

Albuquerque Square Dance Club, Inc.  
A Non-Profit Corporation  
Meeting of the Board of Directors  
April 15, 2019

**Members present:** Ben Allen, Gale Askren, Jerry Gilbreath, Alice LaCelle, Lin Miller (arrived 10 minutes late), Sheri Pastian, Lorraine Pratt, and Bob Stevens. **Absent:** Margaret Bolshazy.

Meeting called to order at 5:09 p.m.

**Minutes:** Jerry asked if there were any corrections to the Minutes for the Feb 25<sup>th</sup> meeting. No corrections; Minutes unanimously approved.

**Treasurer's Report, Sheri:** (copy attached)

- **\$500 donation from the Wilde Bunch paid as a curtailment** on the Parking Lot loan.
- **Property taxes due.**
- **Fence has been repaired** on east side.
- Correction, the “jingle” (not “jungle”) on the **men's urinal** was fixed. Bill paid.
- We made the exact same amount on the **Spring Celebration** this year that we did last year. We did not spend money for refreshments for the Saturday dance; dancers brought snacks.
- Sheri got an assist from her friend Brenda to make a correction on the accounting report. **Refundable rents, \$1,865.00 is corrected to a negative** because it is money we are holding but can't spend. Lorraine said that when she took over Contracts her records showed ADC had \$800 in deposits, not 640.00 (as shown on the Treasurer's Report). Sheri agreed, and said she reviewed the records with prior Treasurer Bill Eyler, but is unable to find the cause of the discrepancy. Bob doesn't care about the \$1,865 but demanded an explanation for the negative 11 cents on Accounts Payable. Five cents of that is owed to Joey Solis.
- Sheri will start sending out reminders to people who have not paid **ASDC dues**. Jerry said they are checking the list of Sundance members to clear the names of people no longer active, and he will get that to Sheri. Some clubs give Sheri membership updates, which are really helpful.
- Jerry asked if there are any **corrections or comments** for the Treasurer's report, and Alice said that the Spring Celebration brought in more dancers for the **A dance on Friday** night than we had in recent years, and they had a great time, kudos to Dee Dee Dougherty. Sheri said the Saturday afternoon dance was skimpy on dancers, but Friday attendance made up the difference. **Treasurer's report unanimously approved** with the minor correction from “jungle” to “jingle.”

Lin arrived during the Treasurer's report, after having multiple teeth pulled today. Jerry moved Bob's maintenance report forward on the agenda so Lin could hear the most urgent business early-on in case he needed to leave. Besides, Bob takes up most of the time. Bob said he tries.

**Maintenance, Bob:**

- There is a stoppage in one of the roof **drains on the front porch**, and he is working on this.
- Changed **air filters**.
- New sink **faucet** on large side.
- Patched **cracks in parking lot**; Alice said now there are cracks in Bob's knees, but he said that is NOT true.
- Set timers for **air conditioning**, switched to AC, then switched back to heat because the weather got cold, will switch back to heat before the weekend.
- **Dimmer Switch estimates:** Bob and Jerry each got an estimate for dimmer switches. Jerry made

copies for each of us. Bob called four places, but was only able to get one estimate, from KEI, for all of the LED lights (28) at a total cost of **\$2,597.63**. Per Bob the electrician said “these lights aren't that bright.” The Electro Data estimate Jerry obtained from Ed Carr, who installed the LED lights we have, is **\$3,465.79**. Each light would have to have wires run from the switch to the light panel, involving a lot of labor. Ed Carr figures it would take two men two days (total). Ben asked if both bids involve the same things, and Jerry said yes, but he is nervous about the lower bid from KEI because this is an electrical contractor, and they tend to low-bid and then jack up the price as they go. Bob said he can't address that because KEI did not break down their bid into labor and parts. **Jerry opened this for discussion:**

Gale likes the lights and has not heard any complaints. Sheri said she has not heard anyone but Alice and Lorraine complain about the lights. Alice pointed out that Sheri *has* heard Richard Riger complain (in the Annual meeting), and that Margaret also said they were too bright and voted against them. Sheri insisted that people do not come up to her at dances and say they have any problem with the lights.

