

FOLKLORE SOCIETY OF GREATER WASHINGTON

Executive Board Meeting

Thursday, July 6, 1978

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Jonathan Eberhart, Mia Gardiner, Lars Hanslin, Debbie Hutton, Linda Lieberman, Wally Macnow, Tom McHenry, Don Nichols, David Olive, Nina Perkins, Arlene Rodenbeck, Nancy Schatz.

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: NONE!

OTHERS PRESENT: Jane Cockey, Janice Cole, Dolores Nichols, Mike Rivers.

One correction to the minutes was noted: the caller for the Sept. 16 Glen Echo dance will "probably" be Glen Bannerman--this is not settled yet. The minutes were then accepted as corrected.

MEMBERSHIP - Don Nichols: There was a partial report for June; the figures we have are: 92 new memberships (mostly from Glen Echo), and 23 renewals. We have no figure on expirations, so no totals. The membership records are being put on floppy discs so the computer can process them faster.

PROGRAM - Wally Macnow: The October program will probably be Roy Bookbinder, a blues singer. Wally wants to know if we want a September program; the Board agreed that we should have one. Bob Coltman is a possibility. Wally hopes to find some ethnics while he is in the Blue Ridge this summer. There was a discussion of various possible performers.

PUBLICITY - Dave Olive: Dave has got all the publicity materials from Jessie. The publicity mailing list, organized by deadline, is going to be put on Blinky. Dave would like the same authorization Jessie had to print and distribute complimentary tickets to FSGW events, and the Board agreed. Dave would like FSGW members to write letters to the Post asking for more news coverage of FSGW events.

The Watsons concert did not make any of the newspapers, even though Dave had the material in on time. We did have good radio publicity.

Dave wants to know whether to publicize Open Sings, Gospel Sings, etc. The Board says yes on Open Sings, but not things at people's houses.

The question arose as to whether we should give away memberships for publicity purposes. The Board says no.

SPECIAL EVENTS - Debbie Hutton: The Jean Redpath concert was very good and had a good crowd, but the hall (WES) was too hot. The Sampler was successful; Eleanor did join and Dave Diamond filled in for Ralph Lee Smith, who couldn't make it. The Watsons concert lost about \$20-30; the hall cost \$80 and the sound system \$150 (both somewhat more than had been anticipated). Debbie recommends \$2 and \$4 as admission for this type of event.

Nothing has been done about the picnic, which has usually been held in June, but could be in August or Sept. Janice Cole will work on arranging this event--it has no budget, and should not be too far away from Washington.

A Sampler is a possibility for September. Debbie would like to include Steve & Linda Hickman's dance group.

GETAWAY - Tom McHenry: We have heard from the park and we do have area 4 (our usual area) for the first weekend in October. Tom has drafted letters to the membership and guests, and would like to get planning started soon. There will be a Getaway meeting at Tom's on Tues., July 18.

DANCE - Nina Perkins: Sunday night dances are continuing informally for July and August, with no publicity.

Nina wants to establish a family dance monthly, starting in September or October. This should not conflict with the Sunday night dances. The Board felt that the 4th Saturday of each month would be a good time to aim for. There was a discussion of possible locations. The list of balls suggested in the questionnaires should be given

to Nina. It may be possible to bring musicians and callers in for a weekend; they could do the Sunday night dance and the family dance and perhaps something in Baltimore or other nearby area. No financial arrangement was decided on--this event could be planned either to make money or to break even.

PUBLICATIONS - Mia Gardiner: We are now mailing out almost 1200 newsletters. There was a serious omission in the last newsletter: the National Folk Festival was left off the schedule of events. Mia will get the August newsletter out before the National. the deadline is July 18.

TREASURER - Linda Lieberman: The financial report for the Glen Echo Festival is still incomplete, as there are still outstanding bills. It appears, however, that we are under budget, i.e., within the grant. Linda would like to use excess performer lunch money to pay some of the volunteers, who never got any compensation; all expenses will have to be taken care of first, however. Some leftover supplies, such as cups, can be used for the Getaway (Linda will transfer the money from Glen Echo budget to Getaway). The budget meeting may possibly be held by the end of July.

OLD BUSINESS: Please let Linda know what Getaway equipment you are storing.

Wally notes that since the Ethical Society now costs \$100, it might be a good idea for us to look for other halls. Others report that we have already looked, and there just aren't any cheaper that are large enough (~~about the same size as the Ethical Society~~) and close enough in. We can, however, put some pressure on WES to urge them to fix the air conditioning, heat and lights. Tom moves that we informally contact the Ethical Society and express our concern over problems with the physical plant, and ask what the nature of the problems are and what plans they have to correct them. The person who contacts them should report back to the Board. The motion was seconded and passed. Nan and Paul Goland will be asked to make the inquiry; if they would rather not, Dave will.

Don reports that the new phone answering machine is in; it cost a little over \$300. It was decided that the old one should be sold for \$75; Tom is buying it with 3 monthly payments of \$25.

Tom has not yet looked into renting the Canal Clipper.

Fred Nelson of Parents Without partners will list our events in their newsletter.

There is no possibility of a grant to cover a new sound system. Mike Rivers has looked into our needs and possible equipment. He reports that the current problem is more one of ~~our~~ limitations rather than malfunctions. New equipment, if we go first class, would cost about \$2500, and the whole package would be about the same size as the old one. There was a lengthy discussion of possible alternatives in equipment. The tape recorder really should be replaced; there are several problems with it, but it will be a problem to find a mid-priced machine to fit our needs. After more discussion of equipment, we got to the matter of money. We could buy now--we have the money in the savings account, but some board members feel we should wait until after the budget meeting to make this decision. Lars moved we defer action on new sound equipment until after the budget meeting. The motion was seconded and carried.

NEW BUSINESS: We have received a letter from Sing Out! magazine asking for financial support. Some people object to their political nature. Debbie moved we send \$100 to Sing Out! now. The motion was seconded and passed. Nancy will write the letter and enclose the check. We should also publicize Sing Out!'s need and suggest contributions.

Nina would like a poll of the Board members on which night will be best for Board meetings; she has a conflict with Tuesday.

Don reports that there have been two phone calls and a letter from WETA requesting volunteers to work at their marathon. Debbie will call and get more information and will choose what night FSGW people will help.

Mary asks if FSGW would be interested in sponsoring someone for an internship in Festival management, etc. at Chelsea House in Vermont. Board says no.

The October Board meeting will be at Lars' house.

The meeting was adjourned about 11 p.m.