

Albuquerque Square Dance Club, Inc.
A Non-Profit Corporation
Meeting of the Board of Directors
Nov 30 2020

Meeting conducted by Zoom to abide by Social Distancing rules re the Coronavirus pandemic. Board Members present on Zoom: Ben Allen, Gale Askren, Margaret Bolshazy, Jerry Gilbreath, Alice LaCelle, Larada Horner-Miller, Lin Miller, Sheri Pastian, Bob Stevens. Absent: None

Zoom meeting set up by Larada Horner-Miller. Meeting was called to order by President Jerry Gilbreath at 5:35 p.m.

Treasurer's Report, Sheri:

- Our **monthly expenses** are more manageable now that we have the parking lot loan paid off.
- The **Wilde Bunch and Rich Stewart are still paying their monthly rent**, which gives us some income. **Pest Control, Fire Safety inspection, and website fees** paid for the year.
- We recently received a **donation from Jan Rothell of \$200**; Sheri sent a thank you note.
- Sheri is getting a **plaque for the front hall for Mary Young**, who died recently.
- **Property tax due Dec 10 for \$5,149.92**. We have \$8,974 in our checking account, so we will have around \$3,875 after the payment. We don't have another major payment until July when the insurance is due. Monthly utilities run about \$200. Our **Mainstay reserve account is up to \$70,700**, and Sheri is debating whether to transfer some funds to the checking account.
- Jerry asked if we know anything yet from the **IRS re back taxes due**. Sheri received a document from the IRS in mid Nov. stating that we owe taxes of \$3000 for the year 2017, but our accountant is working on this and believes it is not correct. He thinks the IRS did not receive some paperwork that would reduce or eliminate the back tax. There has been no final report on the IRS audit. Jerry asked Sheri to call the accountant and check on this.
- Larada stated that based on her own experience the **funds in the Mainstay reserve account are easily accessible**, and we will be able to get reserve funds quickly if needed. Larada suggested that Sheri check with the Mainstay rep to be sure about it.
- **Re income, Larada is concerned because we are facing 2021 not being able to rent the Hall**, at least for the foreseeable future, due to COVID. **Also, what about membership dues?** People who paid dues for last year only got to dance for about a month. Jerry pointed out that only one person has asked for their dues back for 2020. Margaret said she belongs to three non-profit organizations that had similar lack of activity for 2020, but they are not refunding dues and they are asking for the full 2021 dues. **Lin suggested that we put out a request for 2021 dues, acknowledging that we don't know when we can dance**, but there may be people willing to pay dues to help keep the Hall going. Some people may elect not to pay until we can dance, but at least we would get some income. We should also be sensitive to people for whom money is tight and be as flexible as we can about keeping members.
- Bob said if we send out a request for dues, we need to know **who is getting emails and who would need to be contacted by letter**, since not everyone receives Publicity emails. Sheri said Alice was going to work on compiling a list of people who don't get email. Alice said she needs Lin's Publicity contacts before she can compile such a list. Then she could contact all of those not receiving emails and verify their mailing addresses. Bob said we would also need this info to send out letters for the next annual meeting. Lin said he will send Alice his Publicity email contacts so she can make a comparison and compile a list of members not on the Publicity email list.
- Sheri has the **signed Wilde Bunch contract** for 2021 and will mail it to Larada.
- **Treasurer's report unanimously approved.**

Contract Report, Larada:

- **Larada had to recreate up-to-date contract templets**, as Lorraine Pratt did not give her the new ones.
- **All of the square and round dance clubs were agreeable to renewing their contracts for next year.**
- **Susan Kellogg is reluctant to sign a contract** for next year even though we are not requiring the 30 day cancelation notice during the pandemic.

- **USA Dance has not renewed their contract.**
- **High Desert Dancers** have not signed a contract for their usual December dance. **Body Emotion** and a few other outside groups have not responded, probably due to COVID. The **Southwest Super Plus** dance for Feb has been cancelled, but Jerry said Eric (Henerlau) is still planning to do the Super Plus dance in 2022 or 2023. Randy Pratt is trying to work out a **USA West kickoff dance** that would need one of Susan Kellogg's dates, so that is up in the air.
- Larada plans to **update the ASDC website calendar** for 2021.

Maintenance, Bob:

- **Temperature** in the Hall is set at 55 degrees round the clock to save energy since no one is using the Hall.
- Our **parking lot entry sign** has been wiped out again, and Bob is working on getting it back up. (Bob has become an expert at restoring this sign.)
- Bob moved all the **smoker pots** inside the Hall for storage, with the exception of the one that is missing the top. Someone stole the top and dumped the sand out.
- The **business to the north of the Hall moved, and a new company will be packaging marijuana for sale there.** It will not be a retail store.
- Bob has been keeping the **pine needles** cleaned up and dumping them in the trash at Jerry's business, since our trash pickup is suspended to save money. (Thank you Jerry.)
- **Leak repaired** on the west side of the Hall in the outside plant watering system. No bill yet.
- Larada thanked Bob for the day to day work that he puts in at the Hall.