Lorraine said she knows a dancer who has to wear dark glasses (at the Hall) or she gets a migraine. Alice said that is someone who had a concussion. Lorraine herself can't go more than an hour without dark glasses or she gets a headache. Lorraine said that the Wilde Bunch officers have said that some of their members have a problem (with the LED's) and they are willing to pitch in to help pay for dimmers. Per Alice a Wilde Bunch Board member asked if we could get dimmers to help some of their members who have a problem with the lights. Alice said that she went down the list of ASDC members and counted 16 people, excluding Lorraine and Alice, who have said that the lights bother them.

Ben said that from reading the Minutes he understands that there are non-square dancers who like the low lighting levels, and could we see this (dimmers) as a selling point? Could we attract other non-square dance clubs by having dimmers? Sheri thinks that is unlikely and there are few nights available for new clubs. Jerry and Sheri said the other dancers (ballroom) use the ice cycle lights and their own lamps, which they bring out of the closet for ambiance, as they did before we installed LED's, and they don't think dimmers would matter to them.

Alice did a little research to see why the lights might be a problem for only some people, and she found a list of things that can make people more light sensitive: Dry eye, various medications, fibromialgia, brain injuries, eye surgery, and lighter eye color (less pigmentation to protect the retina from incoming light).

Ben asked if there is a standard for light levels in dance halls. Alice said most dance halls have lower levels of light, and also exposure to bright light at night can cause sleep disturbance. Jerry said computers can also, and Alice said she doesn't use her computer at night for that reason.

Ben asked about the finances. Sheri said we have \$22,000 in checking, of which we own \$5000 in taxes, and \$2000 is refundable deposits, so that leaves \$15,000. Ben looks at dimmers as an upgrade, and asked what competing upgrades we have. Bob said we have gutter work that needs doing, although he doesn't have bids yet.

Jerry sent emails to his mailing list inviting ASDC members to our meeting to express their opinions about what is going on. Let people who have issues come forward. Not one person has

complained to Jerry about the lights. Out of town people say how nice the Hall is. Alice said a majority of people DON'T have a problem, but the people who do seem to be “guilty” of something, or they aren't important enough to matter. Gale agrees with Jerry that people need to come in and present their case. Alice said people tell her “you are on the Board, can you request dimmers?” They don't understand this is not good enough.

Lorraine said the Wednesday Round Dance group dances with one section of the lights on. There are two light switches for the floor, and they turn one of the switches on and leave one off. Sheri said one of the Round dancers complained that she can't see well enough to dance. If people fall because it is too dark then ASDC could be liable. Sheri wondered if she should call the insurance co to ask about dancing with the lights out. However, if at least one section of the overhead lights is on, Sheri feels better about it. The social dance groups do turn the overhead lights off but they use extra lamps to give additional light. Alice said this is where dimmers would be great, because the lights could be ON for the round dancers, just at a lower level. Lin and Sheri are concerned that people would disagree over dimmer settings. Alice said according this reasoning we should not have Air or Heat because people don't agree on the ideal temp. Lin said dimmers would just add another thing to argue about.

Jerry said that he gets regular shots for wet macular degeneration, and he likes the bright light as it helps him see. He asked his eye doctor at Eye Associates of NM if LED's are damaging for wet or dry macular degeneration, and the doctor said no, they are not a problem, especially with a 10-12 foot high ceiling. Alice said that her eye doctor, also at Eye Assoc, said that LED lights are bad for your eyes, but unavoidable in public places, and to minimize exposure as much as possible. Having as many as 28 panels of 5000 Kelvin LED's at the Hall is not minimizing. Alice said it is unavoidably true that some people have trouble with bright lights. Gale said also with heat, cold, and on and on, and you can't make everyone happy.

