

Independence Squares Board Meeting

February 7, 2019

Present: Kevin Gisi, Tim Harper, Ted Marvel, Bob Rohde, Leda Sportolari, Susan Turkel, Bruce Zangwill

Meeting was held at 30th Street Station.

Approval of last meeting's minutes:

Minutes of January meeting approved with minor updates.

Treasurer's Report

We briefly discussed the Treasurer's Report. Our income is a bit above what we'd expect at this point in the year, thanks to people attending on Tuesday nights. Let's keep it up!

Bob will be travelling for a few weeks, so we discussed admission desk coverage for a couple of Tuesday nights plus the February dance.

- Feb. 19 – Ted
- Feb. 23 (Saturday dance) – Leda, Susan, Ted (Lou will open; Leda and Susan will arrive at 3:30 pm, stay late to clean up, and will run the 50/50. Susan will bring blank survey forms.)
- Feb. 26 – not specified, but Susan will be there.

We now have a Visa Business debit card (pin 1987). The card is in president elect Tim Harper's name and is associated with the club's P.O. Box as a mailing address. The card is in treasurer Bob Rohde's possession.

Saturday Dance Survey

Tim presented the results of the paper surveys that were given out after the January dance (see appendix). Results were very mixed. Overall, we learned that the newbies who didn't attend had good reasons (previous engagements, work commitments, and illness). Other non-attendees cited previous commitments or displeasure with the schedule. Respondents who did attend reported that the timing and duration were not problematic.

Caller Liaison Report

See the appended Caller Liaison Report. The Board appreciates these monthly updates from the Caller Liaison.

Website update

Ted now has control of the Hotmail account. He is working on updates to the website.

Dance Schedule – January through May, 2020

We discussed and tentatively agreed upon the following schedule for dances in the first half of 2020:

Date	Time	Programs
Sat., January 18	4:00 – 7:00 pm	MS & Plus with Advanced star tips
Sat., February 1	4:00 – 7:00 pm	Advanced & C1 w/ C2 star tips
Sat., March 7	3:00 – 6:30 pm	MS through Advanced w/ C1 star tips
Sat., April 18	7:00 – 10:00 pm	MS & Advanced w/ Plus star tips
Sat., May 16	3:00 – 5:00 pm	Advanced & C1 w/ C2 star tips
	5:00 – 6:30 pm	Dinner break or potluck
	6:30 – 9:30 pm	MS & Plus w/ Advanced star tips

We can celebrate the new graduates at the May dance, although the graduation ceremony will take place at a Tuesday class night

Classes – Fall 2019

Leda has polled the Challenge class dancers. The folks who attend Betsy’s C1 class on Tuesdays cannot come to Philadelphia on Wednesdays. Therefore, C1 class can’t be moved to Wednesdays. Wednesdays will continue as they are: full C1 dancing and a continuation of the C2 class.

We discussed a number of possible schedules. The following is an option Tim sent out after the meeting:

Fall 2019		
	Betsy	not Betsy
7:00-7:15	MS class	Plus WS
7:15-7:30	MS WS/C1 WS	Adv Class
7:30-7:45	MS class	Plus WS
7:45-8:00	MS WS/C1 WS	Adv Class
8:00-8:15	Announcements	
8:15-8:30	MS class	Adv Class
8:30-8:45	MS WS/C1 WS	Plus WS

Spring 2020		
	Betsy	not Betsy
7:00-7:15	MS class	Adv Class
7:15-7:30	MS WS/C1 WS	Plus Class
7:30-7:45	MS class	Adv Class
7:45-8:00	MS WS/C1 WS	Plus Class
8:00-8:15	Announcements	
8:15-8:30	MS class	Plus Class
8:30-8:45	MS WS/C1 WS	Adv Class

8:45-9:00	MS class	Adv Class
9:00-9:15	MS WS/C1 WS	Plus WS
9:15-9:30	MS class	Adv Class

8:45-9:00	MS class	Plus Class
9:00-9:15	MS WS/C1 WS	Adv Class
9:15-9:30	MS class	Plus Class

MS Class	5
Adv Class	5
Plus WS	4
MS WS	4 (alternate wks)
C1 WS	4 (alternate wks)

MS Class	5
Adv Class	4
Plus Class	5
MS WS	4 (alternate wks)
C1 WS	4 (alternate wks)

* C1 workshop on 1st and 3rd Tuesdays; Mainstream workshop on 2nd, 4th and 5th Tuesdays
C1 workshop and C2 workshop on 2nd and 4th Wednesdays

Meeting adjourned at 8:47 pm.

Attachments:

- 1) Survey results for January dance
- 2) Caller Liaison report for Feb. 7 meeting

Survey Results for Jan. 26 dance:

Summary:

	Illness/Other commitment	Conflict with club/work	Didn't like schedule
Beginner/MS	3	1	
Plus	2	1	
Adv	1	1	2
C1			
C2	1		

	Overall Rating	Caller Rating	Hire Again	Start Time	Duration
Plus	1 Acceptable 2 Good 1 Good/Excellent	1 Acceptable 2 Good 1 Excellent	2.5 yes 1.5 no	3 just right 1 too late	1 too short 2 just right 1 too long
Adv	1 Good	1 Good	1 yes	1 just right	1 too long
C1	1 Good 2 Excellent	1 Good 2 Excellent	3 yes	3 just right	3 just right
C2	1 Good	1 Good	1 yes	1 too late	1 too long
?	1 Acceptable	1 Acceptable	1 no	1 just right	1 just right

Did not attend:

Program	Reason
Adv	Didn't like the times or the split. Too late and too long. Please don't repeat that agenda
Plus	Health Issues
Adv	Out of Town
Beginner	Health Issues
C2	prior commitment
Plus	Health Issues
Adv	conflict with Club Sashay
Plus	conflict with Club Sashay

Adv	Didn't feel I'd have the energy for 4 hours. Didn't like the fact of no break for 4 hours. Old format with a break to eat in the middle is best.
Beginner	Out of Town
Beginner	prior commitment. Generally work on weekends
Beginner	prior commitment.

