

Albuquerque Square Dance Club, Inc.
A Non-Profit Corporation
Meeting of the Board of Directors
August 6, 2018

Members present: Margaret Bolshaz, Jerry Gilbreath, Alice LaCelle (late, arriving at 5:10), Lin Miller, Sheri Pastian, Cecilia Pounds, Lorraine Pratt, Bob Stevens. **Absent:** Dee Taylor. **Guests present:** Randy Pratt, Richard Riger, George Sewell.

Call to order at 5:00 p.m.

Since **Alice was late**, and she does the Minutes, Lorraine started recording the meeting on her computer tablet.

Treasurer's Report, Sheri: (copy attached)

- Major concern is the **electric bill**, which was \$1,020.96 for last month, very high. Last year, same time, it was \$934.94. The cost of air conditioning in the summer is increasing rapidly since the refrigeration units were installed in 2011. We have been turning the temperature up for the air in the halls not being used each evening in the hopes that it will lower the bill.
- First page of report shows **Pest control bill** as \$4107.88 for August spraying. This is a typo, of course, should be \$107.88. Sheri took some hits throughout the meeting over the high expense of pest control.
- **Treasurer's report unanimously approved with correction re the pest control bill.**

Central District Report, CeCe:

- Central District **June 29th spaghetti diner and dance** with Rounds had 44 people sign in with a couple of guests. There were four squares and 8 or 9 couples for the rounds. CD is hoping for a better turn out for the **next dance**, which will be **New Year's Eve**.
- CD has been getting quite a few requests for **Life Members**. Anyone over 70 can become a Life Member by applying with CD, and they no longer have to pay annual dues.
- CD is chairing the **State Fair Square Dancing** again next month. Dates Sept 9 and 16 at 11:30 - 1:00 in Creative Arts Building. Yesterday was the final day for requesting fair passes from Lynn Martel, but anyone interested might try in case weren't all taken. Four callers have agreed to call.
- ASDC was asked to work with **Hot Chile Steppers** when planning our **annual meeting so as not to conflict** with their lessons!

Alice arrived at this point in the meeting, so Jerry asked for any **corrections to the Minutes of the June ASDC meeting**. Lorraine had posted these on the ASDC website per our agreement in the last meeting, and everyone had the opportunity to review them prior to their being posted. Minutes unanimously **approved**.

Contracts, Lorraine:

- In the last meeting we were wondering **how many hits the ASDC website gets**. Sol Lederman did a quick bar graph for us (copy attached) showing the number of hits per month, which vary from 700 to over 1000, which is pretty good for our size website. That sounds like a lot to us, but it is hard to say how many hits have anything to do with someone looking for square dance info. When Jerry cancels a dance due to travel, if Lorraine doesn't know to remove it from the website calendar, people will show up for it, saying that they checked the website. Jerry asked if he should notify Lorraine when he has someone subs for him, and she said that wasn't necessary as long as there was still a dance.
- Lorraine is collecting the **2019 info from the clubs about what nights they will be dark** so that she can offer those for anyone looking for an open date. She took care to check specifically about holiday dates, like Thanksgiving, 4th of July, New Year's, etc., because people sometimes cancel those without thinking to notify Lorraine. Sheri said that was a really good idea.

Maintenance, Bob: Jerry said Bob a BIG agenda. Lin asked if we could limit Bob to five minutes.

- Part of the **fence on the south side of the Hall was knocked down**, apparently by a driver making a get-away re an attempted robbery of the building to the southeast side of our lot. Bob spoke with the leaser of the building, John Ovula, who agreed that the fence was knocked down from his side, not ours, and he would have it fixed, which he did. We did not have to pay anything at all on the repair, even though it was our fence. Sheri and Alice thanked Bob for his negotiating skills. Jerry heard that there was an attempted theft of copper wire, which someone reported, and the thief tried to escape the back way, running into our fence. Bob told John Ovula about how our building is protected from copper thieves and how to get that done.
- **One of our new roof lights blew over** in a recent storm, and Ed Carr came out and fixed it at no cost to us.

