

Minutes of the meeting of the Executive Board, held April 6, 1966, at the N.L. of I. S. A., 1200 - 17th St. NW, Washington, D.C.

1. The meeting was called to order at about the usual time. Ed Morris and George Simpson were absent.

2. The minutes were read and approved.

3. Reports

a. Treasurer's

Information on and from the Buffy Ste. Marie concert was reported (over \$3800 in ticket sales which is not S.R.O.). The amount of profit to the Society was not known. Mr. Harding Williams, at the concert, had suggested a May 14 "thing" at Lisner, but this sort of commitment would conflict with the D.C. Rec. Dept. "Folk Festival of All Nations". No follow-up is expected.

The Post discount ad rate went into effect as of March 1. Therefore the ads for the Clancy Brothers concert were charged according to the old rate.

b. Archivist's

The tape recording of the Pham Duy concert on April 3 was made by the Voice of America people. They will give the Society a full-track, 7 1/2 i.p.s. copy of the tape.

c. Membership

The expiration and renewal notices have been sent to the 56 appropriate member-households.

d. Programs

A written report of the 3-23-66 meeting was submitted for the record (see addendum). The meeting had attending a majority of the Board and no-one new.

e. Publications

Progress is being made on the stationery and the brochure. A last-minute change suggested in the brochure was to eliminate the list of officers in favor of a telephone number which brochure-readers could call for further information.

f. Special Events

Upon George Simpson's recommendation, and in formal language, the Board resolved to present Mr. Pham Duy with a token of its and the Society's appreciation for his appearance on April 3. This resolution was unanimous.

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3. Reports (continued with an informal report, item 3g)  
g. Woodie Guthrie...

was honored the week past by the Department of the Interior--this according to authoritative sources.

4. Discussion of the Open Sings:

The recent comments to Chuck Perdue were that they should be upgraded or the admission charge (\$1.00 to non-members and \$.50 to students) should be cut. With a Smithsonian-type free hall, no charge at all would be needed. At present, they pay for themselves and that's it with the recent exception of March 26 which grossed the most money (\$34) of any of the sings. Alternate places to hold them were suggested - the parks, someone's home. As to location, some central place is indicated but we either need more informality and no charge or more "quality" and charge. It was deemed inadvisable to make any new policy effective now, but something can be slated for next fall. Some urged that the price-levels remain as at present so that the sings can continue to be self-supporting. The charge: it was moved that the price be LOWERED TO A FLAT \$.50. Motion DEFEATED, 4-3. It was stated that the next sing will try to achieve informality-to-the-n th-degree. It was agreed that the sings are in no way concerts. And yet the feeling of formality, and audience-performer structure, seems to pervade all the sings and seems to be due to the way people come in and just sit. Party-giving doesn't look like an answer for beside the imposition of shoe-horning an open, public sing into someone's home, there would be an expectation of refreshments - all in all a positive drain on whoever. The formality-informality question was left at about this point.

Other things about sings: The topics should not limit participation and if interpreted loosely (as in the past) probably help rather than prevent participation. A guide-line: THE SINGS ARE TO END AT 11:00. They would do well to start on time (programs too!) or no more than 10 minutes late. The no-smoking rule doesn't seem to be a major problem, although infractions can cause friction with the church. Back to expenses: maybe the expenses for the hall could be cut to the janitor's fee (but see minutes of 11-3-65, item 8, an implied quid pro quo).

5. There will be a committee examining the by-laws with a revisionary eye, this examination to occur over the summer.

6. It was suggested that the questionnaire (minutes of 1-5-66, addenda thereto) be handed out at the May 13th program-and-so-forth-

7. An idea. Next year, the narrative, "California to the New York Island", should be put on.

Meeting adjourned at 10:20 p.m.

*June Silverman*  
Secretary