

FOLKLORE SOCIETY OF GREATER WASHINGTON

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Minutes of the Meeting, 4 November 1969, Room 710 Dupont Circle Bldg.

Present: John Dildine, Roni Bowie, Bob Clayton, Kathy Goldman, Frank Daspit, Gene Anderson, Gus Meade, Frank Goodwyn, Joe Hickerson, Helen Schneyer, Reed Martin, Michael Cooney, Dale Cooney, Rich Kirby, Mike Rivers

Meeting was called to order by President John Dildine at 8:15 p.m.

Minutes of October 7th meeting read and approved as corrected.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: John Dildine

John will get in touch with Sarah Gertrude Knott of the National Folk Festival Association re <sup>informally</sup> payment to performers in U.S. Dept. of Agriculture program (see Minutes, October 7th meeting). This should not be a FSGW matter but rather a payment directly to the performers by NFFA.

PUBLICITY REPORT: Roni Bowie

Nobody came to the Publicity Committee meeting scheduled for 15 October, due to the Moratorium on the same evening.

Detailed report of publicity mailings and notifications is attached. The list of those receiving publicity is continuously being verified by direct contact and kept up to date.

SPECIAL EVENTS: Bob Clayton

Bob was unable to find a place for the planned Fall Sampler Concert -- the Smithsonian is booked through December for film programs. We could try the Ethical Society again -- their terms for using their auditorium are \$50.00 for "co-sponsorship of activities". Does "co-sponsorship" involve letting Ethical Society members into the programs for the same price (or lack of price) as is charged FSGW members? (E.g., the Sampler admission to members is \$1.00.) Gus Meade has the name of a woman who is a member of both FSGW and the Ethical Society who said to get in touch with her if we need to use their auditorium again. Pierce Hall was also suggested again -- it's been rebuilt but is in a very bad neighborhood and parking is not plentiful nearby. The Smithsonian is in a good central location and there's prestige in having our programs there, but it's not a cozy auditorium. Bob and Gus will get together and see if the Ethical Society is feasible for this particular Sampler.

Nancy D. Goland (Mrs. Paul Goland) - 332-0232

TREASURER'S REPORT: No report

1 Frank Daspit would like help in drafting a statement required on income tax form, reporting how each business activity contributes importantly to

our tax-exempt purpose. We have to explain where all our income comes from. Roni and Bob volunteered to help Frank write the draft. Our By-Laws contain our purpose, and our business activities all relate to our purpose, which is educational and literary, to help preserve the folklore of America in song and story, etc. Call Past President Sol Schneyer if necessary for help with additional details of statement.

PUBLICATIONS REPORT: Frank Goodwyn

The November Newsletter was printed only on one side, whereby \$9.50 was saved. The eagle was eliminated on the letterhead and announcements of outside events were left out to avoid having to go over onto the other side of the page. The Board's general opinion is that we should include outside events of interest to the membership -- it's worth \$9.50 a month. FSGW events will be listed on the front, and other announcements on the reverse.

The Clancy Brothers' Lisner concert was one of the events left out of the November Newsletter -- this is one of our cooperative sponsorship events with Stanley Williams, involving a membership discount. The Board authorized the mailing of a special flyer to the membership list, if it would be received in time to allow for the discount -- consult Susan Powers Kanelly at Stanley Williams about the deadline for the discount and also to see if she has flyers already printed which we could use. Otherwise the mailing will cost about \$30.00 for printing, folding, and sending to membership list at bulk rate. We will also announce the concert at our November 14th program meeting, even though there will be no form to send in for the discount.

Joe Hickerson suggested that the December Newsletter be sent Return Requested. This will be done.

Frank Goodwyn passed out copies of the initial 50 printed of the new FSGW Journal, Vol. I, No. 1, on which he invites comments and criticism. Printing will be better on the next issue. This issue turned out longer than projected -- 40 pages instead of 30. At \$3.50 per page for the initial 600 copies, this issue will cost slightly over \$140.00 for printing. Should we set an upper limit for number of pages? Let's see how many of this issue we sell before setting a maximum. Frank raised a question on copyrighting. It is generally against our principles; the Journal should not be copyrighted unless some particular author wants his material copyrighted, in which case that entire issue or simply the article itself can be copyrighted.

Be sure the name FOLKLORE SOCIETY OF GREATER WASHINGTON is given correctly -- we are not the Greater Washington Folklore Society, as erroneously ordered on the initial 50 copies of this issue of the Journal. It can and will be corrected on the remaining 550 copies. Roni volunteered to design a cover for the Journal. Mike Rivers wondered whatever happened to the proposed modification of the format to a long sheet folded in the middle, like Bluegrass Unlimited; was reminded that it was considered and rejected when the Board voted for the present format.

