

Albuquerque Square Dance Club, Inc.
A Non-Profit Corporation
Annual Meeting of ASDC Members
January 04, 2020

Board Members present: Ben Allen, Gale Askren, Margaret Bolshazy, Jerry Gilbreath, Alice LaCelle, Lin Miller, Sheri Pastian, Lorraine Pratt, Bob Stevens. Absent: None

Meeting was **called to order** by President Jerry Gilbreath at **11:16 a.m.** ASDC members present: **120**, more than a **Quorum**. Ballots for the Board election were distributed as members signed in. Three people were missing from the main membership list: Adam Olivieri, Caroline McDowell, and Barbara Garrity. Adam and Caroline were able to establish their membership. Barbara Garrity did not receive a ballot. An unusually large number of members were present, which delayed check-in and the start of the meeting.

Review of the 2019 minutes: Jerry called for any corrections or additions: Alice LaCelle advised that Tom Ehrhorn had emailed a correction to page one stating that Cecilia Pounds is the Central **District** Representative, not the Central **Distrust** Representative. **Minutes unanimously approved with correction.**

Reports from Board Members:

Treasurer, Sheri Pastian went over the **Treasurer's Report** (copy attached).

- Sheri explained how a mixup might have occurred re **Barbara Garrity's ASDC membership**: She believes that John Arnold and Sam Kohler, officers of the Wilde Bunch, gave Sheri Barbara's 2018 dues in 2019. Sheri gives a list to the clubs of who has paid and who hasn't. Barbara said she has a 2019 ASDC membership card, although she did not have it with her.
- **ASDC membership dues for 2020 are due.** Sheri plans to send out a membership list (to clubs) a couple of times a year to make sure all members are on the list, based on the problems we are seeing today. Annual membership stands at 151, active lifetime membership is 58.
- **Carpet damage:** Sheri explained that we are holding **insurance funds** until we make a decision about replacing the carpet, which is burned but usable. Bruce Little asked if we will be replacing all of the carpet and whether we have estimates. Bob explained that under NM law the insurance only had to cover the carpet in the main hall. Our estimates for the entire hall were in the \$17,000 range.
- In 2019 the **Wilde Bunch donated \$500**, which Sheri applied to the Wells Fargo (parking lot) loan.
- Shirley Frank asked about the large expense regarding the lights, and Sheri explained that the Board voted to have the **5000 Kelvin lights in the East Hall replaced with 3000 Kelvin lights**. We still have the 5000 Kelvins that were removed; they are being stored until we decide what to do with them. Bruce Little asked if the lights in the West Hall would be replaced with 3000K as well, and then all the used 5000K lights sold. Jerry said we are **not planning to change the lights in the West Hall**. Carolyn McDowell said the issue with the lights (in the West Hall) is not over.
- Bill Taylor asked how long Sheri shows members as lapsed before she deletes them from the record; Sheri said **lapsed members are deleted after one year**. There are 50 lapsed members on the report. Sheri does not know how many of the lifetime members are inactive or at what point we would shift them to the inactive list. There is no age limit. Bruce suggested age limit 99, but this was considered too pessimistic. Lorraine Pratt said the By-laws cover active/non-active membership.
- **Randy Pratt said if there are 151 annual members who paid dues for 2019, that would be over \$3000. The Treasurer's Report shows \$2,470, a discrepancy of over \$500. Sheri explained that anyone paying after June 30th only has to pay \$10.** Randy said the list Sheri sent out June 5 added up to 161 members according to Randy's calculation. Also, **ADC has a deposit of \$800 on the report, but the ASDC minutes for April show that ADC deposit changed to \$640.** Sheri explained that after her computer and backup were stolen she had to hand enter all the ASDC data back into a new computer. She had to correct and tweak a number of items. The last backup data available was from 2015, and had to be corrected and updated, and she is still working to make sure everything has been updated correctly.
- **Lin Miller** said that the **Hot August Nights festival was created 13 years ago by a small group of dancers. It has grown to be the largest festival in New Mexico** and a premier event in the Four Corner's area. Our beautiful hall is one of the reasons for its success. Over the years Hot August Nights has made contributions

for improvements to the Hall, and today is **presenting ASDC with a check for \$2,500 for the parking lot fund**. This contribution makes a grand total of **\$10,250** that Hot August Nights has contributed to ASDC. Lin asked to **recognize the chairman of Hot August Nights**, who has made these contributions possible: **Larada Horner-Miller**. Membership gave a round of applause.

