \$100.00 with a total income of \$2102.00. Expenses were \$111.37 and a check that was mailed to Rosa in the amount of \$1,990.63 for the Federation. The ending balance as of December 14, 2019 is \$100.

DOIN'S Advertising: Dave Shafer reporting. The balance brought forward on October 20, 2019 was \$100.00. Total income (from DOIN'S Ads & Caller/Cuer Directory Listings) was \$832.00 and total expense for postage was \$7.35. A check for \$724.65 was given to the Federation. The ending balance on December 15, 2019, is \$100.00

Advertisers: 3 clubs from Central District; 1 club from NE District; 4 clubs from NW District and 1 commercial; 1 district, 1 club and 1 caller from St. Louis District; 0 from SE and WC Districts and 1 club from SW District.

Promotions and Advertising: Jack & Becky Rockaway. Had 2 grant requests. Savannah SaShayers for \$350 and Kountry Kouzins for \$340. Had 3 "Toot You Horn" awards to hand out – Peppy Promenaders – WC District; Tanglefoot Squares and Beax & Belles, both from NE District.

State Festival Site Screening: Jack & Becky Rockaway. No Report.

Insurance Coordinator: Jim Weber reporting.

As of December 15, 2019, (for 2019) we have 1,192 dancers insured through Missouri Federation; 304 dancers insured through other federations; for a total of 1,496 Missouri dancers. With 47 Missouri clubs. (for 2020) we have 984 dancers insured through Missouri Federation; 357 dancers insured through other federations; for a total of 1,341 Missouri dancers. With 46 Missouri clubs.

Markel/Bollinger Insurance company has created an online portal for clubs to sign in and complete your insurance forms. USDA Insurance internet portal <http://usda.rpsbollinger.com/#/> This info is now on Missouri Federation website under insurance tab. You will also find a "how to" video on the new enrollment system. Thank you to those who have completed their clubs 2020 enrollment.

The 2020 Insurance premium is now \$4.85 per dancer. (it went up \$0.10 cents).

Clubs holding lessons: you **MUST** submit the club sponsored class form. There is no cost to cover new dancers in lessons. Once lessons are over, the dancers are no longer insured until they join a club. As new members join, make sure you submit additional enrollment forms.

Remember to complete an accident form for **ALL accidents** that occur at your dance, even if they appear minor at the time.

Financial Report: Beginning balance as of October 20, 2019, is \$96.60; total income of \$4,816.15 and expenses of \$4,652.25, leaves us an ending balance on December 21, 2019 of \$260.50.

Travel Missouri: Jim Marron reporting. Quantity per district as of December 1, 2019:

Missouri 507; Central 432; NE 413; NW 394; St Louis 394; SE 378; SW 426; WC 411. Total members 246 and 2 non paying members.

Beginning Balance as of October 17, 2019 was \$24.68. No income and No expenses. Leaves us an ending balance of \$24.68 on December 1, 2019.

Blue Bird Coordinator: Madeline Hall reporting. No Report.

Webmaster: Dan Wheeler reporting.

The Missouri Federation had more than 1250 hits in December & 14,500 hits in 2019.

When it snows, dances are canceled. Please let me know about all cancellations, no matter the reason for the cancellation. In the case of weather cancellations, it doesn't matter how late in the day I receive the cancellation, I will post it. For late cancellations, sending me a text, or calling me, are the best ways to be sure that I notice it. Remind your club members to check the website for cancellations.

I have started contacting clubs that have not sent me their 2020 schedules. More clubs than usual have sent their schedules this year, but there are still a number that haven't. My experience is that many of the E-Mail I send requesting schedules go unanswered. Please remind your clubs to check their contact E-Mail to be sure it is current, and to send those schedules.

Now is a good time to remind clubs to check their club listing on the Missouri Federation website. Often, I receive information to add to a club's website, but at a later date, the club has different officers, and the new officers don't send me updates. I am happy to list almost anything a club wants on their club website, but if it is date sensitive, it would help me if they sent updates.

The 2020 Federation officers are now listed on the website, and the officer E-Mail addresses have been updated.

The 2019 Caller/Cuer Hall Of Fame & the 2019 square dancers of the year have added to the website.

The big project the last two months has been adding dance schedules for 2020, and adding web pages to show 2021 dances. It is my plan to have all websites that show dance schedules have pages for the current year & the next year.