PROGRAM REPORT: Gus Meade

Proposed programs so far:

November: Norman Kennedy

December: Film program; two films confirmed to date:

Lightnin Hopkins and Travelling for a Living

January: Liars' Bench, featuring Marshall Dodge

February: The Valley Singers:

J.P. Fraley and wife, Rush, Kentucky

Mr. & Mrs. Parker, Lexington, Kentucky

March: Open

Other suggestions:

Owen McBride would give a concert for expenses only, from Toronto (Cooney)

Gordon Bok would probably also give a concert for expenses only, from Maine (Clayton)

Ola Belle Reed (Hickerson)

Gus asked about the possibility of bringing the Valley Singers (Feb.) from Kentucky -- they will come for expenses only but want to fly because of weather conditions. Flight expense for two families at the family rate would make it about \$300.00, which we would split with the Philadelphia Folk Song Society, so our share would be \$150.00, which is still about \$25.00 over the limit allocated. If the Valley Singers could get a ride to Philadelphia, it would save plane fare on that ~~part~~ <sup>since</sup> of the trip. Mike Rivers suggested that the Folklore Center in New York has Monday night programs; if we can coordinate with them or elsewhere (e.g., Fred Starner or Lani Herrmann in New Jersey), it would help with expenses in bringing performers. Lodging is not a problem -- performers can always stay in people's homes (if it suits the performer; Buell Kazee refused this arrangement, for instance).

For our December film program at the Washington Gaslight Co., there is a coffee machine available for our use. The decision as to whether to have coffee or not, and the arrangements therefor, were left to Gus's discretion. A box for donations was suggested, rather than a flat charge.

MEMBERSHIP: Joe Hickerson

A new high, as of 4 November: Total membership - 319  
Family - 138  
Individual - 181

MISCELLANEOUS - OLD BUSINESS

Helen Schneyer reported briefly on the Getaway post-mortem meeting. Still unsettled is the question of Getaway policy for children inclusion -- how much to include them in adult activities, whether to have them at all, how much to charge, etc. Discussion was postponed until the December Board meeting.

A question was raised regarding our policy o

(MISCELLANEOUS, continued)

A question was raised regarding our policy on selling records at the ticket table at program meetings. Records of the meeting's performer(s) have on past occasions been sold at the meeting, but not at the ticket table. Joe observed, and the Board concurred, that any business not directly connected with admission and membership should be conducted at a separate table. The performer receives the money from such sales ~~so~~ there can be no profit to the FSGW, and if we want to do it when we use the Smithsonian's auditorium, we should check with Smithsonian first on their policy.

MISCELLANEOUS - NEW BUSINESS

Frank Goodwyn proposed starting an open discussion meeting, comparable to the open sings, consisting of papers, featured speakers, and discussions, for the benefit of the intellectual-paper-people interested in folklore, ~~but not in the musical side of folklore.~~ This is certainly a valid and desirable FSGW activity, and we will be glad to mention an open talk program in the Newsletter but can't provide meeting space nor guarantee participants. As always, there is a housing problem; Frank had hoped for the Library of Congress, involving people like George Carey, but the Library isn't a feasible place. Joe suggested that the University of Maryland would be appropriate for people with academic concern; maybe such an open discussion could take place under the joint aegis of the FSGW and the University of Maryland, with the University providing a room. John Dildine suggested that Frank pursue the idea with George Carey and Esther Birdsall at the University.

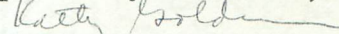
The Board authorized Joe Hickerson, by unanimous vote, to represent the FSGW at the meetings of the American Folklore Society in Atlanta this month and to report on the meetings to the Board.

Mike Cooney proposed a special event as a benefit for Sing Out, which is (still) about \$20,000.00 in debt. Benefits are being planned in various parts of the country. Joe mentioned that the FSGW should not be concerned with benefits, so this is not a Board decision. John Dildine raised the question of what our sponsorship of such a benefit could do to our tax-exempt status. (Unanswered.) ~~Mike will discuss his proposal with Special Events chairman Bob Clayton.~~

Frank Daspit opened a discussion on the mailing list. Since the only justification for the general mailing list is publicity and outreach, we ought to weed out the non-members who never come to meetings but who have been on the mailing list for more than two years or so. After discussing the possible ways to accomplish this weeding, the Board voted to put a notice in the Newsletter for several months, beginning with December, asking everyone who wants to stay on the mailing list to respond in some way by April 1st. Those who have not responded by that date will potentially be stricken from the general mailing list, with the proviso that Board members review the list of names to be dropped before actually dropping any, the mailing list having been carefully built up, much by personal contact, since FSGW's inception.

Meeting adjourned at 10:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Kathy Goldman, Secretary

Publicity - for Nov. 14th program -

- 95 - flyers
- 55 - publicity press releases

These were sent to -

- all Radio Stations, Commercial + College
- Newspapers, Major + local + College
- College Music Dept. + English Dept.
- Area Music Schools
- Music Stores
- Special publications which print notices of Events in D.C.
- Some Church organizations
- Stops + folklore center

There have been approximately 75 verifications made thus far and approx. 35 more to be made - Verification is made by direct contact, either telephone or letter, to determine if the publication or organization in question uses our type of publicity release, if so how often do they publish and when is their deadline

The Wash. Post did not print our Boardance announcement because of their own internal organizational problems. Each major newspaper receives at least 3 copies of the press release.