- **Shirley Frank** complimented the Board on the maintenance of the Hall, but felt that the Board should not make decisions re the **5000 K lighting** (on the West side) without more input from members, including the **distribution of research data** re possible eye damage. Possibly there should be a membership vote re the West Hall lighting.
- **Discrepancy in loss of income due to contracts: \$309.00. Bill Mayberry, treasurer of the Southwest District, asked how we could have a contract and lose money on it.** Jerry said this could be explained to Bill after the meeting, but there was a call from several people to have it explained during the meeting.
 1. Sheri said that Lorraine Pratt, contracts director, provides her with a calendar and copies of each contract so that Sheri can balance the contracts with the money paid. Lorraine **wrote a contract for Randy Pratt's club (Desert Dancers) to use the West Hall at the price of the East Hall, which is lower**. The contract covered a Friday night, Saturday morning, Saturday night, and a Sunday morning, for \$90 instead of the full charge of \$140 (at \$35 per session). Randy also had the East Hall Saturday afternoon for a separate event, his daughter's graduation party. Randy did pay full price for the graduation party. Discounted contracts were awarded to Randy three times.
 2. **A second irregularity involved Mike Sikorsky's Caller School, scheduled for the last week in Sept, 2019, which was cancelled only four days prior to its start date.** Randy and Lorraine Pratt were sponsoring the Caller Lab. ASDC contracts require a cancellation deposit, usually payable for a cancellation less than 30 days prior to an event, but in this case the contract required only a two week cancellation notice. Sheri asked the Pratts for the \$200 since the cancellation was only four days prior to the event. Jerry interjected that **the Board voted, after the fact, to forgive the deposit in this instance**. Sheri said that the Caller School bumped the large ballroom dance group ADC, costing ASDC \$250 in rental. Lorraine Pratt stated that ADC does not dance the last Saturday in September because they have a fiesta elsewhere at that time, so ASDC did not lose any rental income from ADC.
 3. **Bill Mayberry** said that going forward it should be a policy that **all deposits be paid according the contract, without exceptions**. Sheri agreed, and said that she has been on the Board many years and always trusted the contracts directors, and feels disappointed. Lorraine responded that she has always sent Sheri copies of contracts prior to them being signed, and the prices she gave Randy were the same prices she had given Shirley (Underwood) for the three years prior. Randy said that the Desert Dancers have done an all day round dance session for the past three years. The contract with Shirley for the first two years and with Randy for the last year was the same price, and this was not an issue when the contract was made with Shirley, only when it was made with Randy. There were three occasions when Desert Dancers had an afternoon and an evening weekend session, and received an \$8 discount for 2 combined sessions, which is the same discount Jerry Gilbreath received in 2018 for afternoon and evening dances scheduled on the same day.
 4. **Larada Horner-Miller** said that she chaired the Hot August Nights committee for 13 years, and she **does not understand why anyone is getting a discount**. Hot August Nights paid full price. Lorraine asked Larada why, when she was contract director, did someone get to rent the Hall for \$18. Larada said the Board agreed to this, and it was better to get \$18 than to get nothing because no one else was renting the Hall for that time period. Lorraine said that sounds like a discount.
 5. **Ben Allen** said that he came on the Board one year ago. **He has gone through all the contracts and discovered that the pricing for contracts was being left up to the Contract Director, Lorraine. She had been given the authority, or had taken the authority, to give discounts**. Ben found that most of the discounts had been given to the Desert Dancers (Randy's group) and Mike Sikorsky. The Board met and decided that was "water under the bridge" and to fix this by standardizing fees and making a rule that the contract officer has no authority to give additional discounts. Two people now review every contract for accuracy and equal treatment. **Contracts for 2020 will have uniform pricing and terms; the problem has been solved**.
 6. **Jack Denver** asked when the contract discrepancy was first discovered. Sheri said June of 2019. Jack said **bringing it up right before a Board election seems political**. Sheri said **ASDC members have the right to know this information**, and the annual meeting is the best way to communicate with the

membership. **Bruce Little said that the membership has a right to know** the info Sheri presented. We have been advised of the contract issues and the fix for what was perceived as a problem, and this is as it should be. Being informed should not be considered tainting the vote.