Ben asked if there is a reason we should *not* install dimmers: Is it something we can't afford? If it could be done for \$100, or \$500, would anyone on the Board oppose it? Jerry said he would have a problem with dimmers because he needs the lights at full power to call and to teach and he would not want anyone lowering the light level at all. Ben asked if this (getting dimmer switches) is about money. Alice said it is an emotional matter as well. Ben said for the Board it should a **practical** matter of accommodating patrons for a reasonable price, and he would do it, even if it was to accommodate a minority of people. Jerry said we would have to put a lock on the dimmer. Ben said we can do something about that.

**Lin pointed out that most of the complaints are coming out of the small hall, so why not put dimmers in just the small hall.** The social dance groups have their own lighting setup, so it should not affect them. Per Bob there are 11 LED's on the small side and 17 on the large side, so the cost for dimmers for the small side **should be less than half of the estimates** we have. Lorraine asked what happens with festivals and someone wants to dim the whole floor. Alice said something is better than nothing, and Ben said we could see if it is “a hit” on the small side, and if so we could consider doing more. Jerry and Bob agreed to ask for estimates for just the small side. **Ben's motion for getting estimates for dimmers for the small side was unanimously approved.**

Sheri is still concerned about Randy (Pratt's) round dance club turning the lights off because we have many older dancers who could fall. Gale thinks dimmers might enable the dancers to turn

the lights down so low that it will still be a problem. Lorraine said the social dancers don't use the overhead lights at all, so why is that OK, but the Round Dancers using lower levels is *not* OK? Jerry and Gale talked about the difference being in the type of dancing. Sheri said the social dancers use lamps to add enough light. Lorraine said the round dancers used some of the lamps from the storeroom, and Sheri said they should not use those without permission. Ben said we have a larger problem in that clubs are letting impaired people dance. People with walkers, canes, and even wheelchairs are allowed on the dance floor. Ben said that is a liability issue that could be viewed as allowing impaired people to dance because you want their money. Ben said we have brought up a safety issue with the lights, and we need to address it by doing something. Jerry said we ARE doing something by getting a bid for dimmers on the small side. Jerry said we will have a special meeting to vote on the small hall dimmer bid and whether to proceed. Alice will be out of town for a week. Jerry said that people have to be present to vote so he will wait couple of weeks. He will send out an email to confirm a date after the estimates are in.

### **Old Business:**

Bob said we **need to replace the front porch carpet**, which is 7 to 10 years old and ugly. New carpet would be around \$500. In our last meeting we discussed using a coating from Mike's Painting Co; the coating has a 15 year warranty. The brand is Pentax Floor System, which goes over concrete. Bob had two samples of what this would look like and we all preferred the darker color. The cost would be **\$1,812.50, installed, minus \$262** if Bob scrapes up the old carpet himself. The bid could change if we have cracks under the carpet. Jerry installed Pentax in his garage and said water does not make it slippery. Jerry figured about 2 hours to install and 4-6 hours to dry. After 24 hours you could even drive a tractor on it, but we don't have one. **We voted unanimously to authorize Bob to have the Pentax installed.** Lin said Bob should call him for help when Bob is ready to pull the carpet. Gale and Alice don't approve of Lin doing this type of work with his gimpy hip and Bob said he has people who will help. Also, before the State Convention next year he wants to have the **porch professionally cleaned and paint the front doors**: Bob has an estimate of \$1000 for this.

