



TIMES SQUARES

NEW YORK'S ONLY LGBT SQUARE DANCE CLUB

Annual Meeting Minutes January 5, 2019

35 members of Times Squares attended the meeting.

Board Members: Alan Teicher, Jeff Eisner, Jim Babcock, Jonathan Uejio, Michael Coan and Warren Livesley,

Board Members Absent: Howard Handler

Meeting called to order by Board President, Jim Babcock at 6:21 PM

- A. Secretary's Report:** The secretary's report for the 2018 Annual Meeting was accepted unanimously. Jonathon Weiner asked what effect adopting the Condensed Teacher Order (CTO) had on student learning. Jim Babcock stated that we have been using the CTO for two years and there was no negative effect on student learning.
- B. Treasurer's Report:** The treasurer's report for 2018 was accepted unanimously. Jeff Eisner announced that the balance in our account is over \$23,000. Bill Wolff asked to confirm that the Stonewall 50 parade participation would be \$10,000. Jim Babcock confirmed the cost and stated that we have already raised \$5,525. Bill Wolff also asked if there were specific reasons for our loss of \$2000 for Peel the Pumpkin 2018 (PTP 2018). Jim Babcock highlighted the following: higher food costs for the Saturday night banquet, lack of a fund raiser before the fly-in to offset anticipated losses (\$1,700 was donated for PTP 2017), and inclement weather reducing the number of Saturday walk-in dancers.
- C. State of the Club PowerPoint Presentation.** Jim Babcock presented a detailed presentation covering many aspects of the club. It will be available online shortly. Discussion followed.

 - a. Dance Offerings.** Jonathon Weiner suggested that dancers would get "more for their money" if we offered more types of dancing such as line dancing and round dancing. Shep Wahnnon noted that other forms of dancing needed to be taught to be done well. Howard Richman responded that including other types of dancing would cut into the already limited time devoted to teaching the CTO.
 - b. Outreach.** Jim Babcock and Ray Emrich talked about club members becoming more involved in social media to advertise square dancing. Michael Coan and Jim Babcock referenced the Sandwich Board in

front of PS 3 during our dances. They stated that members should take a more active part in welcoming the increasing number of passersby who come into the hall. Gabriel Rivas reminded members that there are business cards that can be handed out to visitors. Kim Norland asked if the lighting over the Auditorium door could be fixed to make the venue more welcoming.

- c. **Advertising.** Jim Babcock suggested that it might be time for Times Squares to begin paid advertising. Kim Norland noted that Google will distribute information from paid advertisements or formal press releases. Daniel Savitt wondered if it would be profitable to reintroduce demos, in which our members would visit different venues/organizations to demonstrate square dancing. Larry Caputo suggested a “flash mob” that would be a summer fun badge tour. Ray Emrich suggested we use the list of organizations maintained by the LGBT Center. David Kampel concluded the discussion by encouraging members to step up and decide what they can do to implement these suggestions.
- d. **Club Uniforms.** Gabriel Rivas shared mock-ups of possible designs for new uniforms. He also noted that a committee is being formed to follow up.

D. Stonewall 50. Kian Kho presented information regarding Stonewall 50.

- a. **Dance.** On Friday, June 28, 2019 Anne Ubelacker will call for the Stonewall 50 dance at John Jay College gym, located in Manhattan’s Midtown West. The venue can accommodate up to 250 dancers. Ticket sales are expected to cover the costs of this event. The schedule will be: 7:00-8:00 Fun Dance for beginners, then 8:00-10:00 Alternating Mainstream/Plus/A2 with a possible C1 star tip.
- b. **March.** On Sunday, June 30, 2019 the IAGSDC will participate in the Pride Parade. Member clubs will be invited to participate. There will be a vehicle with a driver, rented sound equipment with a technician, and dancing in the street. Attire has still to be decided.

E. Election Results. The Election Committee announced that Jim Babcock, Michael Coan and Nadine Posner have been elected to the board. There was a tie between Alan Teicher and Howard Handler for the remaining position. The by-laws state that members will decide the winner during the annual meeting. However, as there was not a quorum at this meeting, a run-off election will be carried out on Survey Monkey.

The Annual Meeting ended at 7:55 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Warren Livesley, Secretary