

FOLKLORE SOCIETY OF GREATER WASHINGTON  
Minutes of Executive Board Meeting  
Thursday, August 4, 1977

Board members present: Mary Cliff, Jessie Cohen, Jonathan Eberhart, Mia Gardiner, Lars Hanslin, Martin Holmer, Debbie Hutton, Linda Lieberman, Dolores Nichols, Dave Olive, Nancy Schatz.

Others present: Rich Galloway, Mark Gilston, Tom McHenry, Don Nichols.

Board members absent: Jeff Deitchman, Bill Destler, Riki Schneyer.

The meeting was called to order at 8:20 by President Jonathan Eberhart. Several spelling corrections were made in the minutes, which were then accepted as corrected.

Membership - Dolores Nichols: Mail from the P.O. box has not yet been picked up, so no report on new memberships for July. There were 23 renewals and 10 expirations, making a balance for July of +13, and a total membership of 699.

Treasurer - Linda Lieberman: For July, income was \$226.00 (all from memberships, except \$8 from newsletter subscriptions), expenses were \$16.59. The Society's net worth at this time is about \$5,500. Remaining grant money will be used for 4 programs & 1 special event.

Publicity - Jessie Cohen: No report.

Publications - Mia Gardiner: Previous newsletter editors have not had to use NCTA's typewriter to prepare the newsletter, so we will have to ask NCTA for permission (using it in the evenings probably will be OK), unless another Selectric machine can be found.

Publication date for September newsletter remains Sept. 8, but deadline is moved up to August 15. October newsletter will be out early in the 1st week of that month.

Special Events - Debbie Hutton: Children's Series has been set up pretty much as stated in last month's minutes. The Ethical Society was pleased to co-sponsor, and the Series should bring in some money. Concerts will be on 3rd Saturdays, from January to April; Debbie will talk to Bill about co-ordinating with Baltimore. There will be a flyer for the whole series so that it can be publicized as a unit.

The Sampler Concert on September 24 will feature Lars Hanslin, Reed Martin, Steve & Linda Hickman & Bob Dalsemer, and, hopefully, Ed Trickett, though the latter has not yet arrived in town and is not yet a member of the Society. Possibly Steve & Linda & Bob can conduct a short dance at the end. Admission will be \$3 and \$2.

Several meetings have been held to prepare a grant proposal for next year's Glen Echo Festival. The application deadline has passed, but National Endowment people felt we will have no problems, as the amount we are requesting (\$3040.00) is fairly small. (The Festival will be held even without the grant). We are applying to NEA's "Jazz/Folk/Ethnic" division; we could apply instead (or also) to the "Expansion Arts" division, but Jazz/Folk/Ethnic seems most appropriate. The description on the grant application reads:

The 1978 Washington Folk Festival, co-sponsored by the non-profit Folklore Society of Greater Washington and the National Park Service, is conceived to encourage residents of the area to discover the diverse traditional music in the Washington Metropolitan Area. Besides "interpreters" of many styles, there are many people practicing the traditions in which they grew up, including a diverse foreign representation perhaps unique in the country. The festival will include two days and one evening of concerts, specialized workshops, dances, children's programs and exhibits (traditional crafts). It is the core of the festival's purpose to make its content as accessible as possible, so it will be free to the public. In the same spirit, beyond the specified budget items, all members of the Folklore Society and all other performers will be donating their time and effort; the National Park Service will provide the site and support personnel. At the 1977 Festival (held on June 12), approximately 150 people joined together to make it happen: some from within the FSGW, others (such as Elizabeth Cotton) representing their own American traditions, and about 90 people representing music rooted in 9 foreign countries (as area we hope greatly to expand). About 12,000 people attended the six-hour event. For the expanded 1978 event, we hope primarily to provide additional sound equipment; some food for participants; printed program materials; and honoraria for the sponsoring organizations of some non-FSGW traditional performing groups, where such organizations exist to further their own traditions in the community.

Debbie will try to get FSGW people involved in finding potential Festival performers.

The August Open Sing will be led by Tom, and Debbie will collect the gate. The Ethical Society had no one to run it this month, so we will, and will get the money (this month only). Nancy will co-ordinate Open Sings for the rest of this year.

There will be a Faith Petric house concert at Helen's; the date is still to be set--probably Sept. 17 or 18.

Debbie will make up a questionnaire, to be available in the Fall, to find out specifically what people want from FSGW and what talents and skills they can contribute.

Program - Dave Olive: It is 90% certain that the Oct. program will be Henry & Vernell Townsend of St. Louis (they've agreed, but contract not yet firm). This will be a grant program. Air fare is \$320, fee is \$200, hall is \$75, totaling \$595 (\$95 over budget).

For November, will probably have Louis Boudrault, a French-Canadian fiddler; also a grant program. Air fare is \$125, fee is \$200, hall is \$75, for a total of \$400 (\$100 under budget).

There was a lengthy discussion of possibilities for the December program--Dave wants the Brazilian Samba Band for 1/2 program under the grant, but others feel that while the Samba Band is great, they should not be a grant program. A motion was made and eventually carried that grant money be used mainly for transportation, as originally intended. Several possibilities were mentioned for the December program; we would still like to get the Samba Band, but they will cost \$250, which is a lot for 1/2 program.

Dance - Martin Holmer: The Tuesday night dances during May and June lost about \$100. This is to be expected--attendance always falls off in the Spring.

Bob Dalsemer is moving, so we need a new caller, and there is no one around who can do the job well. A number of alternatives were discussed, and Martin will try to get feedback from those who attend dances regularly. Probably several callers will rotate. A thorny problem: can we pay members to call? An exception to the policy of not paying members for performances was made for Steve & Linda & Bob last year. Should a blanket exception be made for the dances? After a lengthy discussion, a motion was made and carried that for Sept. & Oct., Martin be allowed to proceed as he sees fit with the dances on a break-even basis, paying members if necessary, and come back to the Board with a report.

Getaway - Tom McHenry: We have cooks, and Ames will be food chairman. A meeting about the Getaway will be held August 10 at Tom's house.

Old Business - The Streets for People festival has been changed to Sept. 18.

A letter was received some weeks ago from the Univ. of Maryland Student Union. They are planning a fall festival and request information and help from us. Jonathan will call to find out just what they want.

Question: Does Mary Cliff have the tapes yet? Answer: No.

In regard to donating money to the Ethical Society for light bulbs: we will check the status of lighting in the WES auditorium in the Fall--if still bad, will provide bulbs.

Jonathan wrote to WETA about the folk music cutback. Something should be in the newsletter suggesting members write WETA in protest. Mary will write this for Mia to edit.

New Business - Jessie wants someone to write monthly articles for the Unicorn Times. In return for 500-750 words, they will give us a free ad. Mary will write first article if Jessie will harrass her. Jessie agreed readily.

Debbie is working on the possibility of FSGW T-shirts.

Mia asked for suggestions for a new printer for the newsletter. The printer will have to be able to deliver newsletters to NCTA office because addressograph is here. Several possibilities were mentioned.

The budget was approved by acclamation.

Meeting adjourned at 10:35 p.m.

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