

FOLKLORE SOCIETY OF GREATER WASHINGTON

Executive Board Meeting

Tuesday, February 7, 1978

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Mary Cliff, Jeff Deitchman, Jonathan Eberhart, Mia Gardiner, Martin Holmer, Linda Lieberman, Dolores Nichols, Dave Olive, Nancy Scahtz.

OTHERS PRESENT: Don Nichols.

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Jessie Cohen, Bill Destler, Lars Hanslin, Debbie Hutton, Riki Schneyer.

The meeting was called to order at 8:15 by President Jonathan Eberhart. There were several corrections to the minutes: the fee for the Feb. program was \$150. The man from Stanley-Williams Prod. is Harding Williams. The Board discussed the wording of the paragraph about trying to interest Blacks in FSGW, and decided to say that FSGW is "largely" a White organization, that we get "little" response from Blacks, and that traditional music "seems not to attract Black audiences."

MEMBERSHIP - Dolores Nichols: The January membership figures are: 43 renewals, 29 new members, and 45 expirations, for a net of +27 for the month, and a total membership of 761.

Dave suggests putting code marks on newsletter membership forms indicating where the form was distributed (program, Community Cafe, Open Sing, etc.), so that we have an idea where memberships come from. Let Dolores know what code symbols are.

PUBLICATIONS - Mia Gardiner: Mia would like to know how many extra newsletters Board members need for distribution. We mail out 950, and the printer gives us a few extras, but we will probably need more.

The exchange list is being updated.

Mia gave Linda a breakdown of printing costs.

We would like to move the mailing date up, so that people will receive it early enough to plan for the earliest events. This is especially important in March because of the early deadline for mail orders for the Clancy-Makem concert tickets. Deadline for the March newsletter is Feb. 16 at the latest.

Mia asks that someone notify her by phone if things which should be in the newsletter are mentioned at a Board meeting when she is absent.

Carlos Van Leer wants us to put the phone number of his recorded message, which often mentions FSGW and Community Cafe activities, in our newsletter. Board says no, because our members have access to the FSGW number, which gives them all the information they need. Also, Carlos' tape is not strictly musical, and some Board members do not want FSGW associated with his political messages. Carlos has been taping at FSGW events (Mini-Fest., Open Sing, etc.) and hinting that he plans to include excerpts in his tape message. Jonathan will speak to Carlos and ask him not to include anything he gets at any FSGW event on his tape.

DANCE - Martin Holmer: The four dances in January had excellent attendance (11 squares when Bob Dalsemer called). We are paying musicians & callers from the gate, so there's no deficit--even about \$20 surplus.

There will be a Callers' Workshop on Saturday Mar. 11, run by Jim Morrison, who will also run the weekly dance that evening. There will be a short meeting on Sunday for participants to review the dance. The fee for the workshop is \$10, and we should have good response, but Morrison's fee has not yet been determined, and a slight deficit is possible. Martin asked if FSGW could make up any loss. The Board agreed.

No news yet on dancing at Glen Echo this summer. We have reserved Glen Echo for a dance the last weekend in May. The series should be very good--they have an excellent line-up.

PUBLICITY: Jessie was absent; her report was delivered by Mia. The flyers were printed before the Carawan concert was postponed, so we have to cross out "Feb." 15 & change to "March".

Jessie wants Board permission to buy 500 franked envelopes with our return address for \$71.45, of which \$65 is the cost of postage (i.e., \$6.75 for envelopes & printing). Mary says return addresses on press-release envelopes make no difference. Other Board members feel this may encourage Jessie to send out publicity notices, so would be worth it. Jeff moved that we give Jessie a check for \$71.45 for franked envelopes. Motion was seconded and carried.

Jessie had time to get press releases about February events only to local newspapers. Dave says only one week lead time is necessary for newspapers, and many radio stations need

only 2 days. Mary notes that some stations tape ahead and do need 2 weeks.

We have a 1/2-page ad in the Unicorn Times which hasn't been used because Jessie says she hasn't gotten the information in time for their deadline. Dave has gotten ads in U.T. at the last minute.

We now have a list of the people to send things to at all the area libraries, so Jessie would like extra newsletters. Board suggests using flyers instead.

Deadline for publicity material is February 22; Mary suggests changing this to Feb. 15.

Dave suggested sending publicity to Irish groups, especially for the Mar. program. Mia has names of these organizations.

TREASURER - Linda Lieberman: Figures for ~~February~~ ^{January} are:

<u>Income</u>		<u>Expenses</u>	
Program	\$ 16.00	Program	\$ 300.00
Spec. Events	1270.65	Publicity	65.35
Publications	2.00	Spec. Events	221.08
Getaway	6.00	Publications	117.00
Membership	648.00	Membership	41.00
General: Buffoon Ball	1119.00	General: Telephone	33.56
Donations	275.00	Outside memberships	10.00
	<u>\$3336.65</u>	Buffoon Ball	1355.60
		Misc. postage	3.00
			<u>\$2146.59</u>

NET PROFIT = \$1190.06

SPECIAL EVENTS: Debbie was absent; her report was delivered by Mia. On Mar. 11, we will sponsor a concert at Lisner by Tommy Makem and Liam Clancy. Members get a discount if they order by mail by Mar. 1. Jonathan will ask Harding Williams to move that deadline back to Mar. 4 so members will have time to order after the newsletter comes out.