7. **Lorraine** advised that anyone wanting to know Board business can find the **Minutes of the ASDC Board meetings on the ASDC website, and they will find the details re the contract issues in the Minutes.**
8. Several people said that **Sheri was answering a question** from a member about the contract discrepancy on the Treasurer's report, and this is the reason she provided the details. **Shirley Frank** said that what is happening is sad, and she thinks it goes back to the issue with the **lights**. Jerry responded that we need to return to the Treasurer's Report.

The Treasurer's Report was approved by a large majority.

Ben Allen, Vice President: The **ASDC Spring Dance**, in March, will feature caller **Dee Dee Dougherty and Cuer Randy Pratt**. All are invited and we're hoping for a good attendance.

Bob Stevens, Maintenance:

- **Bob asks that members let him know when there is a maintenance issue.** He often finds out about problems 2nd or 3rd hand, and he would like to be advised immediately and directly about needed repairs. Members can write a note and put it in the ASDC office slot.
- **Recent Repairs:** Front gutters, one was broken and had to be replaced. **Porch replacement** looks good and should last 15 years. Repaired **water fountain** in foyer. **Sealing cracks** in the parking lot to prevent water from undermining the asphalt. **Cleaning the lot** and clearing pine needles. Bob bought **new icicle lights** to replace the ones over the dance floor, and is working on getting them up. Bob plans to have the **front entrance to the Hall cleaned and painted** before the State Square Dance convention. The **folding wall** between the Halls is not working correctly and we are getting an evaluation to determine the problem. The **distance between the floor the ceiling is uneven**. The specialists working on it have never seen a wall like ours, which probably dates back to 1978. **Richard Riger asked if anyone has done a laser level on the track** for the door; Bob said no, but he would look into having it done.
- **Jerry called for a hand for Bob for all the maintenance work he has done and the excellent job he does for ASDC. There was enthusiastic applause.**

Alice LaCelle, Secretary: Jerry asked for a short report from Alice, who said that she records the **minutes** of each Board meeting. Jerry said she does a great job.

Lorraine Pratt, Contracts:

- Issues **contracts** to rent the facility.
- **Posts a calendar on the wall** between the bathrooms showing the dances for each month.
- **Maintains the asdc.org website** to keep the calendar updated with events, times, halls, etc.
- Works with **ASDC Facebook** page.
- Maintains a list of **who has keys** to the Hall and the closets. When she took over contracts there were 24 keys unaccounted for; now there are only 12.
- **Overview of 2019:** When 2019 started there were only a few Sunday nights available. The **asdc.org website** went down in early January. The website administrator and others stepped up to fix it at a cost of only \$300 for three years of service vs approximately \$1,200 suggested by the service provider. **We lost a club in April. (Sewell's Jewels).** In **June a "Use Fee" committee** reviewed contract pricing. Lorraine was not included, so was unable to give recommendations about rule changes. **July, USA Dance is reducing their number of dances** and switching to Sunday afternoons to save money; a **loss of \$3,770** to ASDC. **August, new use fees** approved by the Board. **Desert Dancers is reducing their weekend workshops from 29 in 2019 to 7 in 2020 as a result of fee increases.** The **Roundavous** (round dance) festival **may be cancelled**. **Mike Sikorsky said he will not do another caller school** at the higher price. The Board instated new **"mini-festival"** fees for using either side of the hall that's available for \$25 a session for six consecutive sessions (total \$150), which is a similar rate to the multi-dance rate Lorraine had given Randy in June for the multi-session dance. In Oct. Lorraine informed the Board that some **outside dance** groups would face a **65% increase** under the new rules,

so the Board **modified the rules** to lower the increase. In Nov **Crazy Eights gave notice they would fold in Dec**. Large hall is not being used Monday, the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays, and the 1st, 2nd, and 5th Sundays, and the small hall is vacant the 1st, 4th, and 5th Sundays and Friday evenings.

Margaret Bolshazy, Supplies: Margaret thinks she has the easiest job on the Board – shopping. She **purchases all consumable supplies** as needed for the Square Dance Hall and the dances sponsored by the ASDC.

Gale Askren, Central District Representative: Serves as a **liaison** between ASDC and Central District, which is “alive and well” and going smoothly. There is a CD dance this evening.