St. Louis Metro is the only district with 100% of their dances for 2020 listed. They were all posted by the first week of December. Thank you, St. Louis Metro. St. Louis Metro has a group that contacts every club in their district, and gets that clubs next year's schedule. The other districts might want to consider something like this.

I will start removing 2019 schedule pages from the club websites in late January or early February.

A new feature on the website is this week's and next week's calendars on the home page. The real problem with doing this is remembering to update the calendars every Sunday morning. It has to be done manually. I haven't heard if people using the website like this feature.

I think I have mentioned several times that I see that the mission of the website is to provide easy access to the most current information to Missouri Square & Round Dancers. This is just another effort in that direction.

Historian: Dan Wheeler reporting. No Report.

License Plate: Catherine McLemore reporting. I opened a new checking account at Southern Bank on November 19, 2019 with a beginning balance of \$100.00. Rosa Davis was added as second signature on the account. New checks were ordered for \$19.55. I received one request for a new license plate with a check for \$25 for one year. I issued a refund check of \$10. I ordered copies of the Emblem Use Authorization Statement form from Republic Printing for \$27.09. Current balance at time of report is \$68.36. Anyone who doesn't have a Mo Fed license plate, needs one. Please see me.

USDA: (United Square Dancers of America) Edythe Weber reporting. Youth Scholarship applications are due by February 1, 2020. Check the website at <http://www.usda.org/youth.htm>.

ARTS: (Alliance of Rounds, Traditional & Square Dance) Edythe Weber reporting. No Report.

District Presidents' Report: Liz Rooks reporting. Six of the seven districts were represented.

Jim Weber distributed a listing of the current district committee membership to each president and asked them to update it with 2020 membership information and return to him by January 19, 2020. They are to cross out anyone who is no longer on the committee and write in new ones to the committee.

Dates and hosting districts for 2020 state meeting were reviewed:

Northwest – February 16, North Kansas City Hospital Pavilion

Northeast – April 19, Moberly

Central – June 7, Eldon

St. Louis – August 16

West Central – Oct. 18, Missouri State Fairgrounds in Sedalia

Southeast – December TBA

Liz Rooks was selected to be chairman of the 2020 Square Dancer of the Year Committee.

Districts gave the following reports on activities in their districts since our last meeting.

Northeast – The following clubs have recently had lessons or currently having lessons: Little Dixie Squares – 5 graduates; Tanglefoot Squares have completed one set of lessons with 18?? graduates and starting a new set of lessons the week of January 6; Beaux and Belles are finishing lessons and will have 9 graduates; Capitol City Squares 3 graduates.

St. Louis – 4 clubs will be having 15-20 graduates at the end of February who will have completed the mainstream calls. Most of the St. Louis District Clubs are Plus clubs so some of them will be having mainstream dances only for the new graduates to help them become

confident with their dancing. In a couple of months some clubs will be holding Plus dance workshops to help new plus dancers become confident with the plus moves.

May 1 & 2 will be their District Dance Jamboree.

Southwest – Kountry Kuzins had 1 graduate this fall and MO-KAN Squares had 3 graduates. In an effort to introduce square dancing to individuals the district is contacting select businesses to see if they would be interested in having an in-service featuring square dancing for their employees as a way to build relationships with their employees, etc. Most likely these would be on a Saturday; however, the district is open to doing them at other times if that works better for the business.

Central – Rolla has had lessons; not sure how many graduates; Ozark Whirlers is planning to start lessons February 3 and Travelers will be starting lessons January 14.

Northwest – Swingin' Singles had 15 graduates and Live Wires will have 18 in the next couple of weeks.

West Central – Peppy Promenaders will have 9 graduates the end of January or early February. Peppy Promenaders hosted a Retirement Party for Kenny Bailey and New Year's Eve Dance with 139 people who signed in.

Youth and Children's Dance: Merle Hall reporting.

We have had a lot of interest in our 4H projects this last few months. Although Macon and Randolph Counties did not have any interest, we have had interest across the state.

In Scotland and Schuyler Counties there are a few 4H groups who want to learn square dance and take it to the state fair to compete for ribbons. They are aware that there are different projects available; such as calling, square dance, fashion and cultural presentations. The closest caller in that area is Dave Roush. I have given him the contact information and he is going to get something set up.

