

TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE COUNTRY SQUIRES

MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF MAY 9TH 2024

Garry Keane opened the meeting and introduced Art Rosen

Art Rosen gave a stirring ode to Memorial Day and those who have passed. As usual, Art dazzled us with his presentation.

Garry introduced Art Scutro to discuss the Club financial situation. The bottom line is that the Club overspent by \$1500 last year.

We need more revenue to operate on at least a breakeven basis. It was proposed to increase Club membership fees to \$50 per year and keep the

Monthly luncheon fees at \$25. The spousal meetings (twice a year) would be \$45 with no more free drinks. Proposed changes were approved.

The election of officers for the coming year took place:

Position	1st name	last name
President	Art	Scutro
Vice President	Steve	Seamans
Secretary	Tom	Flynn
Treasurer	Richard	Beffa
Co-Treasurer	Open	
Co-Program Chair	Dave	Wood
Co-Program Chair	Tom	Hull
Co-Program Chair	Ron	Crowell
Co-Membership Chair	Mark	Friedman
Co-Membership Chair	Peter	Keenan
Webmaster	Garry	Keane
Immediate past President	Garry	Keane

The slate was voted in by the membership.

- Two enhancements being investigated for our Web site:
 - o The 1st is the ability to send out emails to all of the Country Squires Members,
 - o The 2nd is the ability for members to respond to monthly meeting invites, possibly pay by credit or debit card in advance, identify “guest” and Guest’s name, and when there is a meal option – select the meal desired, as well as the capability to have a print out of all the responses in an Excel Spreadsheet type of format,
 - o The purpose of these enhancements is to minimize the labor involved with one (or more) member(s) needing to send our emails from their own account as well as the effort associated with tracking and documenting all member responses.
 - o Target date for a “beta” of these capabilities is June 2024,
 - o Will keep everyone advised of the progress and/or challenges.
- Reminder: Country Squires web site [“https://www.countrysquiresnh.com](https://www.countrysquiresnh.com) (it was “.org”)

Art introduced his guest Renny Warren.

- There was a vote on Member Candidates
 - o James Knight sponsored by Joe Kubit

- Paul Buffum sponsored by Jerry Coogan
- Dan Schneider re-voted in as a member
- All were voted in by the assembled membership.

- – Dave Wood Introduced our Speaker Marty Cetron

Marty spoke on the subject of the government’s approach to dealing with the Covid pandemic and other possible health threats. Marty used his slide presentation to make a case for the government’s actions during Covid. Marty’s concern is that humans are getting more susceptible to disease as new viruses are increasingly being generated by other animals. We live in perilous times.

Regular meeting was concluded. The June 13th meeting will be one of two biennial spousal events accompanied by a presentation of Scottish music and culture!!!

Country Squires Executive Committee Meeting for May 9, 2024:

- 1) There was a discussion of Active vs Deferred Members (those not paying their dues by September). Notes from the March 11th Executive Committee Meeting: Peter’s write-up based on his review of the By-Laws Regarding members who do not pay their dues: he highlighted the applicable provisions of the By Laws (see below). As the last bullet of Section 3 of the bylaws provides, the treasurer must contact members in arrears to urge them to become current. Joe Watts suggested that can be done by a phone call from an officer. Section 4 then provides that the member is terminated for non-payment. Peter suggested a letter requesting payment before termination. Once notified, should the member decide to rejoin Country Squires, they would need to be re-voted in by the membership at the 1st meeting that they decide to attend.

Section 3: The annual membership dues shall be established periodically by a vote of the majority of the members present at a regular meeting.

1. The annual dues cover the fiscal year period from June 1 to May 31, and must be paid by the September meeting of each fiscal year.
2. Applicants accepted for membership in April or May will, upon payment of dues, be credited with full payment for the next fiscal year.
3. For members whose dues are not paid by the end of December, the Treasurer shall initiate communications to collect the dues or determine their continuing interest in remaining with the Country Squires.

Section 4: Membership will be terminated for those members who indicate a change in their status (e.g. relocation, ill health), desire to leave the Squires, or stop paying annual dues and responding to communications.

- 2) Continuity of Operations: Do we have redundancy of capabilities? Who besides Richard has signature authority for the Country Squires Bank Account? CD? Tom Flynn can sign. How many have the ability to pick-up mail from the New London Post Office Box for Country Squires – how many keys exist? Regarding the Web site – besides Garry – the back-up with be Paul Carnevale Jr. (pauljr@carnevaledesign.com) 603 558-3639.
- 3) Proposal for modification of By Laws: Section 3: The annual membership dues shall be established periodically by a vote of the majority of the members present at a regular meeting. 3. Applicants accepted for membership in April or May will, upon payment of dues, be credited with full payment for the next fiscal year. Add “Additional payment or refund may be needed depending on any change in the dues for the next fiscal year”

Submitted: Tom Flynn, Secretary