

**Valley Scottish Country Dancers
Annual General Meeting
June 3, 2014**

Minutes

The 2014 annual general meeting of the Valley Scottish Country Dancers was held at the home of June Jain in Coldbrook on Tuesday, June 3, 2014.

Present: Rob Raeside (chair), Vicky Austin, Keith Austin, Duncan Keppie, Peter Ryan, Ron and June Downie, Gail Gordon, Pat Loughnane, Nellie Garvey, Edna McLean, Dorothy Robbins, Maggie Keppie, Janet Whitman, Inge Mair, Jane Hynes, Diane Walsh, Adrian Walsh, June Jain, Jennie McGee, Heather Watts (recorder).

Regrets were received from Sue and Crawford Van Horne.

1. Chairperson Rob Raeside called the meeting to order at 7:33 pm.
2. **Minutes of the 2013 Annual General Meeting**
The minutes of the 2013 annual general meeting were read by the secretary. Moved by Keith Austin, seconded by Jane Hynes that the minutes be adopted. It was noted that in the final line of the Treasurer's report it had been accidentally referred to as "the minutes" instead of the "the report". With that correction the adoption of the minutes was carried unanimously.
3. **Business Arising from the Minutes**
Duncan Keppie reported on the purchase of a minidisk player and the minidisks obtained from the Lunenburg group which was approved at the last AGM. He has rearranged and indexed the disks and finds them to be very satisfactory, with better tempos. He feels the purchase was a "deal" for the Society.
4. **Correspondence**
There was no known correspondence.
5. **Reports**
(Following are summaries of the reports. The full reports are on file in the Secretary's record book.)
 - a. **Treasurer:**
Janet Whitman reported a balance forward of \$3,483.78, an income of \$8,493.37 and expenses of \$8,240.49, giving a current balance of \$3,736.66. There was a gain in equity of \$252.88. She noted that the bank will introduce fees next year. She felt that our financial situation is such that bonuses can be paid to the instructors again this year if the members so wish. Janet noted that in future she will be keeping the accounts on a spreadsheet on her computer instead of writing them into the Treasurer's book. The

spreadsheet will be taped into the book when complete. Moved by Janet, seconded by Vicky that the report be adopted. There was a question about the expense item for a tape storage box. This should have read CD storage box. With this correction the report was adopted unanimously. The Burn's Supper financial statement is summarized in the report of Burns Night.

b. Teachers:

Maggie Keppie reviewed the activities for the past year. The regular evening classes continued at Riverside Court from September to November, and again from February to May, with mid term socials, a Christmas Party and the summer barbecue. Three weeks of practice for Burns Night in early January resulted in a very successful turn-out of 50 most nights. Several new dancers joined us for the spring term with an average attendance of 30-35. The ability to split the class for a short time each night to provide introductory practice for the newcomers was helpful.

There were several special activities through the year. Prior to the fall classes a demonstration team trained in the summer for our second performance at Upper Clements Park. The Gaelic choir joined the dancers for demonstrations at the Wolfville Nursing Home and Riverside Court, as well as fund raisers for the Schizophrenia Society, and the Aldershot Baptist Church outreach program.

Moved by Maggie seconded by Peter that the report be adopted. Carried.

c. Burns Night:

Keith Austin and Inge Mair reported on the 39th VSCD Burns Supper. 176 tickets were sold and it was encouraging to have young people involved in the ceilidh and in the toast to the Laddies. The Immortal Memory was proposed by David Woolnough and June Jain's high standards were once again obvious in the speakers.

The many others who contributed to the success of the evening were thanked – Patrick Loughnane for the catering, the Macadians' music, the ticket sellers, the faithful haggis makers, the piper, the entertainers, and the volunteers who each year transform the community centre.

The total income from the supper was \$4,546.00 and the expenses \$4,105.36, resulting in a surplus this year of \$440.64.