In Chillicothe last fall Don Boyer did a presentation to several large groups of 4H kids in Trenton at Crowder State Park, and I heard several of them want to take projects to the state fair.

In Cameron, in the N.E. portion of the state, we have been asked to present to over 300 4H youth about how to start a square dance club, fashion and square dance. Connie Graham and I will be going to that demo along with the Live Wires.

In Johnson County there are several clubs wanting to learn more about square dance and how it can be taken to the state fair. I gave several names to them Gene Miller, Larry Butler, Lynn Nelson and they contacted Larry Butler.

And in S.E. Missouri near St. James, there is a large square dance conference where they are needing someone to teach an intro to square dance session. I am looking to get them connected to someone; maybe John & Bev Stuart, Bob & Shirley Turner or Doug Mallory.

All the callers have been very receptive and willing to help. Some are wary that they might be getting into situations where kids are being forced to participate. I have advised them all to contact their 4H counterpart and work out the details. I am not asking Callers to do this free gratis but it is hinted that they should, unless the clubs are willing to work out something else.

It was mentioned that the state organization might be willing to help. Maybe reimbursing callers would be a way to do that.

The kids are not interested in doing this if they cannot compete for ribbons and recognition at the state fair. I was advised that this organization prohibits competition. I am confused because we sponsor a last square standing event at the state dance and a fashion show. Either you support it or don't, you can't have it both ways. I will tell you if you don't support some form of competition then all this is for naught. These kids won't do it.

Why can't we abolish the no competition clause, if it will help our organization grow? These kids would like to compete at calling, at dancing in squares and hot hash, in fashion and cultural projects.

I would like to propose that the clause which prohibits competition be rescinded at least for the state fair competitions.

I would also like to request a small account be set aside to help 4H clubs to purchase name badges, danglers, ribbons, awards and get clubs started dancing at the county fairs, and callers get reimbursed for teaching.

Also, I would request a panel of judges be chosen and available at the state fair dance so we could judge these kids' dance, and calling skills during our regular noon break and after the 3:00pm dance ends.

I'm sure the parents of these kids would be participating with some of them. I have 2 4H kids in my club lessons now and their parents are taking lessons with them and having a ball. It would be a large draw to bring in crowds of spectators at the state fair dance.

Missouri Federation Scholarship: Robert & Shirley Turner. Absent. No Report. Deadline for applications is March 1, 2020. Push the kids to fill out those apps.

2019 State Festival: Darrell & Catherine McLemore reporting. Our goal was to make the 60th Anniversary State Festival a big party in a nice venue in our district. We feel we met our goal. We also saw a significant increase in spending due to accepting credit and debit cards using Square. It was worth the tiny fee they charged. Our biggest financial challenge turned out to be paying for the flooring. One of our greatest disappointments was how little financial help we could get from the corporations in this area. We ended up with 27 state callers, 4 round cuers and 3 cueing lines. We really need more callers who can call advanced dancing. We continued with caller/cuer lunch this year instead of breakfast. A real problem this year was finding someone to sound the halls. It was also a considerable expense at \$1200. There were 422 dancers. We presented the state treasurer with a check for \$1,343.75. (to see the full report, please ask the secretary to email it to you)

Unfinished Business:

2020 State Festival: Liz Rooks reporting. As of November 24, 2019, we had 14 callers, 1 round dance cuer and 1 line dance cuer who have completed the caller/cuer profile/registration form. Have not yet had a high number of dancer registrations. Of the number we do have, half or so of them are folks whose registration is complimentary. We realize this is the slow time for dancers to register and look forward to registrations picking up later in the summer leading up to the time of the state festival.

Square Dancer of the Year: Liz Rooks was selected as Chairperson for this committee.

Caller/Cuer Hall of Fame: John & Bev Stuart will be chair of this committee in 2020.

Carolyn Goucher: Constitution/Bylaws Committee recommends the changes to the Bylaws that were discussed in the October meeting. Recommendation passed.

Carolyn Goucher: Constitution/Bylaws Committee recommends the changes to the Standing Rules that were discussed in the October meeting. Recommendation passed.

