

FOLKLORE SOCIETY OF GREATER WASHINGTON

Minutes of Executive Board Meeting

Thursday, January 5, 1978

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Mary Cliff, Jessie Cohen, Jonathan Eberhart, Lars Hanslin, Martin Holmer, Debbie Hutton, Linda Lieberman, Dolores Nichols, Dave Olive, Nancy Schatz, Riki Schneyer.

OTHERS PRESENT: Rich Galloway, Don Nichols.

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Jeff Deitchman, Bill Destler, Mia Gardiner.

The meeting was called to order at 8:10 by President Jonathan Eberhart. There were two corrections to the minutes: for the December program, the fee was \$325, travel was \$250; the grant money must be used by the end of January (not Feb.) unless we get an extension. The minutes were accepted as corrected.

MEMBERSHIP - Dolores Nichols: The December membership figures are: 30 renewals, 32 new memberships, and 42 expirations, for a net of +20 for the month and a total membership of 734.

PUBLICATIONS: Mia was absent, but reported by phone that an 8-page newsletter costs only \$13 more to print than a 6-page one. She feels this is very little to pay for a lot more space, and wants Board opinion on whether she should feel free to produce an 8-pager when there is sufficient material to fill it. Board says yes.

The deadline for the February newsletter is January 19.

Mia received a fund appeal addressed to FSGW from the Country Dance and Song Society, in which FSGW has a group membership. Do we want to contribute? Martin notes that we are under no obligation to contribute, and, since our own dance program is struggling, perhaps it would be better to appeal to our members to contribute individually. Board agreed.

DANCE - Martin Holmer: The Sunday dances are doing quite well; the schedule of upcoming dances is in the newsletter. The Jan. 29 dance will be for advanced dancers, with no teaching, because of the Mini-Festival dance the 28th.

A callers' workshop is planned for February.

Debbie notes that Glen Echo will be having summer dances this year, and they have asked us if we would like to sponsor some. We would do the work, and give Glen Echo 10% of the gate. They provide the hall, and get pretty good crowds. This would probably be 1-3 times during the summer. Board agrees that we should agree to sponsor 1-3 dances.

PROGRAM - Dave Olive: The January program is Kenny and Marta Hall, and the Long Haul String Band (2 people). There is a possibility of a dance at the end of the concert. Fee is \$300, plus \$600 travel (includes transportation to and from Norfolk, New York, and California--the grant covers this).

The February program is Cilla Fisher and Artie Treise, from Scotland. The fee is \$150.

SPECIAL EVENTS - Debbie Hutton: We never heard from Plank Road String Band, so our planned event with them is out; but we have the Ethical Society reserved for Feb. 18, so we can have a special event with John McCutcheon, I.D. Stamper, and Luke Smathers' Stringband. Won't try to make money on this, just break even. Possibly may have dance at the end of the concert.

The Christmas party was successful except financially. The wassail was great, but some got thrown out by mistake (!) Having people bring goodies worked out well.

Michael Cooney would like to do a concert on April 30. We would guarantee \$200, pay expenses, and split the rest. We would probably make money on this, and we also tend to get a lot of renewals and members at big special events. We can ask Cooney to keep the political talk to a minimum. Board agrees.

Guy Carawan, Phyllis Boyens, and Jack Wright would like to do a concert for us on Wednesday, Feb. 15. We would guarantee them \$100 and pay expenses (abt. \$100), and give them everything over expenses. There was some question as to whether we could get a big enough crowd on a Wednesday night, but Debbie thinks we can. Board agreed to go ahead with this event.

The childrens concert and house concert with Maggi Peirce are all set.

The Mini-Festival is all set, and there is probably no need for another meeting. Adelphi records will take care of record sales and will sell albums for \$5. Mike Holmes will run the Folk Marketplace, and will try to find someone to bring books.