The hall has already been booked for January 24, 2015. Moved by Keith, seconded Duncan that the report be adopted. Dorothy thanked Keith and Inge for all their work. Inga suggested that the organizers consider when ordering next year that red wine is more popular than white. Adoption of the report was carried.

d. Advanced Class:

Duncan Keppie presented the report on the Advanced classes, held in the St. John's Hall on Church Street. Eight classes were held with 1 to 2 sets each time. Changing the time

from 7 o'clock in the evening during the summer to 2 in the afternoon in winter seems to suit people best. The hall has been booked through the end of November 2014. Moved by Duncan, seconded by Keith that the report be adopted. Carried.

e. Website Manager:

The written report on the VSCD website, maintained by Rob Raeside, was presented by Keith Austin, as Rob was in the chair. There are on average 15 visits a month with peak times in December and March. Much useful information for dancers, details of events and dances and links all appear on the site. Rob was complimented on the directional map he produced this month to guide members to June's house for the meeting. Moved by Keith, seconded by Maggie that the report be adopted. Carried

f. President's Report:

President Sue Van Horne provided a written report in which she reviewed the progress through the year - the charitable fundraisers, nursing home visits and demonstrations - and welcomed the addition of new dancers. She thanked Maggie, Duncan and Rob for their excellent teaching, and mentioned the advanced classes run by Duncan once a month which are often attended by dancers from other areas. Several of our members have had serious illness or accidents to cope with this year and are still continuing to deal with these misfortunes with great courage. Moved by Jane, seconded by Dorothy that the report be adopted. Carried.

g. Wilmot Scottish Country Dance Class:

Sue Van Horne provided a written report on the classes she has conducted in Wilmot since October of 2013 for an 8 week term and again in spring 2014 for 6 weeks. There have been 15 or more participants at the Wilmot Community Hall and when that was unavailable at the Melvern Square Community Centre. Maggie, who had attended some of the dance nights, gave warm congratulations to Sue for the way they were conducted and remarked on the keenness of the participants. Moved by Maggie, seconded by Janet that the report be adopted. Carried.

6. New Business

Dates for the new term: 16 September to 25 November plus 3 weeks in the new year, 6 January to 20 January. The winter term will be 3 February to 5 May with the understanding that snow days or cancellations may occasionally occur. This was agreed.

Fee structure: Riverside Court will be available to us at the same cost and it is not anticipated that the fees for the dancers will change.

Bonuses: Janet moved that bonuses should again be paid to the Keppies (\$600) and Rob (\$200) Seconded by Keith. Carried.

Maggie suggested that the fee for the advanced classes should be raised to \$6 because costs are not quite covered. It was decided, however, to keep them the same.

Meat Grinders: Edna, on behalf of the haggis makers, asked for approval of the purchase of a new meat grinder. She also asked for permission to buy another should they come on sale again. It was agreed to reimburse Edna for the purchase of one grinder and allow the purchase of another. Carried.

Duncan asked for comments on how the dance classes were divided this year and whether the dancers were content with that method. Comments were all favourable.

7. Report of the Nominating Committee

The report of the Nominating Committee was prepared by Edna and Dorothy and read by Dorothy. The proposed slate for the 2014-2015 dance year is:

Co-Presidents:	Sue and Crawford Van Horne
Past President:	Inge Mair
Treasurer:	Janet Whitman
Secretary:	Heather Watts
Members at Large:	Julia O'Malley, Fred Huntley
Phone Committee:	Jane Hynes and Edna McLean

A call was made for nominations from the floor, but there were none.

Moved by Edna and Dorothy, seconded by Pat Loughnane that the report be adopted. Carried.

Jennie McGee is willing to work in 2014-15 as an informal assistant to Treasurer Janet Whitman, who will be retiring in 2015. Moved by Maggie and seconded by Keith that this informal arrangement be established for the coming year. Carried.

It was noted by Edna and Dorothy that although several people had declined to serve in the coming year, those people would be willing to serve in future, including some who are considering the President's position.

Thanks were expressed by the meeting to Ken McRae for auditing the books.

June Jain was warmly thanked for hosting the meeting and the social time, complete with special thistle-decorated cake, that followed.

8. Adjournment

There being no further business Dorothy moved that the meeting be adjourned.