

**Staten Island Ballroom Dancers
Minutes for Meeting #675 on December 11, 2025**

The meeting was called to order at 7:40pm by President Pattiann Ferrara. It began with a Pledge of Allegiance.

EXECUTIVE BOARD MATTERS:

PRESIDENT (Pattiann Ferrara): Pattiann presented the nominees for Board positions for 2026 and asked if anyone had another nominee for any one of the positions. None were offered and the slate was as follows:

| | |
|--------------------------|-------------------|
| President | Joan Springstead |
| Vice President | Denise Pianoforte |
| Treasurer | Mike Marinaccio |
| Recording Secretary | Marilyn Laraia |
| Correspondence Secretary | Maryann Mazza |

Marilyn cast one vote for each position and they were officially elected.

RECORDING SECRETARY MATTERS (Marilyn Laraia): Marilyn read the prior month's minutes which were accepted by the Club.

CORRESPONDENCE SECRETARY (Maryann Mazza): Maryann did not attend.

TREASURER (Mike Marinaccio): Mike reported that the Club will have a \$6,500 bank balance at the end of the year. This exceeds his year end goal by more than \$1,000 which is why the Club was able to pay \$4,800 to subsidize the Holiday Dance. Mike asked that members pay their dues soon: \$70 per member, \$140 per member couple.

Mike was asked why we have such a high balance. He explained that we raised the annual dues, the dance social fees and even the dance fees over the years. We anticipated the Crystal Room raising their rates but they have kept it the same for the past few years. We still expect their rates to rise.

VICE PRESIDENT (Joan Springstead): Joan thanked Janice Gross for bringing tonight's desserts. She also thanked Frank Byrne for setting up the room for the meeting.

Joan presented the schedule of 6 ballroom dinner dances which the Club has booked for next year at the Crystal Room:

| | |
|-------------|------------|
| February 15 | 6:30-10:30 |
| April 12 | 6-10 |
| June 14 | 6-10 |
| August 9 | 6-10 |
| October 11 | 6-10 |
| December 6 | 6-10:30 |

Note that the October Dance will be a celebration of the Club's 65th Anniversary. The December Dance will be our annual Holiday Formal Dance. Volunteers are needed to serve as dance hosts for each dance. We need 2 pairs of hosts for each dance except for the Holiday Dance which is hosted by the Board.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

MEMBERSHIP (Jerry Mulnick): Vinny Laraia filled in for Jerry and said that membership has not changed. Also, 32 members attended tonight's meeting and \$160 was collected.

EXAMINERS (Vincent Ferrara and Vincent Laraia): Vinny Ferrara reported that one couple (Richie Mazza's brother) is taking lessons for future membership.

Vinny Laraia mentioned that he, Marilyn, Artie & Joleen attended our year end dinner dance of the Westerleigh Tennis Club. After watching us dance & seeing how much fun we were having on the floor, several couples expressed interest in learning to ballroom dance and joining our Club. While we have often discussed ways to attract new members, people seeing us dance is the best advertisement for the Club.

PUBLICITY: (Tina Murphy) Tina said that all the pictures from the dance were finished. Tina's father recently passed away and she thanked members who reached out to her and thanked the Club for a beautiful card.

SOCIALS (Ann Marie McDonnell): Ann Marie said that there will be a Holiday Open Social Dance on December 18th from 7 to 9:30. Dance lessons will resume on January 15 with Dancing to the Oldies, Part 2. The original lessons were such a big hit and so much fun that it is being continued. These lessons don't stick to just one dance, but cover steps for a variety of dances. The expected cost is \$35 per person based on the number of couples attending. All are encouraged to attend and support the Club. The lessons will continue on January, 22nd, February 5th and February 19th. There will be a Dance Social on January 29th and a Club Meeting on February 12th.

St. Anthony Parish is collecting canned goods for a pantry for the needy. You may bring canned food donations to the social.

WEBSITE (Gary Burkhardt): Gary did not have anything new to report.

DANCE DJ's (Neil Seff): Neil did not attend.

DANCE HOST ADVISOR (Ana Cosentino): Ana said she will have updated material for the next dance.

OTHER BUSINESS

Upcoming Dances

February 15th at the Crystal Room. 6:30 - 10:30

Hosts: Volunteers needed.

Other Issues Discussed

Mona Valore thanked the gentlemen in the Club who danced with the single women at the dance. She also asked if we can include line dances as part of our lessons. Ann Marie offered to discuss it with Jeff. It was mentioned that when line dances were included at Club dances, they were limited to no more

than 2 dances per evening. Vinny Verde suggested that widows who lost their partners and remain in the Club should be allowed to bring partners to dance lessons.

Mike Marinaccio congratulated and thanked Pattiann for serving as our President for 2 years and she received a well-deserved round of applause by all in attendance.

The meeting ended with a moment of silence and the meeting was adjourned at 8:20pm.

SIBD Board

*President
Pattiann Ferrara*

*Vice President
Joan Springstead*

*Treasurer
Mike Marinaccio*

*Recording Secretary
Marilyn Laraia*

*Correspondence Secretary
Maryann Mazza*