Ben, Lin, Margaret, and Gale have nothing to report. Margaret is glad she doesn't have to buy toilet paper for the Hall since there is another TP shortage at the moment.

Old Business:

- **Jerry does not see how we can have any kind of an annual meeting in January due to COVID restrictions.** We have discussed a Zoom meeting but that seems unworkable with the number of people who may not have access. We also considered mail-in ballots for the election, but that would be problematic: The election is supposed to be part of the meeting and take place after reports and the introduction and speeches of candidates. Jerry suggests we follow the example of the California State Square Dance Board and postpone the meeting and election until such time as we can safely meet. **Current officers would continue to serve until the election is held.** The **three people up for reelection are Jerry, Sheri, and Alice**, and all three agreed to serve until the next election can be held. **Jerry and Sheri will be running again, but Alice will not.** **Ben advised that we need to notify the membership that the annual meeting and election will be delayed**, and we need to get this out before the end of December. We will also need to give 30 notice before we do hold the next meeting.
- When we eventually send the notice of the next annual meeting, Bob said we need to state that **members must have their membership cards to be able to vote.**
- **Margaret asked who would be voting in the next election:** Normally 2020 members would be voting in January of 2021, since the new fiscal year does not start until February. By the time we can hold a meeting we will probably be well into 2021. This generated a great deal of discussion. Jerry said the norm would be for 2020 members to be able to vote. Sheri and Alice agreed. Ben said if you can't hold a meeting in January, and the new fiscal year starts in February, then voters should be current members *at the time the meeting is held*, meaning they would have to be 2021 members. Alice disagreed, saying that we would be delaying the January meeting, but changing who can vote in that meeting for the first time ever, which will provoke controversy. Margaret argued that a meeting held in the fiscal year 2021 should require 2021 membership. Sheri said it is no one's fault that we cannot hold the meeting in January, so why should they lose the right to vote? Lin questioned whether people could buy a 2021 card at the annual meeting and thus be able to vote. Ben said we would have to offer that. Alice objected that this would delay the meeting and create havoc unless we insist that people come at least a half hour early if they need to buy a membership. Per Ben **the terms of the three individuals elected whenever we do hold the next annual meeting will end at the annual meeting in 2024 (3 years from January 2021), in order to maintain the election schedule.** This means that the members elected at the next annual meeting will actually serve less than three full years. This needs to be stated in the notice for the annual meeting.

- **Ben made a motion that we send out a December letter stating simply that the annual meeting is delayed; this was unanimously approved.** Ben will draft a letter for the Board to review. Lin will email the letter re the delay of the annual meeting as soon as the Board approves it, and Alice will mail out copies of the letter to those not on Lin's list. Lin will also extend holiday greetings to the members.
- Normally Sheri would already have started collecting for **2021 memberships**. Should she proceed with this, and should we charge the full membership fee of \$20 plus tax? We agreed that the membership fee is very reasonable, and we do need the money to maintain the Hall, so we will not reduce the fee with regard to reduced dancing in 2021. Jerry said that no matter what we decide, there will be people who object because you can never please everyone. **We agreed that we would send out emails and letters requesting membership dues for 2021, including tax, as a separate notice after we have advised members of the delay in annual meeting.** This also allows us some time to clear up who gets Publicity emails and who needs snail mail letters. Gale volunteered to help as needed.
- Alice requested clarification about “loaning out” the **ASDC Hall amps**. In the last meeting, which Alice missed, Jerry stated that we did not allow callers to borrow the Hall amps. Alice assumes that when callers rent the Hall, including for festivals, they also rent the equipment, therefore they have the use of the amps. Jerry said yes, as long as they use the amps *in the Hall*. He feels that **we should not allow Hall equipment to be removed from the Hall** for use elsewhere, such as at someone's house or a hotel. Alice agreed this seems reasonable, and there was no further discussion.

New Business:

Jerry said that **Larada received a call from Georgian Spata, a member of the Wilde Bunch, suggesting that we require dancers to sign a statement that they have received the Coronavirus vaccine before they be allowed to dance at the Hall.** Georgian can get us pro bono legal advise on the wording for the form. Margaret said we should not exceed state requirements for similar venues. Gale said we do not require people to have flu vaccines or any other type of vaccine to dance, so why should we start now? Ben feels that we should avoid taking any stand at this time. This issue should be tabled until we feel that we can reopen. Larada said that Georgian feels the Wilde Bunch may not come back to the Hall unless we require the vaccine for all dancers. Alice pointed out that the Wilde Bunch could make the vaccine a requirement at their own dances.

Larada apologized if she seemed argumentative, and Jerry said we should all feel free to argue and express different points of view, but we do make decisions, work together, and respect each other, so all is well.

Meeting adjourned at 6:53 p.m. No date was set for the next meeting.