

FOLKLORE SOCIETY OF GREATER WASHINGTON

Executive Board Meeting - Mike Rivers' house - Minutes, 30 June 1969

Present: John Dildine, Mike Rivers, Frank Daspit, Gene Anderson, Joe Hickerson, Gus Meade, Kathy Goldman, Bob Clayton, Michael Cooney

President John Dildine called the meeting to order at 8:15 p.m. This was the July meeting of the new Board, held on 30 June because of the opening of the Smithsonian Folklife Festival on the first Tuesday of July (1 July).

Minutes of the June meeting were read and corrected: Society performer tapes might be available for use by Educational TV, rather than for sale to same.

Members of the Board were given copies of list (copy attached) of addresses and phone numbers of incoming Board, and of the list of duties of officers at monthly program meetings (copy attached to minutes of June 3rd meeting). A copy of each list will be sent to Mrs. Jacqueline Pineau at the Ethical Society for information. If and as duplication facilities are readily available, the secretary will mail out copies of the previous meeting's minutes, as well as the upcoming agenda; along with announcement of each approaching Board meeting.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Frank Daspit

Frank distributed copies of the Treasurer's Report for Operating Year 1968-1969. (copy attached). This operating year has been called Fiscal 1969 up to now, but it is actually Fiscal 1968.

Net worth (cash available for spending as of 1 June 1969: \$814.30; net worth as of 1 July 1969: \$666.36. In July we spent more than we took in. In addition, there is some \$400.00 left in the Get-Away account, which brings the total net worth to over \$1,000.00. Frank commended especially the Membership and the Special Events chairmen for the Society's financial health. We are almost on the break-even point, having made the equivalent of the Stanley-Williams money over the budget.

The Newsletter ran over the budget estimate. There are probably more bills still to come in for the Supplement just issued. Newsletter is collecting expenses in all areas -- printing and handling, supplies, postage due; possibly due to extra length from book reviews. John Dildine suggested an analysis splitting off expenses from journal costs to see what goes to what.

The Budget Committee will need all bills by its meeting, scheduled for 22 July, in order to estimate the budget for the coming year. Batt Bates' current bill has not yet been received. Stanley-William has still not been heard from and if their silence continues they should be contacted next week or before budget.

meeting; a letter to them is pending regarding money they owe the Society for concerts of the 1968-69 season.

Barry O'Neill took only \$50.00 instead of \$75.00 allotted in payment for the program he presented in June. John Dildine suggested sending him the other \$25.00 as a gift. No motion to that effect.

Income tax return: We must report all activities of the Society. The Board discussed the content of this report. John said it will consist mainly of publications and program.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT: Joe Hickerson

Membership is down. Current figures: 119 Family, 160 Individual, total 279 members. There was a low percentage of renewals in February-March, 1969.

PROGRAM: Gus Meade

Continuation of discussion from June 3rd meeting re amount of money available for programs. Last year \$750.00 was budgeted for 10 programs, and \$35.00 per program was budgeted for hall rental. (Program = regular monthly meeting.) Frank Daspit reported that hall rental at the Ethical Society was actually \$40.00 per program even though only \$35.00 was budgeted. Total budgeted for programs was \$1,100.00 (see Treasurer's Report).

Gus wants the budget settled before he makes final suggestions for programs. Tentative possibilities include J.E. Mainer; the Blue Sky Boys (who are not now active as a group and would have to be gotten together from separate places); Friends of Old Time Music from N.Y., if it could be revived -- talk to John Cohen or Mike Seeger about this possibility.

Assuming there is \$750.00 or so available exclusive of hall rental, what percentage has normally been used for a regular program without having to get someone from outside the area or a big-name performer? A discussion ensued concerning local groups or Society members performing for monthly meetings, and the issue was clarified. Gus asked how many programs we could use members for, in order to save money. John mentioned that the By-Laws state that members cannot receive money for programs -- especially founding members; the tax forms are very particular about founding members who get money. Furthermore, the Society has operated from the beginning on the assumption that the regular monthly programs are not to be a forum for members' performing but rather are intended to provide an opportunity for members-as-audience to hear and meet with other performers from elsewhere or to provide an opportunity for non-member local performing groups. The Sampler Concerts and Special Events provide for public performance by Society members, and the Open Sings and Sacred Harp Sings cover more informally organized musical get-togethers for them as wants. All these provisions are to keep the Society from becoming too ingrown -- members who want to perform for each other can do so in each other's living rooms or in places around town such as coffee houses. (But mostly in living rooms since there are no other good places around town -- a continuing deplorable situation.)

