

### Call to order

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Time: 14:20

Alan Twigg

Alex Harvey

Armin Busse

Juliet Davoren

Laura Cooper

Marianna Harvey

Paula Jacobson

Trina Merriman (02:50pm)

Susie Langdon Kass (03:00pm)

### Apologies

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Bradley Hobbs

Bruce Hamilton

David Wilson

Fred DeMarse

Gail Erwin

Kathy Allen

Lin Pettengill

Sandra Schultz

Tim Wilson

### Edit Agenda

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Removed: Report progress on database for ball program write-ups

### Announcements

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The band for the Jean Patrick Memorial Dance will be String Fire

We had a "hick-up" of the teachers' reflector, which prevented distribution. This was discovered through the distribution of the teachers' committee meeting survey. Thanks to Don for having resolved the issue.

### Old Business

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#### Minutes of previous meeting

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Motion to approve the previous minutes: Paula/Juliet 5/0/2

#### Report on Party Program Committees

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02/15/15	May / Jun 2015	Information was sent
03/01/15	Kim McGarrity Memorial Ball 2015	Paula Jacobson, Jennifer Kelly, Sandra Schultz
03/15/15	Jean Patrick Memorial Dance 2015	Paula Jacobson, Bradley Hobbs, Greg Reznick
05/01/15	Jean Patrick Memorial Dance 2015	Information was assembled.

⇒ Paula will follow up, since the information was not received.

⇒ Armin will post the Jean Patrick Memorial Dance program to the teachers' webpage.

## Minutes of the Teachers' Committee meeting 05/16/15

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### Report on future Teachers Workshops 1 [Trina] Physical Training/Education

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No action yet taken.

⇒ Trina has scheduled further research for next month, June 2015.

A specific workshop would be needed for this topic. Expected time frame for it would be fall/winter 2015/2016.

### Report on future Teachers Workshops 2 [Juliet] Teaching Scenarios

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⇒ Juliet to prepare handout and activity cards for the next meeting, 09/19/15.

## New Business

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### Approve TC-BC Liaison

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⇒ Armin to verify, if Bradley Hobbs like to continue. All are in support of having Bradley continue.

### Report from BC [Bradley, BC Liaison]

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*Bradley, who was unable to attend this meeting, submitted the following report:*

The biggest news is Asilomar. Donations have been very encouraging which will allow us to keep a teaching staff of five teachers. I do not have the figures on current applications for this year's workshop, but there is still space available.

The budget for the Teachers' reception has been reduced to \$1400 from \$1800. I still need to/intend to put out a survey with Patti's assistance regarding the teachers' reception.

The Branch scholarships have been increased from \$250 maximum to \$300. (The Asilomar workshop is by far the biggest request for scholarship assistance.) Additionally, the BC approved - at Patti's recommendation - a youth rate discount of \$50.

The new Asilomar promotion video is out online and a quarter-page ad is in the current issue of the Scottish Country Dancer magazine.

At the recent BC election, all five candidates were re-elected. A sixth candidate pulled out just before the ballots were printed making this an uncontested election.

Jane is working on reducing the bookstore inventory with help and support from the BC. She will continue to carry locally-produced items (and presumably Branch publications) but since other CDs and dance books are easily available, there is a several year plan to reduce this inventory.

The JP memorial dance is on track for this Labor Day.

The BC continues to discuss - without resolution - the possibility of dropping one Monthly Party because the MPs tend to lose money. There is also discussion about a youth (30 and under) party, possibly in lieu of a monthly party.

The Caledonian Club invited us to their Labor Day party for their 150 anniversary. We declined as this would mean canceling our JP memorial dance. The solution the BC came up with, so as not to offend the Caledonian Club, was to commission a dance for them and have it performed by a youth group at their event. Or perhaps one of the Branch teachers could teach them the dance at their party.

Bruce Hamilton's "Difficult people" document was introduced to the BC. The BC will explore the issues in depth at a later meeting. More immediately, the BC will re-examine our vulnerability to legal action from unsatisfied dancers.

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Members of the Santa Rosa class are organizing - with the BC's support - a Youth Workshop. At last report, the one day workshop is on track for 11 July, 2015. As a Branch event, it will be taught by RSCDS teachers.

### Report on TAC

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TAC AGM agenda has not been received.

⇒ Trina will provide further information to the teachers' committee when available.

### Guidance and Courtesy of Dancers

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See also the most current issue of the Scottish Country Dancer magazine article on this discussion.

A lively discussion took place with the following key points:

- Don't go to the top or bottom of the set without permission. Feel free to negotiate with dancers in your set.
- Children's Ball events permit running onto the dance floor
- People talking during talk-throughs should be discouraged. "Please be quiet, so I can tell you how the dance goes."
- If a dance does not work for the dancer during the ball review, they should sit it out
- Teachers can help by identifying dances suitable for not-experienced dancers
- Monthly Party walk-throughs 06:45 - 07:15pm, this would help the music setup as well as the walk-throughs to proceed most efficiently
- Walk-through location away from the musicians whenever possible

Since this topic was discussed previously:

⇒ Armin to follow up with Greg on the topic of the R&S article (Greg or other) and reflector email

This subject brought up the following discussion:

What are the guidelines for the Monthly Party walk-throughs?

- Original goal was to make new dancers feel comfortable

Suggestions:

- Basic and Basic/Intermediate dances should be selected.
- Dances should not be chosen on the spot.

⇒ Trina will be writing an article on the topic for the R&S. She will circulate it with the members present before submitting.

### Discuss future Teachers Workshops

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Elaine Brunken is offering a workshop "The *How* of teaching, not the *What*" at Asilomar for Saturday afternoon.

⇒ Trina will provide more information - likely in July.

### Special Topics for future Meetings [Armin]

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Special topics selected for the next meeting:

- Juliet will facilitate handouts and activity cards on teaching scenarios (Teachers Workshops 1)

## Minutes of the Teachers' Committee meeting 05/16/15

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This should not interfere with the developed session "Organizational Response to Difficult People".  
(See below)

### Other Business

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#### *Organizational Response to Difficult People*

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Combined BC/TC/Class manager (to include branch policy) workshop. Bruce Hamilton provided the initial description for a session to the Branch Committee.

Armin read to the teachers the current description to

- Close of the action
- Provide guidance to Juliet for her teaching workshop on teaching scenarios

It was understood that this is a Branch Committee owned workshop and no action from the teachers' committee is required.

#### *Availability of Monthly Party schedule, venues, and hosting classes*

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Paula provided the update that this information is already available.

⇒ Paula to provide Monthly Party schedule, venues, and hosting classes

⇒ Armin to post Monthly Party schedule, venues, and hosting classes on the teachers' webpage

### Discussion on Dances

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None

### Suggestion for a new Starter Jig

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None

### Other announcements

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None

### Choose date and location for next meetings

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09/19/15, hosted by Alex and Marianna Harvey, Mountain View

01/16/16, North or East Bay suggested, please volunteer

05/21/16

### Adjourn

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Motion to adjourn      Paula/Trina      8/0/0

The meeting ended 17:05.

### Special Topic

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No special topic at this meeting.

Summarized by Armin Busse, 05/16/15