**Sound enhancement system:** Alice did research on the Williams PPA 4457 system, Jerry did research on the VP37. The 4457 has more "bells and whistles." The VP37 is \$929, and comes with the base station and four receivers. Jerry said most people bring their own receivers and ear pieces, which work with our current system. Lorraine said an outside dancer used his receiver, danced on both sides, and had no problems. The two units we have are Williams units, and still functional. The receivers and ear buds we have are also functional. Lorraine said people who use them keep the earbud they used and take it home. We have a few extras still wrapped, and people don't share used ones. Jerry questions why we need to replace what we have with something that is going to work the same way. Lorraine said we might get some new receivers that work better than the ones we have. Jerry said these can be ordered separately. Hearing aides can be tuned to the radio frequency on the system we have. Alice wants to make sure we have a complete system that meets the federal requirements for hearing impaired. Jerry said we have a fully functioning, compliant system and he thinks it would not be worth the cost to upgrade. Gale thinks cleaning and re-using earpieces is yucky. Alice said we could get the type that hang on the ear rather than going inside the ear. The receivers use 9 volt batteries, and there are plenty of those in the box. Jerry will look into getting just some earbuds because he doesn't think we need anything else. We have two dancers that we know of who use the system we have. We do have occasional outside dancers who use our system, usually with their own receivers.

### **Vice President's Report, Ben Allen:**

Ben read in the Minutes that he is responsible for getting a caller for next year's Spring Celebration

(March 6-7 2020), which he did not realize when he ran for the Board. Per Alice, Jerry (Gilbreath) and Kris (Jensen) are both good sources for caller info, and we also need someone who calls Advanced for the Friday night dance. Ben asked if there are other duties he doesn't know about, like sweeping the floor. Lorraine asked if he likes March 6-7 for the dance, and Ben said he *loves* it, but his sincerity was in doubt. Ben questioned whether we really need someone who can call Advanced. We all agreed that we *do* need an Advanced caller to give us enough options for a two day dance.

### **Central District report, Gale:**

Lynn Tillery will be the new **Chairman** of Central District. There is a big square dance class, maybe **18 people, graduating in Los Alamos**. Ben said the Los Alamos people learn faster, and Alice said they are younger. Gale threatened a lawsuit on behalf of older people. Alice told her it would be a no-go because there is statistical evidence to back the claim that young people learn faster.

### **Contracts, Lorraine:**

- Sheri said **Dee found her set of Hall keys** but hasn't had a chance to get them to her yet.
- **Courtney cleaned out her club closet** but has not returned the key yet.
- There are only **two Saturday nights left open for 2019**.
- For **2020**, Lorraine went through the list of **special dances** she has on her list and asked if any are missing: Four Square Dance Festivals, two Round Dance Festivals, Sweetheart Dance, Snowflake Dance, two Toys for Tots dances, two Anniversary dances, and a Veteran's Dance. These are carry-over dances from 2019, with a couple of additions.
- Do we still want to do the **ASDC Holiday Hoedown?** We have a minimum of two ASDC dances a year, so we need the Hoedown, which is low-cost, since we use local volunteer callers. We explained to Ben that he is responsible for getting callers and round dance cuers for the the Holiday Hoedowns for 12/21/19 and 12/19/20. Ben said 12/21 sounds like a recipe for failure being so close to Christmas. Per Lorraine that is the only Saturday available. Is Ben also responsible for contacting FolkMads to see if they want to participate? No one answered that.
- **Shirley Underwood (round dance cuer) will be cleaning out her closet** when she can. She is retiring for health and personal reasons.
- **Lorraine thanked Bob for switching the closet doors around** on the closets closest to the counters in each Hall so that people can open the doors without running them into the counter.

**Supplies, (Margaret out):** Jerry asked if we have all the supplies we need for Spring clean-up on April 27<sup>th</sup>. Sheri and Bob are on top of it.

### **Publicity, Lin:**

Lin gave us some incomprehensible sports bla-bla, then said that he will be pushing clean-up day in his emails. Sheri said ask people to bring ladders. Bob will bring his ladder and his vacuum. Jerry can bring a couple of 10-foot ladders. Sheri will bring refreshments.

**Jerry will set a date within the next couple of weeks for discussing the dimmer estimates** for the small side of the Hall. **Next regular ASDC meeting: June 10th at 5:00 p.m.**

Meeting **adjourned at 6:26 p.m.**