The Guy Carawan concert has been changed to March 15--this will be widely announced.

Debbie wants to know how many copies of the February calendar flier to have printed to distribute at the Seeger-Guthrie concert. Board agreed on 1000.

The George Ward house concert bombed--only one person showed up, so we paid Ward \$25, even though there had been no guarantee.

The Mini-Festival was a big success. Debbie says thanks to everyone, especially Dolores and Don, Nancy, Jonathan, and Mia.

There will be a concert Feb. 18 with John McCutcheon, I.D. Stamper, and the Luke Smathers String Band. McCutcheon will call for dancing after the concert.

The snowy weather did in the Children's concert; we took in \$45 (fee was \$60 or 2/3 of gate, whichever is more, and we paid \$10 to babysitters), so we lost \$25. Part of the problem was school closing the day before, which prevented the distribution of 400 flyers. These will go out before the next children's concert.

The Maggi Peirce house concert was a big success.

Ed Trickett wants us to have a Harry Tufts house concert in April. Board agreed.

Trickett also wants to know if we would like to have a concert on April 15 with Gordon Bok, Ed Trickett, and Anne Mayo Muir, as they pass through on tour. This would be a package deal will all three. The Board is very enthusiastic. We will have to find a bigger hall for this.

Michael Cooney will do a concert on Sunday, April 30. Debbie tried to schedule this for the 29th, but the hall was not available. Apologies to the dancers.

Debbie has checked with Rob Gordon at the National Endowment for the Arts about why we have not received official notification about our grant for the Glen Echo Festival; he says they have a paperwork backlog, and we should hear soon. There have been several meetings about Glen Echo, and Mia and Jonathan met with Park Service people at Glen Echo. We are trying to get most of the performers lined up by mid-March. We still need a Publicity Chairman--we already have a number of people to work on publicity. Jeff volunteered for this job. The Glen Echo committee would like Board approval to use FSGW letterhead to write letters in order to get union groups to perform free at Glen Echo. Board agreed.

PROGRAM - Dave Olive: For March, we will have David O'Docherty, an Irish flute player who also sings and accompanies himself on the guitar. The program will be about 1/3 flute and 2/3 other material. Fee is \$150, plus \$50 for travel.

Dave would like to get the Highwoods String Band for a program, probably in June; they could also play for a Sunday dance. A traditional jazz group, the Federal Jazz Commission, has

been telling Dave they would like to do a program for us for \$175. Dave is lukewarm about them and feels there are probably better groups around (though we can't pay more than \$200). Board feels he should only sign performers he really likes.

OLD BUSINESS: Mia would like Board permission for Joanne Turner to be official FSGW photographer, so she would feel free to take pictures at events and we would pay expenses. The Board does not like the idea of anyone taking pictures during concerts. She can take pictures before a performance or at intermission, and can ask the performer for permission herself. Also, paying expenses may mean we'd end up paying for a lot of pictures we don't use; it would be better just to buy from her (or anyone else) any individual shots we want.

Mary has not yet ordered the needed part for the tape recorder; will do this. She also has not investigated grant possibilities.

Jonathan has not yet talked to Joe Wilson about our reasons for donating to, rather than joining, NCTA.

Nancy has not yet gotten the information from Debbie to write the letter about the grant extension.

NEW BUSINESS: Jonathan feels that we should choose the people to be in charge of the Getaway sooner than in the past, and, as he has volunteers, he hereby appoints Tom McHenry as 1978 Getaway chairman, and Gail McHenry and Linda Lieberman as Food Co-chairpeople.

Emily Brownold of the National Portrait Gallery is planning a program for the 1st or 3rd weekend in April, involving art by and of women, and wants to know of anyone who does women's music. She is calling Alice Gerrard. Board members suggested several others.

Linda suggests we should have a job description for each Board position, saying what it really involves, in addition to duties outlined in the Bylaws. Each Board member is asked to write up a description for his own position.

Dave reports that the Community Cafe Thursday series is doing very well so far. Future performers may include Helen Schneyer, J.W. McClure, Jonathan, Bruce, and possibly Libba Cotton. The Community Cafe Board is holding elections; Dave and Linda are both running.

Mia asks about the appropriateness of listing Community Cafe's Saturday night lineup. We originally agreed to because they had a lot of folk performers, but lately many are not. The Board feels the newsletter should include only folk performers.

Nancy reminded the Board that it is time to appoint a nominating committee. About 15-20 names were mentioned as possible committee members. Nancy will contact them to ask if they are interested, and give names of those who say yes to Jonathan, who will appoint five.

Mia suggests that FSGW should have an archivist, possibly one of the members-at-large. We need a historical record--a central file of publicity materials, minutes, official papers of all kinds (except for financial records, which must be kept by the Treasurer). At present, our records are scattered in various Board members' homes. The archivist should be a person who is willing to organize the material and has space to store it. Dave moved that we seek through the newsletter a volunteer for FSGW archivist (not a Board position), subject to Board approval. The motion was seconded and approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:05 p.m.