- The **carpet has been cleaned.**
- The Hall was **sprayed for bugs** – there were several sarcastic comments on the high cost of pest control.
- Bob has several improvement projects for us to consider, both long-term and short-term:
 1. **Replace the hanging LED “Christmas” lights** over the dance floor. (Long-term.)
 2. **Finish the Parking Lot** – When the current parking lot loan is paid off, we should have the rest of the parking lot resurfaced. Bob feels that this is an important item. (Long-term)
 3. Short term, we need to **replace the carpet in front of main entrance doors.** Bob has noticed that **water from the sides will pool on that carpet**, and he wants to figure out why that is happening so he can fix it.
 4. Consider **replacing the florescent ceiling lights throughout the building with LED lights.** (Short-term.) Bob thinks we can get a rebate from PNM for this. Jerry said we should get an estimate from PNM about the long-term savings and any rebates. Bob said he would work on getting PNM out. Jerry said we would not need as many lights because LED are very bright. Bob said we could possibly use some of the existing florescent light positions for overhead fans. Lin suggested getting fans with lights, but Lorraine said you cannot get powerful enough fans (industrial) if you get fans with lights. Instead of six fans on the West side and four on the East side you would need three times as many to get sufficient air movement. Jerry said we should get an estimate from Ed Carr, along with others, re the LED lights and fans. Jerry said we would make sure we had the ability to control the fan speeds, Lorraine said the fans can be on a different switch from the lights. We would need to be able to keep fan speed low so as not to blow the light strings around. Lin asked if LED lights can be used with a dimmer switch, but Jerry said he didn't think so.
 5. **Paint the front doors and the area around the doors.** (Short term.) Bob feels this should be done by a professional painter with the proper spray equipment because a brush job will look bad on that type of material. CeeCee said there was a man who did a lot of painting on our clean-up day, and we should get his name. Lorraine said he is a USA club dancer. Jerry knows several painting contractors that have done work for him, and he can provide contact info. Bob asked if we want the other doors around the building done as well. We don't think that would be necessary. Sheri asked if both inside and outside of the front doors should be done, and Bob said he thinks yes, because it is the main entrance.
 6. **Paint the restrooms**, (short-term), which were last painted by Lewis and Susie Berghofer; Lewis has been dead for many years. We discussed painting the bathrooms pink (girls) and blue (guys), but I'm not sure if that was a joke. Lin said we could reverse the colors and do the men's in pink and the women's in blue. I *am* sure that was a joke. Bob said he would get some estimates on the cost of paint, he's thinking \$40 a gallon, 5 or 6 gallons. Lin said Bob should call for help when it comes to projects like painting, and Bob said he does get people to come in and help him.
 7. Lin asked if we should vote to approve expenses now, and Bob said not until he gets estimates.

Supplies, Margaret: Margaret said we are fine for supplies, although people sometimes complain that we are short of **garbage bags**, but we have plenty of garbage bags in the closet, the cleaning lady just needs to put more of them under the kitchen sinks so they are available. Sheri said she would let the cleaning lady know to put more of the bags out each week. Margaret has considered doing an analysis on the amount of toilet paper used at the Hall to liven up her report, and Lin had several trivial remarks to make on that subject.

Publicity, Lin: “Same old same old,” per Lin, just sending emails and flyers publicizing dances and dance community news. **Jerry asked if Lin sends out notice of dances that are not associated with the local community.** Lin said he sends out flyers and info on *any* dance that anyone, anywhere requests, as soon as he can get it done – not always the same day, but as soon as he gets back to his computer. He doesn't get that many requests to publicize out of state dances, but will be sending out a notice for a Trinidad CO dance, High Country Weekend. If anyone wants a dance advertised all they have to do is send the info to Lin. Flyers are especially good; he can send out any flyers people get to him.

Old Business:

- Jerry has updated the **Board job descriptions** after receiving feedback from all the Board members, and he asked if we wanted to **post those on the ASDC web site.** Anyone thinking of running for the Board would be able to read the job descriptions so they would know what they getting into. We agreed by acclamation, and Lorraine said she will load that on the ASDC website alongside the By-laws and Constitution when Jerry gets it to her.
- **Annual meeting of the ASDC membership.** Jerry will be out much of January and February,

so we unanimously voted for **Saturday January 12 at 11:00**. Lin HAD to comment on the football angle, and that meeting in the morning would be better for the football fans. He also kept bringing up the Eagles, although CeeCee reminded him that he is not allowed to mention the Eagles, but he ignores this rule. Previous meetings were always held on Sunday afternoon, but we are going to try Saturday since no dances are scheduled and there won't be any conflict with church attendance or the Chili Steppers, who dance on some Sundays.

