

ECR Board Meeting summary

July 19, 2025

Attendees

- Pete Levins
- Michael Golden
- Ed Wilson
- Oliver Vogel
- Rob Howe
- Michael Levy
- Kurt Gollhardt
- Mike Keeley

Quick recap

The board meeting covered various administrative and organizational matters, including financial updates, event planning, and membership discussions. They addressed technical issues, approved previous minutes, and made decisions on club uniforms, caller bookings, and donations to the IAGSDC. The group also discussed upcoming events, including a new square dance class, and finalized dates for future activities while addressing concerns about membership and attendance.

Next steps

- Oliver: Complete and share action item list from Board Retreat by next month's meeting
- Ed: Write a \$500 check to IAGSDC as club donation
- Ed: Contact Terry Sheerer about caller availability for February quarterly dance
- Ed: Verify Buddy Weaver's lodging and travel needs
- Ed: Try WD-40 on the storage cabinet lock first
- Rob: Bring lock-breaking tools and replacement lock to Tuesday's meeting as backup plan
- Ed: Send membership renewal notices, including invitation to regular non-member dancers
- Rob: Send draft of officer activities/accomplishments to the board group for website listing
- Pete: Put sign-in sheets in the club's cubby for future open houses
- Pete: Forward delegate report to Kurt
- Rob: Include callers in future board meeting communications
- Ed: Check with Stan about church availability for October 10th potluck
- Michael: Call/lead the September 13th picnic event
- Michael: Prepare to call/lead the October 10th potluck dance starting at 7:30 PM

- Board: Extend social invitation to new class members for October 10th potluck, noting dancing will not be at their level

Summary

Meeting Time Coordination Challenges

The group discusses confusion about the meeting date and time, with Ed mentioning he had initially given Mike incorrect information. Michael admits to having the wrong time as well. The participants experience some technical difficulties with audio and renaming themselves. Rob considers disabling the waiting room feature, and Mike eventually joins the call, completing the group.

AI Transcription and Financial Review

The group discusses the AI transcription tool and its effectiveness, with Rob noting that it generally works well but requires quality checking. They approve the minutes from the previous meeting. Ed presents a financial summary, which the group finds informative and detailed. Pete asks for feedback on the level of detail in the financial report, and the initial responses are positive.

Club Finances and Zoom Access

Ed explains that the monthly 40 cents of miscellaneous income is interest from the checking and savings accounts. He clarifies various donations received, including \$278.35 from IAGSDC, \$100 from a random person at Mountain View Pride, and \$3 from San Mateo Pride. Ed also mentions that the club has about \$15,000 in a savings account as a cushion. Rob reports that they have decided to manage access to the Zoom Workplace Pro account through a shared username and password, suggesting a password change if it hasn't been done recently.

Club Uniform and Dance Updates

Michael reports that Carol is okay with suspenders for the club uniform but doesn't like them, while he hasn't received feedback from Sheri yet. He plans to discuss the matter with Jeff and follow up with Sheri. Pete mentions that Steve and Claudia wore rainbow accessories at the convention, which were well-received. Ed provides an update on callers for next year's quarterly dances, with Andy Allameo confirmed for May, Vic Ceder for August, and Eric Henerlhau tentative for Halloween, while they still need a caller for February.

February Callers and Open House

The group discusses potential callers for February, with Ed preferring to keep it to the West Coast due to past travel issues. They decide to start with Terry Shearer, who made a positive impact on newer dancers. Ed confirms he has added walking directions to the train. Rob mentions he has a draft to share with the group. The open house was well-attended with 21 new people, and the food arrangements were satisfactory.

Storage Lock and Convention Updates

The group discusses issues with accessing their storage cabinet due to a faulty lock. Ed suggests trying WD-40 to loosen it, while Rob offers to break the lock if necessary. They agree to attempt Ed's solution first on Tuesday, with Rob as a backup. The conversation then shifts to the recent convention, where Oliver coordinated a successful NBC live segment. Pete provides a summary of the delegates meeting, noting the lack of banner dances benefiting IAGSDC and asks Michael for any additional input.

IAGSDC Fundraising Support Discussion

The group discusses ways to support the IAGSDC (International Association of Gay Square Dance Clubs). They consider options such as a potluck night, earmarking proceeds from a quarterly dance, or making a direct donation. After deliberation, they decide to make an immediate donation of \$500 to the IAGSDC. They also agree to explore the possibility of organizing a banner dance as a fundraiser in the future, potentially at their Halloween 2026 event featuring caller Eric Hennerlau.

Club Membership and Attendance Review

The board discusses membership and attendance issues. Ed reports that the club currently has 65 paid members, including students. Pete inquires about the difference between the number of people in the convention photo (around 55-62) and actual paying members. Ed notes that some former members and dancers from other clubs join for the photo. The board also discusses the need to invite regular dancers who are not members to join the club, with Ed mentioning specific individuals as examples.

Square Dance Class Planning Meeting

The group discusses upcoming events and the new square dance class. They review the success of recent conventions and pride events in recruiting new members. The picnic on August 9th and the quarterly dance on August 23rd are mentioned as upcoming events. For the new class starting September 9th, they decide to keep the schedule with an A2 tip at 6:45 PM, the class from 7-9 PM, and a Plus tip around 8 PM. Oliver reports that some prospective members have already expressed interest in the class.

Event Planning and Scheduling Updates

The group discusses upcoming events and sets dates for several activities. They confirm a picnic on September 13th, with Michael Levy calling it. For October, they schedule a board meeting on Sunday, October 19th at 11 am, and a potluck on Friday, October 10th. Ed volunteers to check the church's availability for the potluck. They note that a caller will be needed for the potluck, and Michael confirms he will be present despite initial confusion about his attendance.

Potluck and Dance Event Planning

The group discusses the timing for an upcoming potluck and dance event, deciding to start at 6:30 PM with dancing from 7:30 PM to 9:30 PM. They agree not to invite new class members to this event. Michael Levy jokingly asks if ECR wants to host the 2033 convention for the 50th anniversary, which leads to a brief discussion about upcoming convention locations, with Denver confirmed for 2028 and Palm Springs for 2029.

Class Timing and Meeting Minutes

The group discusses and confirms the timing for an upcoming class and tip, with Kurt providing details and Rob updating the agenda. Rob explains his process for creating meeting minutes, stating that he will review and correct any details before forwarding them to everyone as preliminary notes for the next board meeting. As the meeting concludes, Pete asks about the need for a motion to adjourn, which Michael Levy clarifies is unnecessary.

Details:

- New SSD Class: Tuesday September 9 through Dec 16
 - 6:45pm A2 tip
 - 7pm Club Tip
 - 7:15 - 9pm class plus a Plus tip