



# TIMES SQUARES

NEW YORK'S ONLY LGBT SQUARE DANCE CLUB

Annual Meeting

Date: January 6, 2108

Time: 6:50 pm

Location: PS 3

Board Members Present: Alain Buzzard-Bunny, Larry Caputo, Michael Coan, Jeff Eisner, Warren Livesley, and Alan Teicher

Board Members Absent: Susan Gill

1. **Secretary's Report** from the 2017 annual meeting accepted

2. **Treasurer's Report**

- a. Esther Sands questioned the size of the loss for Peel the Pumpkin 2017. Warren cited the high cost of dance halls. The cost for the dance halls was raised when Times Squares cancelled the catering portion of the contract.
- b. Rick Massi asked how Peel the Pumpkin 2018 will be different. Kian Kho stated that we are having a buffet banquet so the catering portion of this contract will be bigger than last year. Michael Coan also noted that there is also a smaller room night count requirement.
- c. Jeff Eisner stated that deposits for both Peel the Pumpkin 2017 and Peel the Pumpkin 2018 were paid in 2017 so our high operating cost may be deceiving when compared to 2016 in which no fly-in down payments were made. Treasurer's Report was accepted.
- d. Kian Kho asked how we could reduce the costs of our Tuesday and Thursday dances, since that's where the major financial losses are. Warren Livesley said the board had discussed moving both nights to Thursday, but the financial advance was not great.
- e. Treasurer's Report was accepted.

3. **State of the Club**

- a. Warren thanked callers Betsy Gotta and Howard Richman. He also thanks everyone who volunteered during the year: board members, archangels, organizers of Promenade Back Home, Peel the Pumpkin, and the Election Committee.
- b. Richard Sands gave a special thank you to Kim Norland for distributing the weekly e-blast and George Voorhis for distributing information about dances outside of New York City.
- c. Warren stated that the board is trying to reduce costs by offering Combo Dances quarterly and summer dances every other week.
- d. Warren encouraged dancers to dance more often at club events, highlighting the Yale GALA fun dance on January 26, 2018 and Peel the Pumpkin 2018 organized by Jim Babcock, Kian Kho and Gabriel Rivas.
- e. The Northern New Jersey Square Dance Association (NNJSDA) is hosting a DREAM event, which is a series of workshops on square dance topics, such as retention, recruitment, and the role of angels. Roy Gotta asked if we post announcements for our events on the NNJSDA email list. We post special events, but we do not post classes or workshops.

**4. Proposed By-law Amendment**

- a. Kim Norland clarified the proposed amendment and its pros and cons. The intention is to vote by email. Kim has not yet been able to construct an e-blast so that it goes to just members, and each member can vote just once.
- b. Bill Wolff stated that the ballot should only go to dues paying members from 2018. He also clarified that honorary members of Times Squares do not vote unless they have also chosen to pay dues.
- c. Betsy and Roy Gotta suggested that the amendment use the phrase *Condensed Teaching Order* and not *Basic*. They stated that the condensed teaching order contains the most used calls from both Basic and Mainstream. They said that these calls prepared new dancers to join the club better than Basic in less time than full Mainstream. They offered to edit the amendment before it is sent out.

**5. Outreach.** David Kampel brought up the importance of outreach and the necessity to use social media to achieve our goals.

**6. Peel the Pumpkin.** Leslie Welsh encouraged more dancers to support Peel the Pumpkin 2018.

**7. Election Results.** Warren Livesley, Jeff Eisner and Jonathan Uejio were elected to two-year terms and Jim Babcock, Alan Teicher, Michael Coan and Howard Handler were elected to one-year terms. The officers for the coming year are: Jim Babcock-President, Warren Livesley-Secretary and Jeff Eisner-Treasurer.

The meeting adjourned at 7:40 PM

Respectfully submitted,  
Larry Caputo