- **New Hilton 220 amp:** Jerry received the new amp and tested it, could not get it to work correctly, it played at first and then started producing only a hum. He called Paul at Hilton and explained, and sent the amp back for repair. New company is making the switches for Hilton, and they turned out to be bad switches. Hilton got 3 more amps back along with ours. They repaired it and returned it, and it is testing well in the West Hall. Since Ronnie and Bonnie (cuers for the Hot August Nights rounds) use records we will leave the setup as is until after, but the new amp is available for use. Lorraine asked if both the old and the new system will fit in the box. Jerry says yes, if we move the "old, dilapidated Hearing Assist system that doesn't work half the time" out of the box, maybe set it on top. It would not be secure, but no one would want to steal it. **The East side sound is still a problem re one of the switches.** Jerry plans to get the switch fixed after Hot August Nights. Bob asked if the wiring is the problem if they can pull new wire from the West side. Lorraine said that it could be done by going above the ceiling tiles or behind the inside wall, but it shouldn't be necessary. **Sheri asked for the bill for the new amp.** Jerry paid the bill himself, so he will get that to Sheri so she can pay him back. There was no charge for the repair or the postage for returning the amp.
- **Lorraine wants the minutes to reflect** that, contrary to Jerry's statement in a prior meeting, **she never sent any email saying that she did not like Jerry.** She brought in a printed email in which someone else made a claim that Lorraine could not work with Jerry, etc. (I did not attach a copy because we don't have any rules about publicizing emails.) Jerry agreed that it was the email he thinking about, and we can put the matter to rest.
- **Spring ASDC dance (2019)** with Dee Dee Dougherty: Need to make a decision re whether to have a full festival or follow the same format as last year (Friday evening A dance, Saturday afternoon Plus, Saturday night mainstream and Plus.) Jerry said the majority of the Board members sent emails indicating we don't want a full festival, but the same format as last year, so that has been decided. Jerry doesn't know if we have a signed contract with Dee Dee yet, so he said he will contact Dee Taylor to find out. Lin said if we do anything other than an A dance on the Friday night of the Spring Celebration it will conflict with Duke City, and we may want to join forces with Duke City instead of competing. Alice said **let's stick with the A dance Friday night**, not that it is well attended, but if we do a mainstream/plus dance Friday then people won't turn out for the same thing on Saturday night. We do have some new A dancers, so maybe we will have a better turnout.

New Business:

- **Duke City club will start mainstream lessons**, 2.5 hrs, on Thursday nights in September.
- Sheri has **problems getting some Board emails**, especially Jerry's. Alice has problems getting Jerry's emails. Jerry gets emails from Alice, but not vice versa. Lorraine has problems with sending Alice emails also. Alice will try setting up a new email account with a different service provider.
- Alice asked if she can use the ASDC **closet for the Wilde Bunch** to lock up raffle prizes during their upcoming **Anniversary Fly-In dance**. Lorraine said that won't be necessary, she will loan them a key to an empty club closet.

Jerry asked if our guests had any comments.

- George Sewell said Courtney's club, Sewell's Jewels, which dances once a month, is having problems with attendance. Dancing only once a month makes it hard to build much regular attendance. **George thinks we should do what we can to promote young callers and get young dancers into the Hall.** Randy Pratt said Lin gets their Chile Steppers dance info out quickly whenever they put in a request, just send Lin an email a week or so before Courtney's dance. George said that **in November, Deborah Carol Jones will be calling a dance here with Courtney**, and George wants to know if we can push the publicity for it. Jerry and Lin said absolutely, they will announce and publicize the dance, and Lin will take the flyer and send it out to his email list. Jerry said Deborah Carroll Jones is going to pull people in because she is a popular national caller. He will take some of the flyers to Texas and promote it there, and also see if he can get the flyer into the Texas Promenade. George suggested we do all we can to bring in young people to dance. Maybe college students. Jerry asked if Courtney has considered giving lessons; George said once a month is not enough for a club to offer lessons, and Courtney will be busy with college soon and her time will be limited. Randy has seen Courtney teach a dancer calls he did not know, and she did a good job. **Jerry said that New**

Mexico State in southern NM is setting up a square dance class for its students. Jerry said that square dancing is popular with young people in the Seattle area. They offer **competitions and prizes** and it brings out the students. George thinks ASDC should consider doing a contest. Jerry said “old school” dancers were opposed to competitions, it is historically a family affair, not competitive. This thinking might be holding us back. Lorraine said that Abby (Pratt) tried to start a square dance club at UNM, but she could not get students to commit. Jerry said we might try for a continuing ed square dance class at UNM.

Next meeting: October 1, 5:00 pm.

Meeting **adjourned** at 6:30.