

FOLKLORE SOCIETY OF GREATER WASHINGTON

Executive Board Meeting
Tuesday, March 7, 1978

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

OTHERS PRESENT: Dick Atlee, Rich Galloway, Don Nichols, Mike Rivers.

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

The meeting was called to order at 8:15 by President Jonathan Eberhart. There was one correction to the minutes: the Treasurer's figures were for January. The minutes were then approved as corrected.

MEMBERSHIP- Dolores Nichols: The February membership figures are: 21 renewals, 51 new members and 26 expirations, for a net of +46 for the month, and a total membership of 807.

Dolores, with Blinky's help, has prepared a breakdown of memberships by type, area of residence, and expiration date. It turns out that 65% of our members are individuals, and 30.7 are family memberships. The largest percentage (41%) of members live in Maryland, with 25% in Virginia and 29.4% in D.C. (The remainder are out-of-town members).

We have the new membership cards, which are pink and white, and will start phasing them in. We have gotten quite a few memberships from the literature distributed at the Seeger/Guthrie concert.

PUBLICATIONS - Mia Gardiner: The newsletter came out in plenty of time this month, but it was an awful rush, and we won't be able to do it that early again. The printer could not do a 6-page issue that fast, so we ended up with an 8-pager at the last minute. Also, the printer was so rushed that the newsletters were folded inside out (as a result, there will be no charge for the folding), and 900 newsletters had to be re-folded and taped (special thanks to Don & Dolores, Bob Clayton, Julie Ball, and Keith and Laurie Gardiner for helping with this).

Deadline for the April newsletter is March 20.

The calendar flyer should be done each month. Linda volunteered to do this, and the cost should come out of the Publicity budget.

DANCE: Martin was absent, so there was no dance report.

PUBLICITY: Jessie was absent, but was contacted by phone. The Board questioned the high cost of the David O'Docherty and Guy Carawan flyers, and Jessie explained that 200 of the O'Docherty flyers cost \$25 because of the photo and an extra charge (\$5) for green ink. 200 of the others were \$11. They were fine flyers, but clearly we can't spend this much routinely. There was a discussion of various printers, costs, and timing.

Dave recommends an increase in the publicity budget. We will no longer have a grant to help with expenses, so should try for larger audiences, perhaps with paid newspaper and radio ads. The publicity budget is now \$10/month, and Dave suggests raising it to \$50/mo. No action was taken on this suggestion, though the Board generally seemed to favor it.

All of the month's events got into the Unicorn Times, and Jessie sent out 90 press releases. The children's concert notice will probably be in the Star.

Information deadline for publicity is March 20.

Jessie never got the check that was given to Martin for her last month. People have been unable to contact Martin for a few weeks.

SPECIAL EVENTS: Debbie was absent; her report was submitted by Mia. Last month's children's concert almost broke even. This month will have Jacki Spector, who will also do a house concert. Lorraine Lee will do an Appalachian duclimer workshop at end of April. Michael Cooney is still set for April 30 at the Ethical Soc.

Debbie did not get information to Nancy for request of the grant extension. There should be no problem, but this should be taken care of. Still no official word from Rob Gordon at NEA about the Glen Echo grant.

For the Bok/Trickett/Muir concert, we need to find a large hall--Walter Johnson H.S. was not available after all. Ed has indicated he will waive his fee if necessary if Bok and Muir are guaranteed \$200 each. This would help ease the problem if we have to use the

Ethical Society (which is reserved in case it's needed), but it would be better to find a large hall; and Debbie would like to pay Ed at least \$100, making \$500 total--the Board agrees. (The fee will be paid officially to Bok, who will pay the others). There was a discussion of possible sites, and Debbie and others will investigate. We can still fall back on W.E.S. if necessary, or hold the event on Sun. April 16.

Debbie is considering a Sampler for April or May, possible performers being Luci Murphy, Jonathan, Rock Creek, Double Decker String Band, Steve & Linda Hickman. The Board feels that these people are too familiar, and suggests considering Josh Schneyer and Andy Cooper, among others.

Mia suggests that we hold events in the summer--perhaps a sampler very soon after Glen Echo, and then at least one event each month in the summer. The Board agrees.

PROGRAM - Dave Olive: March program will be David O'Docherty. For April, probably will have Rumi Songos, a So. American Indian group (fee probably \$100), and Sophian Zapf, a zither player (fee prob. \$50). There will probably also be some travel expense. For May, probably will have Sparky Rucker, and for June, Highwoods String Band, though these are not definite.

Dave would like to be reimbursed for the \$40 dinner he bought for Kenny and Marta Hall after their planned transportation to Dulles fell through. Their transportation expenses should have been covered by the Grant extension, and if we're going to lose \$200 anyhow, Dave would like to claim the \$40. This matter was not resolved.

OLD BUSINESS: Jonathan has suggested to Emily Brownold of the Natl. Portrait Gallery that we could do some theme programs there; she has not yet gotten back to him.

Mary has not gotten the tape recorder part; she has talked to someone who is knowledgeable about grants. There are people who have grants for recording.

Joe Wilson of NCTA was in the office and Jonathan asked him about NCTA memberships. He said that NCTA has just decided to abolish memberships as there was too much expense involved and NCTA was losing money. There followed a lengthy discussion with Joe about relations between FSGW and NCTA. Apparently everything should be rosy.

Mike Rivers suggests that Debbie McClatchey would like to do the food for the Getaway (for a fee). He says she has done this before ^{for other groups} is very good and quite reasonable, and will do all the work herself. We already have food people lined up--Linda will talk to Gail about this, they will consult with Debbie and get back to the Board.

NEW BUSINESS: Jeff suggests that as a publicity device, we give 5 pairs of tickets for programs & spec. events to Myron Bretholtz of WGTB (subject to discussion with him) to be given away as prizes for answering questions. Dave moved that we print up 500 tickets for publicity purposes in general. The motion was seconded and carried.

Nancy reminded Board members that they should write descriptions of their jobs, and passed out copies of the articles in the bylaws which outline the duties of Board members.

Dave says the Community Cafe needs more support, and asks Board members to come out, and to talk it up. He is working on better publicity. Community Cafe is going to have an Open Stage the 3rd Friday of each month. Dave would like Board permission to use the FSGW sound system for that, and suggests that the equipment be left at the Cafe from Thursday night until after the Friday night program. Board agreed, on condition that the Community Cafe people assume full responsibility and liability for ~~the~~ its safety.

Nancy suggested that we revive the idea of a membership questionnaire to determine members' preferences and abilities to help, and proposed that such a questionnaire be prepared in time to be mailed out with the ballots in April, as this would save considerable postage and might encourage a greater response. The Board agreed, and Nancy will prepare a draft questionnaire for Board approval in April.

The Nominating Committee consists of Bob Jordan (Chairman), Kathy Westra, Gail McHenry, Dolores Nichols, and Bill Destler. They have formed a slate, but some of the prospective nominees still need to be talked to. The Board discussed the pros and cons of having more than one candidate for each office. The Board feels that since the purpose of the slate is not to impose candidates on the membership, but rather to assure that there are candidates for each office, ~~and~~ we ^{should} downplay the "official" slate and try to get nominees from the floor at the March and April programs before reading the committee's slate.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:50 p.m.