In general, we have tried to save program money in the area of travelling expenses, coordinating our programs, for example, with those of the Philadelphia Folklore Society, whose program meetings are on the second Sunday of the month. Ours are on the second Friday of the month. On some months this works out so that we can use the same performers, when the days fall right.

John interjected that we don't have to use the same amount of money for each program, but that there might be some difficulty in convincing the Board to allocate varied amounts for different programs.

OLD BUSINESS

Any Board member who wants envelopes should call Joe before the Board meeting and he will bring them to the meeting.

The next Sacred Harp Sing will be at the Pick-Nik, July 19.

The Budget Committee Meeting will be July 22 at Gene Anderson's house; Gene will mail out directions before the meeting.

The next Executive Board meeting will be August 5 at Mike Rivers' house again. Agenda will include ratification of budget concocted by the Budget Committee, and could also include scheduling of programs for the coming year.

The question was raised in regard to meetings of how many constitute a quorum. Joe: ~~Seven~~^{six}, being a simple majority of the maximum possible (maximum possible is 13 people, including Past President and Past Treasurer); for approval of amounts of money over \$100.00, a quorum is ~~nine~~^{eight}.

per JH
Correction
attached

Copies of the By-Laws are available from Roni Bowie. Kathy Goldman suggested that every Board member have a copy.

Get-Away: Bob Clayton has received a letter from the National Park Service, with a permit for Cabin Camp 4 at Prince William Forest, 19-22 September 1969. No pets, no liquor, no defacing of property by any method, manner, means, way, shape, form, etc., etc., etc.

There was neither a P.A. setup nor taping for our archive at the last program (Barry O'Neill), a pity. It was suggested that we have an alternate setup for P.A. and recording if the regular setup isn't set up or set-uppable. There was also a hassle with the key -- the man at the Ethical Society in charge of the key was instructed not to open for anyone. Michael Cooney initiated discussion on past and possible meeting places: Is there an alternative besides the Ethical Society? Objections in addition to P.A. system and locked doors include the auditorium's austerity, which is a dampener (cf. Pierce Hall, used before the Ethical Society and also undesirable; we were actually losing attendance there). Michael Cooney suggested a place smaller than the Ethical Society, but not everyone agreed. Various possibilities were suggested for consideration, including: Kennedy Center when completed and functioning; churches in Georgetown; public

and private schools in D.C., Arlington, Alexandria, Fairfax (Question: What is the geographical center of the FSGW membership?); Government buildings; University of Maryland; Smithsonian. Use of D.C. public school or U.S. Government auditoriums means we can't charge admission. We have used the Washington Gaslight Co. auditorium upon occasion for free programs, but there's a quota of something like only once every six months or so. Gus thought he might be able to arrange for use of the National Archive auditorium, but thinks it closes at 10:00. The Smithsonian seems well worth looking into -- sometimes it's considered as part of the Government and sometimes not, and perhaps we could use it and still charge admission; what would be the expense of special arrangements for after-hours guards, if such had to be made? Michael Cooney designated himself to investigate possibilities; anyone else who wants to do likewise will find his suggestions welcome. /N.B. Can we make an announcement at a program meeting asking for suggestions?/


NEW BUSINESS

^{FSGW}
~~Joe~~ has received a brochure for Pennsylvania Dutch Days festival this summer, if anyone is interested.

Gene Anderson requested the Board's permission to order 25 Sacred Harp books for sale to members at cost; \$2.50 each for 25 or more. Total cost: \$62.50. Joe so moved; seconded, passed unanimously. Gene will also investigate bulk rates for the Christian Harmony, and also the New Harmonia Sacra, the latter published by Joseph Funk.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:40 p.m.

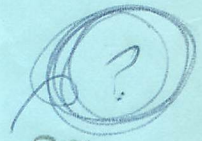
Respectfully submitted,


Kathy Goldman
Secretary

P. 2 Membership Report

membership is down slightly.

Program



TP 1 line 2 9 programs \$38.89

TP 2 line 4 FOTM is not a possible program; rather it is an organization for possible coordinate dates

TP 3 line 2 ? "regular program" performers have generally been from out of town.

line 7 wrong! Article X, Section F: "No member or Officer of the Society shall be entitled to receive any compensation for any goods or services supplied to the Society except on the express approval of the Board"

line 13 delete "and Special Events"

P. 3 Old Business

TP 5 line 2 Not Seven, but SIX; delete

~ parens;

line 4 Not nine, but eight.

P. 4 line 5 { "free" means the hall doesn't cost anything, not that we can't charge admission.



New Business

line 1 "FSGW," not "Joe"