

FOLKLORE SOCIETY OF GREATER WASHINGTON

With corrections 4 Nov. 69

Executive Board Meeting - 7 October 1969 - Rm. 710, Dupont Circle Bldg.

Present: Frank Daspit, Joe Hickerson, Frank Goodwyn, Bob Clayton, Roni Bowie, Kathy Goldman, Helen Schneyer, Reid Martin

The meeting was brought to order at 8:05 p.m. by Past Treasurer Frank Daspit, who presided in the absence of President John Dildine and Vice President Mike Rivers.

Minutes of the meeting of 2 September 1969 were read, discussed, and tentatively approved, subject to their appearance in written form. The Secretary reported and distributed corrections to the minutes of the meeting of 30 June (copy attached to minutes of that meeting).

TREASURER'S REPORT

No Treasurer's report, due to absence of Treasurer.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT: Joe Hickerson

Our total membership is now 301; exact figures on Individual and Family memberships are not at hand. Our previous high was in May, 1969.

129

172

GETAWAY REPORT

Overall: We made money and learned a lot. There will be a Post-mortem Getaway Meeting at Andy Wallace's house on Sat., 11 October, to discuss specifics of this year's Getaway with implications for next year's, and to use up leftover food -- 6:00 p.m. on. Two specifics to be relayed to that meeting: Joe Hickerson suggests a sliding scale on the charge for children; Kathy Goldman reported a request from Lani Herrmann to make sure John Jackson gets paid for the wood he brought to the Getaway.

There is still the matter of two bounced checks from last year's Getaway. Whose were they?

PROGRAM REPORT

The Washington Ethical Society notified the FSGW that their hall rental, including sound system, would be raised this year from \$40.00 to \$70.00 per month, so we will no longer hold our monthly program meetings in their auditorium. We have been able (thanks especially to Ralph Rinzler) to get the use of the auditorium in the Smithsonian Museum of History and Technology, which holds 200-250 people. This will cost us approximately \$35.00 per use plus a janitorial fee of about \$20.00. We will supply our own public address system to avoid an additional fee

25⁰⁰

7

+ grand fees.
@ 500/hr.

for electrician; a motion carried unanimously that the Society use John Dildine's equipment at the rate of \$10.00 per use whenever public address facilities are needed.

Oct.
The programs at the Smithsonian will start at 7:45 instead of the previous starting time of 8:00, and will end at approximately 10:45 (p.m.).

Regular program times: 8³⁰ - 11⁰⁰

Bob Silverman will be unable to tape our November and December programs, being out of town during those months. There is some question about the months after December. Someone else (perhaps Mike Rivers) will handle the taping while Bob is away.

PUBLICATIONS REPORT: Frank Goodwyn

An error originally in the October Newsletter, listing the date of the October Open Sing as 20 Oct., has been corrected: the Sing is Sat., 25 October, and is now newsed as such.

Frank Goodwyn wondered how much Batt Bates bills us for mailing of the Newsletter and the Supplement. There is a total of about 1500 on the mailing list for the Newsletter alone. Gene Anderson has the files and a price comparison list; Frank and Gene should coordinate.

The Publications Chairman occasionally receives questions from libraries about our subscription rate: It is \$5.00 annually, the same as membership, and includes the Newsletter.

Indiv.

We do a "Return Requested" Newsletter mailing about three times a year (also on publicity mailings). This costs us 10¢ per copy but is worth it for weeding out addressees no longer at their listed addresses.

Frank G. had several proposals concerning the Supplement. He would like to make it into a journal rather than a supplement to the Newsletter, and to date it by season rather than by month: namely, Winter, Spring, and Summer, corresponding roughly to issuance in October, February, and June. After discussion, it was decided to begin as a journal with this October's publication as the Winter issue, Vol. 1, No. 1. Frank suggested the name, "Folklore, Folk Life, and Folk Literature" as the title, with a subtitle, "Journal of the Folklore Society of Greater Washington." Bob Clayton took exception to the title proposed, while commending the idea of a title, and suggested that we use the proposed title as a tentative one for the first issue, in which we then run a contest to name the journal. Change of cover color per issue or per year was discussed; the color choice will be left to the Publications Chairman, with the stipulation to change it per year, all numbers of the same volume being the same color.

Frank G. read some comparative figures for printing costs and format changes. We have been using offset printing done by the University of Maryland Printing Dept., which saves us money but requires us to use their format and binding (i.e., staples). Six hundred copies of 30 pages each cost us \$120.00 as done by the Univ. of Maryland, and would cost us \$335.90 if done by Batt Bates with a format of our choice -- a difference of \$215.90.