Attended:

Program	Overall		Caller			Dance time		Additional Comments
	Rating	Comments	Rating	Comments	Hire again	Start	Duration	
??	Acceptable/Good		Acceptable	Not challenging/interesting enough. Nice guy and enjoyed his singers	N	just right	just right	
Advanced	Good	Nice calling	Good	Nice flow. Challenging	Y	just right	too long	
C1	Excellent	Good energy	Excellent	Great choreography, great voice. Kent made it all fun at every level.	Y	just right	just right	I prefer dances of around 3 hours in length; but for only two levels. This really was two separate dances, which is fine, but maybe hold an afternoon dance with a dinner break, then an evening dance, but NOT a potluck!!
C1	Excellent		Excellent	Interesting choreography within abilities of attendees	Y	just right	just right	Should definitely hire Kent again though would prefer dances of 2 to 2 1/2 hours (7-9:30 or 8 - 10:30) with only two programs per dance. Maybe schedule MS/plus dances on alternate Saturdays from Advanced/Challenge)
C2	Good		Good		Y	too late	too long	
Plus	Good		Good		Y	just right	just right	
Plus	Good/Excellent	Kent very good at calling. Not many people came.	Excellent	Creative choreography. Challenging, but not so couldn't do calls	Y	too late	too long	2 1/2 to 3 hour dance ample; 4 hr is <u>too</u> long. Not sure what best time would be (7-9 pm)
Plus	Good	Had a lot of fun, although the falling was very repetitive and uncreative. Good dancers. Disappointed in small turnout, though.	Acceptable	I think he's better at higher levels. Plus was pretty boring and he didn't show much dynamism/personality. Nice guy but not ready for prime time, in my opinion.	N	just right	too short (could only do 2 hours)	I prefer all skate format (although this was efficient in a way)
any if calling is good	Plus - acceptable Adv/C1 - Good	Despite all very strong plus dancers, Kent called quite basic and repetitive calls. Adv and C1 had more interesting/unusual formations and positions	Good	Hire again for Adv/C1, plus only if able to call to the legelof the floor	Y but	just right	just right	Felt strange to have such a separation of the dancers by level

Caller Liaison Report

Independence Squares Board of Directors Meeting – February 7, 2019

The information below is accurate as of Monday, February 4, 2019 and may not reflect any updates received after this report's preparation. Please note that all dances are at the Lutheran Church unless otherwise noted.

Challenge Workshops

The Unitarian Church has been reserved for the Challenge Workshops on the second and fourth Wednesdays through May 2019.

Open Houses – Summer 2019

Contracts for Howard Richman have been finalized and the space is secured for the open houses on the following pre-approved dates: June 18, July 16 and August 20.

Dances – Summer 2019

Callers have been contracted and confirmed for the following dances taking place June 1, 2019 through August 31, 2019 on the dates approved by the board except as noted.

Tuesday, June 4, 2019 Mainstream/Plus – Clay Goss 7:00 pm – 9:30 pm

Saturday, June 8, 2019 Advanced/ Challenge 1 – Dayle Hodge (moved one week earlier from June 15 after discussions with caller and looking at the dance calendar and space availability) 7:00 pm – 9:30 pm

Saturday, July 27, 2019 Plus/Advanced – Joe Bradshaw 7:00 pm to 9:30 pm

Tuesday, August 6, 2019 Mainstream/Plus – Betsy Gotta 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm

Saturday, August 10 or August 17, 2019 Joint Dance with DC Lambda Squares This is customarily arranged by the DC club. I have contacted them and am trying to arrange something. I will update the board as this develops.

Fall Dances 2019

The following dances are being contracted as noted for the period September 1, 2019 through December 31, 2019 (Items marked TBD have not had a caller finalized):

Saturday, September 7, 2019 – TBD Double Header with Potluck

Saturday, October 5, 2019 Mainstream/Plus with Advanced Star Tip – Mark Franks 2:00 pm to 5:00 pm (Adjusted from a 2 ½ hour dance to a 3-hour dance after discussion with caller.)

Saturday, October 19, 2019 – TBD Advanced/C1 C2 Star Tip

Saturday, November 23, 2019 – TBD Mainstream/Plus Advanced Star Tip

Saturday, December 7, 2019 – Glitter Ball Mainstream through C2 – Dayle Hodge The Merion Meeting House will once again be the site of the Glitter Ball with paper work and checks to be finalized.

Items of Concern for the Caller Liaison – To Be Discussed by the Board

- 1) Upcoming Fall Classes – Not an immediate concern but an item of note
- 2) Challenge Workshops – Continue or Not in Fall 2019 (So that the space can be secured. This can be reversed if the board decides later not to continue the workshops.)
- 3) Approving dances further out on the calendar. While the board is still trying new things and times, this may seem like it shouldn't be done, however, most times and dances can be changed at a later if there appears to be a real problem. Please see the caller's contract where cancellation policies are spelled out.

Upcoming Callers

Please let me know of any callers that you would like to have call for our dances and I will do my best to bring a variety of callers to our dance halls.