Carolyn Goucher: Constitution/Bylaws Committee recommends the changes to the Standing Rules that were sent out by email before the meeting:

Article V State Federation District Boundaries

Section 2. The Districts shall consist of the following counties:

- E. **St. Louis:** Franklin, Gasconade, Jefferson, St. Charles, St. Louis/St. Louis City and Warren.

Change to:

- E. **St. Louis, represented by St. Louis Metro Square and Round Dance Association:** Franklin, Gasconade, Jefferson, St. Charles, St. Louis, Warren and City of St. Louis.

December 2019

The recommendation was voted on and carried.

Carol Morris: Had asked at the October meeting if the board would consider increasing the 10% of the net profits from the State Festivals given to the hosting district, to 15%? After some discussion, it was decided to table the discussion on raising it to 15% until we can get the Constitution up to date. (This meeting) Dave Shafer moved to increase the percentage to 15%. Motion was seconded. After more discussion, Micky Lee moved to amend the motion from 15% to 20%. Motion was seconded and carried. Motion to increase the percentage the hosting district gets back to 20% carried. Lisa Corbitt moved to make the 20% effective starting with the 2019 Festival. Motion was seconded and carried.

New Business:

Merle Hall: Merle asked if we could make a fund to help callers traveling to help teach 4H groups and help pay for badges, danglers and ribbons for the kids. Fred Goucher moved we increase the Youth Ad Hoc fund by \$2,000. Motion was seconded and carried.

Jack Rockaway: Jack asked about the grant money Kountry Kouzins requested. Dave Byers moved we grant them the money. Motion was seconded and carried. Jack then asked about the grant money Savannah SaShayers requested. Madeline Hall moved we grant them the money. Motion was seconded and carried.

Jim Weber: the USDA finally has approval for the 501c3 status. Missouri Federation will have to resubmit paper work. There will be a fee for this paper work.

Bev Stuart: Presented the 2020 proposed budget Rosa sent to the meeting. A few suggestions were the revenue for State Festival should be decreased and the member services/promotions need to be separated. Jim Weber moved to table discussion until next meeting. Motion was seconded and carried.

Catherine McLemore: Asked if she could order new fliers for the License Plate advertising. After discussion, Edythe Weber moved we allow Catherine to order 100 fliers with some changes and the Missouri Federation pay for them. Motion seconded and carried.

Liz Rooks: As the new Missouri Federation Secretary for 2020, I would like to see the federation purchase a digital recorder for the secretary to use at meetings. Madeline moved we let Liz purchase a recorder and the federation reimburse her. Motion was seconded and carried.

Bev Stuart: Released all 2019 Committees of their duties. Reminded us the 2020 Audit Committee members are Cathy Hall, Rick Kilzer, and Gary King. Handed over the gavel to Fred & Carolyn Goucher. Installation of new officers.

Fred & Carolyn Goucher: Accepted the gavel.

Calendar of Events

- Jan 17 – Ramblers – Lanny Weakland – 7:15-9:45
- Jan 18 – Mainstream Blast – Topeka, KS – Dana Schirmer – 9:30am-5pm – Kaw Valley Dance Center
- Jan 31 – New Bee Dance – Heart of America Federation – 7-9 pm – KC
- Feb 2 – Quarterly Special Dance – Twirl-A-Rounds – Carolyn & Tony Ahart - 2-4:30 – Springfield
- Feb 9 – Doin’s Dance – District Callers & Cuers – 2-4pm – Springfield
- Feb 21 – Ramblers – John Stuart – 7:15-9:45
- Feb 28 - Gospel Special – Stan Brooke & Bill Roles – Graceway – 7-9:30
- March 8 – All Plus Dance – Stan Brooke & Doug Mallory – Graceway – 7-9:30
- March 21 – Annual Hog Roast – Leroy Conrad & Jay Wright – Brookfield – Dinner at 6:20 pm and Dancing 7:30-10.

The next state board meeting will be February 16, 2020, at the North Kansas City Hospital Pavilion in North Kansas City, Missouri. NW District will host.

Jim Weber moved to adjourn the meeting. Motion was seconded and carried.

Meeting adjourned at 2:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Penny Byers, Secretary

It’s been a pleasure serving as your secretary over the last 3 years. I’ve enjoyed it, but we are ready to serve you in another position. We very much enjoy being a part of the Missouri Federation. Thank you for all your help, patience and support. Penny