Frank requested guidelines for expenses in changing the format -- \$30.00 more per issue than is now being spent (up to \$150.00) would make the format more impressive and easier to support in a bookshelf. It was decided that a change in format would not justify additional expense beyond that -- we can better spend the money on performers, who are underpaid anyway.

Can we get publications income from advertising? Frank G. will look into the matter. The Secretary was instructed to check in the 1968-69 minutes for information on exchange advertising, classified advertising, rates, and persons interested in being Advertising Chairman. We could possibly get ads from record companies, for example.

It was decided to charge 75¢ per copy as a non-member price for individual copies of the journal, and 50¢ per copy for back issues. The price will be printed on the front of the journal. Six hundred ~~over~~ ~~the membership-exchange list~~ is probably an over-estimate of the demand for single copies of the journal. The conclusion of a brief discussion was to print a 600-copy ~~excess~~ of the Winter, 1969, issue, and to judge from the sale of these how many extra we should print on subsequent issues. Six hundred ~~extra~~ will cost us \$120.00, or 20¢ per copy, plus postage. We will also negotiate with bookstores, to see if it is feasible to sell it that way, depending upon how much we would have to give the bookseller.

beyond the membership-exchange list.

SPECIAL EVENTS REPORT: Bob Clayton

There are no developments yet on a Leadbelly memorial concert for the anniversary of his death on December 6th, as suggested at the September meeting.

The first Sampler Concert is tentatively scheduled for the week in November between our regular program and the Open Sing [i.e., the weekend of 21-23 November]; can we get the Smithsonian auditorium for this?

Bob is in charge of the Open Sings this year. The October and December Open Sings will be at Union Methodist Church. The November Sing will probably be at Bob's house, to be announced in the Newsletter. Bob would like to center the Sings around themes. He may invite some people from the Crack of Dawn coffeehouse in Baltimore to some of them. Open Sings held in the Union Methodist Church suffer from an excess of direct lighting. It would be nice if we could hold them in a rotation of people's homes, or somewhere else large enough but informal enough, with indirect lighting and comfortable chairs.

Possibilities for a Christmas Special Event is a Mummer's Play. Bob was advised to consult Jack and Frances Wright of Accokeek, Md., who have had experience in putting on Mummer's plays.

PUBLICITY REPORT: Roni Bowie

There will be a meeting of anyone interested in working on publicity at Roni's house on Wed., 15 October, at 8:00 p.m. This should be announced at the October program meeting.

Helen Schneyer suggested that we ask when taking gate charges at program meetings where people heard about the meeting in question -- whether newspapers, radio, word of mouth, etc. This will be done at the forthcoming meeting at both the admission and the membership tables.

The Washington Post used to mention our programs in their weekly Calendar of Events, but they haven't been doing this recently. Reid Martin will call both the Post and the Star about the Barn Dance (October) program. Publicity should be sent regularly to the area newspapers and the radio stations for cultural announcement. Roni will call the Post and the Star to see what their deadlines are for getting publicity in. We should also keep a running check on all the little newspapers around the Washington area re their policies on publicity announcements.

Joe Hickerson would like from Roni about 50 flyers over the number mailed each time.

OLD BUSINESS

Helen Schneyer raised the fact that the National Folk Festival Association has never paid us \$100.00 owed to performers we brought to the Dept. of Agriculture two years ago -- consequently we have not paid the performers, who really need the money. What should we do about this? We were originally given the money, and we gave it back so the NFFA could keep their books straight, and we never received it again. Someone should try to contact Sarah Gertrude Knott on paper (it's been tried unsuccessfully by phone) to discuss this -- John Dildine was suggested as the appropriate person to do it; he should call Helen for details when he returns to town. Frank Daspit suggested that we consider paying the performers ourselves even if NFFA doesn't come through. The issue should be considered again at our November meeting.

MISCELLANEOUS

Various handbills and announcements received by the Society were passed around.

Frank Goodwyn will put Gus Meade's and Roni Bowie's phone numbers in the November Newsletter to inform people who are interested in helping with program planning or publicity.

Reid Martin reported that there is a music coordinator at Colonial Williamsburg who is interested in programs of old-time music. Williamsburg has some old instruments, which it is interested in having demonstrated occasionally.

The Secretary apologized to the Past Treasurer for having left his name off the list of Executive Board members for 1969-1970, and will rectify the error on a revised list.

The Board authorized purchase of stationery and two boxes of envelopes.

The meeting was adjourned by a motion carried unanimously at 10:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Goldman
Secretary