

FOLKLORE SOCIETY OF GREATER WASHINGTON

Minutes of meeting of Executive Board held Tuesday, 10 November, 1964, at the home of George Simpson

1. Meeting was called to order by President John Dildine at about 8:50 p.m. All members of the Board were present; also Ed and Ann Morris.

2. Report of Membership Committee (Jim Lee): The last membership meeting-program added 3 individual and 3 family memberships. Because the membership records of the Washington Folk Music Guild have not been sorted out, a total of memberships is not available at present.

3. Report of Treasurer: As of the end of the last membership meeting some \$38.00 in single admissions (at \$1.00 each) had been collected.

Total income to date:

Membership dues	\$ 155.00
Miscellaneous income	1.00
Door receipts, 8 November	<u>38.00</u>
TOTAL	\$ 194.00

Disbursements:

Hall rental, 8 November	\$ 25.00
Stamps & supplies	<u>15.00</u>
TOTAL	\$ 40.00
Petty cash	\$ 30.00
On deposit in checking account	<u>124.00</u>
	\$ 154.00
	<u>\$194.00</u>

John Dildine added that a check in the amount of \$232.00, minus the expenses of mailing a notice to the members of the Washington Folk Music Guild, would be sent by Jack Weaver to Sol Schneyer in the next week.

4. Report of Publicity Committee: Currently there are about 500 names on our combined mailing lists.

There was some discussion concerning the mechanics of mailing, keeping lists, etc. George Simpson has data concerning the requirements of the post office department for various classes and costs of mailings. We are currently using the 4-cent rate because the requirements are not stringent. Second class (bulk) mailing, at 2 1/2 cents per piece, requires a permit and a substantial deposit (about \$30.00) with the post office. Given non-profit status we can obtain a much lower rate.

Several suggestions were made:

- a. To code the mailing lists as to type of membership, expiration date, etc.
- b. To explore alternative methods of addressing -- Thermofax, Addressograph, etc.
- c. To explore possibilities in extent and content of the newsletter, bearing costs in mind. Joe Hickerson will provide some samples of other folklore groups' newsletters; Lani Herrmann will find out about alternative costs of printing.

The cost of renting a post-office box is \$3.50 - ~~\$6.00~~ ^{per month.} The Board agreed to use the Lees' new home address for the Society's mailing

address; 105 Hibbard Street, Oakton, Virginia.

5. It was moved by Lani Herrmann that the Society pay a suitable honorarium to Jos. Bossom and the Perdues for their service in providing a last-minute substitute program for the November 8 meeting; motion was seconded. After a long discussion involving the questions of (1) setting a precedent for future occasions and (2) the financial wisdom of such a step, especially considering the current state of the treasury, the motion was defeated: 3 against, 2 for, 3 abstentions.

6. Carol Lee moved that the Secretary routinely and regularly write a letter of thanks to participants in Society programs and functions. The motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.

7. John Dildine proposed that the Secretary write to the Newport Folk Foundation to ask their policy and procedure concerning grants of money, specifically to help the Society arrange programs involving extraordinary expenses--e.g., bringing Frank Proffitt to Washington. There was no objection.

8. Jim Lee mentioned that he has some proposals to make concerning a membership and publicity campaign. Discussion was postponed to another meeting because of the press of time.

9. A suggestion was made that the business meeting be announced and set for a specific time before the program of the monthly meetings and that notice of the two different times be given in the newsletter and publicity. No objection was made; it was suggested that 15 minutes before the program is ordinarily sufficient for business, except in the case of elections.

10. Report of Program Chairman: In re the December (next) meeting, Pete Seeger replied to our inquiry that his movies have not yet been edited and will probably not be ready in time. Joe Hickerson has tentatively arranged for a program on the Appalachian dulcimer, to be given by John Putnam and Howard Mitchell, on Saturday evening, 19 December (or Sunday, 20 December if necessary); no performer's fees are expected. The plans were approved by voice vote.

John Dildine suggested trying to obtain use of the new Hawthorne School auditorium (Board approves) and asked if the Board would approve his negotiating for our regular use of that hall if it is available (counter-suggestion was made that we wait to see the place first).

The report was interrupted to set time and place for the next Board meeting: Thursday, 3 December, 8:30 p.m., at Joe Hickerson's or Lani Herrmann's. Carol and Jim Lee departed.

11. Joe Hickerson (continuing his report) has made inquiries to several agents (Harold Leventhal, Manuel Greenhill, Ralph Rinzler) in re programs, and he has some data on film programs also. He asked what sums might be planned for and possibly committed in advance for the balance of the year's programs. Sol Schneyer replied that, considering the amount we have in the bank (\$124.00) plus what we expect from WFMG (about \$232.00), we have something over \$50.00 to commit for each of the six remaining program meetings of the current year, if we plan no carryover to next year's treasury. With mailing expenses about \$15.00 per program and hall rental still undetermined, and even assuming there is a substantial number of single admissions for each program, we have very little cash to commit to fees.

Joe Hickerson continued by suggesting possible programs for the

remaining 5 meetings: a film program; square dance program; Frank Proffitt (provided we can manage to finance his trip); Elizabeth Cotton; and a program on Negro blues and spirituals featuring a number of local performers and musicians (Ed Morris may help arrange). There was some discussion, but no decisions were made.

12. It was moved by Lani Herrmann that George Simpson be empowered to arrange an informal sing ("moot") sponsored by the Society for 8 January 1965 or that weekend. After discussion of the aims and mechanics of such an enterprise, the motion was seconded and passed. The arrangements were left to George Simpson, subject to the Board's approval. A suggestion that the event be held at the Ontario Place if possible was defeated.

13. The meeting was adjourned at about 1 a.m.

Lani Herrmann
Secretary