Lin Miller, Publicity:

- Lin sends out **email notices of dances**, and he keeps the dance community up-to-date on **dancer news**; unfortunately that includes notices re dancers passing on. Lin has been advised about a way to add more dancers to his list, and he will be following up on that. He thanked Alice for providing him with some new email addresses which he is in the process of adding to the list. **Anyone wanting to be added to his list please give him their email address.** Occasionally people are accidentally dropped from the email list; when this happens he wants to be notified so he can make corrections. Also, people who requested removal from the list might have to ask several times because the system puts their names back in.
- **Cynda Bellamy** said that she has submitted her email address four times but has not received any of Lin's emails. She thinks we need a better system. Lin said he will try again, and he will ask for a response so he knows that he's made a connection.
- If anyone is interested in **housing caller Dee Dee Dougherty**, her husband, and their small dog while they are here in March for the Spring Celebration dance, please let Lin know.
- **Kris Jensen suggested that ASDC have two separate emails lists, one for publicity; anyone could be on that list, including non-ASDC members. The second list would include ASDC members and would be for official ASDC announcements only**, like the annual meeting or things to do with the Board. People could choose to be on one or both.
- **Susan Moore** said that she is a computer scientist, an IT person. Everyone needs to check their **spam folder** for missing emails.

Election of new Board members:

Comment from **Shirley Frank:** **Husbands and wives should not serve together on the Board**, and the Board should consider making this a rule.

There are **three Board members** whose terms are up this year: **Margaret Bolshazy, Lin Miller, and Lorraine Pratt.** Jerry asked the candidates to speak:

- **Randy Pratt** cues for the Desert Dancers and the Hot Chili Steppers, and dances with the Wilde Bunch. He would like to be on the Board and represent all of the dancers. He is at the Hall often and would welcome any suggestions from any dancers who want to contact him. The Board has an important function in caring for the building and he wants to participate.
- **Larada Horner-Miller** said that she has square danced all her life, and has the tiny-tiny square dance dress to prove it. Our hall was built in 1978, is one of the best in the country, and Larada wants to help maintain the Hall and the Square and Round dance community. She credits **Cecilia Adams**, who was on the Hot August Nights committee, with urging them to donate some of their festival income to the ASDC to “give back,” and Larada thinks it was a wise and generous decision.
- **Lorraine Pratt** said she has enjoyed the Contracts job and would like to continue to serve. She keeps the ASDC website calendar updated with dance information and strives to keep that info as detailed and accurate as possible. Callers can notify her when dances are cancelled and she will immediately update the website. She has already entered all contracted dances for the year 2020 on the website calendar.
- **Margaret Bolshazy** said she enjoys her position on the Board (supplies), would be willing to assume other positions, and wants to continue to contribute to the maintenance of the Hall and the dance community.
- **Lin Miller** said that he loves the Publicity job, that he has been into communications all of his life. (His wife thinks he sometimes communicates too much.) He enjoys sending emails and getting info and ideas back from people, or just sharing a connection. As Cynda pointed out, there are things still to be done, and he wants the

opportunity to make those improvements.

- **Jerry called for any other nominations from the floor; there were none.**
- Jerry explained that we are **not voting for a person for a specific job**, but for a position on the Board. The Board members vote for job assignments on the Board.
- Jerry called for the ballots to be completed and collected. **Three members of the Board will count the votes: Bob, Ben, and Sheri. Cathy McKenna asked if we could have an observer from the general membership, and she was accepted as a volunteer.**
- Jerry said vote for three candidates. **Ballots marked for two or three candidates will be counted, but any ballots marked for more than three candidates will *not* be counted.**

While ballots were being counted, Jerry introduced **John Lewin as the first caller to ever call in the ASDC Hall**, and John received a big round of applause.

Jerry reminded members that a **Central District Dance** will be held at the ASDC Hall this evening.

Election Results: Margaret Bolshazy 103, Lin Miller 84, Larada Horner-Miller 76, Lorraine Pratt 75, Randy Pratt 35. Margaret, Lin, and Larada are elected to the Board.

Correction to the Agenda: The Spring Dance is not March 1,2, it is March 6,7. Jerry asked if there is any **New Business** from the floor. None was suggested.

Meeting adjourned at 1:06 p.m.