TREASURER - Linda Lieberman: For December:

Income:

Program	\$ 86.00
Publications	19.00
Spec. Events	67.00
Getaway	85.00
Membership	423.00
Grant payment	890.00
	<u>\$1570.00</u>

Expenses:

Program	
phone	\$ 21.36
fee (L.Lamb)	325.00
hall "	75.00
travel "	250.00
travel (K.Hall)	488.00
Publications	357.56
Spec. Events (hall)	75.00
Getaway (refund)	19.00
Membership	
overpayment refund	4.00
supplies	28.08
Phone	16.87
	<u>\$1659.87</u>

Six Month Income & Expense Report:

	<u>INCOME</u>	<u>EXPENSES</u>
Getaway	\$4014.80	\$2312.96
Membership	2101.00	112.68
Program	146.00	1808.36
Special Events	1230.00	727.18
Publications	47.40	1174.38
General:		
Grant	890.00	
Telephone		69.08
Miscellaneous		18.00

PUBLICITY - Jessie Cohen: Two articles have appeared in the Unicorn Times. They need material for ads very early; their deadline is earlier than ours. Even when we don't have ad ready, we should give them info on programs, to list under events.

Jessie wants return-addressed envelopes; the Post Office will not print them.

Dave suggests trying the Childe Harold Concert Line at WHFS--they will list events on the air and on their phone line. Also, Carlos VanLeer has a telephone tape and will publicize.

OLD BUSINESS: Mary has not yet investigated the possibility of broadcasting the Glen Echo Festival, but will do so. Debbie would like to call Channel 22 to see if they are interested in filming. Debbie is setting up committees to work on Glen Echo.

Dave is running the Community Cafe on Thursday nights, and the schedule is set for the 1st 5 weeks. Dave wants to continue beyond that, possibly doing a benefit for the Cafe in March, but will see how the first 5 weeks go. Dave asked permission to use the FSGW sound system at the Cafe on Thursdays. Board agreed.

Mary has the FSGW tape recorder. It records OK, but still has distortion on one channel. The needed part is orderable. Mary will look into a grant for recording equipment.

Our sponsorship of Bags Howard's Buffoon Ball is very complicated; hopefully it is all straightened out now. Anticipated expenses for which there are contracts are: Greenbelt Armory \$275; tables & chairs \$30; Green Grass Cloggers \$250; Plank Road String Band \$200; and Thunder Jug Sniffers \$250. Dave will be taking the gate and will not pay on these contracts or any other expenses until he has cash in hand. Any losses will be absorbed by Bags.

Linda feels that we should make a \$25 contribution to NCTA, instead of buying a group membership, because FSGW members are not considered members of NCTA, even for purposes of helping them, and get no benefits. Board agree to a \$25 donation, and Jonathan will talk to Joe Wilson, explaining our position.

We need to send a letter officially requesting an extension of the time to use the grant money. Nancy will write the letter when Debbie gives her the information.

NEW BUSINESS: Jonathan reports that Harding Williams of Stanley Williams Production has offered us a co-sponsorship of the Seeger/Guthrie concert 2/11. There will be no financial advantage (or liability) to us, but our name will be listed a co-sponsor and we can distribute literature. The Board agreed to this arrangement. Dolores will have 2000 more membership flyers printed, and Linda will prepare a list of upcoming events. In March two of the Clancy Bros. group will be at Lisner, and Stanley-Williams offers us a chance to co-sponsor for a percentage of the take. Board agrees.

Riki notes that FSGW is ~~strictly~~ ^{largely} a white middle-class organization, and feels that we should try to connect with the Black community. Other Board members agree, but point out that we have tried repeatedly to get Blacks interested in FSGW, but get ^{little} response. We should and will still try to reach this segment of society, but don't hold out too much hope. Part of the problem is the nature of our current membership, and part is the traditional music, which ~~doesn't particularly interest Blacks.~~ ^{seems not to attract Black audiences}

Linda notes that our group membership in the Country Dance and Song Society (\$10) is due, and that we do get some benefit from this. Board agreed to renew this membership.

Linda reports that Paul Goland has notified us that the Ethical Society will be raising the fee for hall rental to \$100 as of June 30. She suggests that we look around for alter-

native sites. We appreciate their giving us plenty of advance notice of the change. Some Board members note that many people confuse WES and FSGW, and a change of locale might straighten that out; also the WES is short on things like adequate light and heat. On the other hand, it is on a bus line, people are used to it and know where it is, we have a very good working relationship with the WES organization, and it is usually available when we want it. Keeping all of this in mind, we will investigate other possibilities.

Because Dave is running the Community Cafe Thursdays, and Nancy has a class Thursdays, they request that the Board meeting night be changed. Nancy's telephone survey revealed only one Board member (Jessie) who could not come on Tuesdays. There were at least two who couldn't come on Wednesdays. The Board agreed to hold meetings on the first Tuesday of each month indefinitely.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:12 p.m.