

FOLKLORE SOCIETY OF GREATER WASHINGTON

Executive Board Meeting

Tuesday, August 1, 1978

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Jonathan Eberhart, Mia Gardiner, Debbie Hutton, Linda Lieberman, Wally Macnow, Don Nichols, Dave Olive, Arlene Rodenbeck, Nancy Schatz.

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Lars Manslin, Tom McHenry, Nina Perkins.

OTHERS PRESENT: None.

The meeting was called to order at Linda Lieberman's home at 8:15 p.m. by President Jonathan Eberhart. A typographical error in the minutes ("sampler," not "samplet") was corrected, and the minutes were then approved as corrected.

MEMBERSHIP - Don Nichols: Don and Dolores are still converting the membership files to the new floppy disc format; this should be finished in a month or so.

Membership figures for July are: 37 new members, 25 renewals, and 10 expirations, for a net for the month of +52, and a total at the end of July of 1031. (The expiration figure and the totals were submitted to the Secretary a week after the Board meeting, along with the same figures for June, which were: 10 expirations; net +93; total membership at end of June 979.)

PUBLICITY - Dave Olive: The publicity for the Stivell concert is out; Unicorn Times is handling a lot of it. Dave needs publicity material for the Killen/Warner/Davis concert.

GETAWAY: Tom was absent; there was no report other than that the meeting originally planned for this week has been postponed.

PUBLICATIONS - Mia Gardiner: 120 copies of the June newsletter, containing Folk Festival news, along with letters, were sent to embassies, but there has been very little identifiable response. We really have no way of knowing if these people are coming.

1150 July newsletters were mailed; we ran off 1300. Postage is now running \$172-185 per month. Mia would like to get this money in advance. Linda and the Board agree; the treasury will advance Mia sufficient funds to cover postage, and Mia will submit receipt afterward.

The list of volunteers from the questionnaire has been useful for newsletter mailing. Mia needs more copies of the masthead for the newsletter; she will have a few of these duplicated.

The deadline for the September newsletter is August 15.

Mia has checked the rates of various printers; Batt Bates is still very good. We have been told that rates will go up if paper costs go up. Will continue with Batt Bates.

Mia reminded Board members about newsletter articles they are to submit.

TREASURER - Linda Lieberman: No report this month; there will be a budget meeting at Linda's on August 30.

SPECIAL EVENTS - Debbie Hutton: Lou Killen, Jeff Warner and Jeff Davis will do a concert Sept. 29 at the Ethical Society. Admission will be \$2 and \$3. We are guaranteeing \$200, plus 50% of the gate after expenses.

There will be a Sampler concert on October 20.

There are a number of possibilities for upcoming Special Events--these are being worked on: the Louisiana Aces may be in town this fall; Trapezoid possibly in November. Debbie is working on setting up free beginning banjo and dulcimer workshops.

PROGRAM - Wally Macnow: Wally has three programs pretty well set: Tom Gibney for September, Roy Bookbinder for October, and Jenska Pesna, a Balkan women's group, for January. Program fees should generally run \$150 for an individual & \$200 for a group.

There is a possibility that Archie Fisher may be here in November or December; Wally is looking into getting him for a program. Joe and Antoinette McKenna will probably be around in the Spring and may do a program. There was a discussion of several other possible performers for programs and special events. Wally would like to consider, after we've looked at the budget, the possibility of presenting one or two big program events each year, which would involve extra expense in flying people in, etc.

OLD BUSINESS: Nan and Paul Goland were asked about the heat and air conditioning prob-

lems at the Ethical Society and report that the problems are very large; this is not something that can be fixed without very great expenditure.

The letter to Sing Out! which accompanied the check to them was read to the Board.

Nina had asked Nancy to poll Board members about their preferences for a meeting night, as Tuesday presents a conflict for her. Those present agreed that Wednesday night was best. The September Board meeting will be Wed. Sept. 6 at Tom's.

Debbie had problems getting in touch with WETA about volunteers for their marathon; by the time she did, it was too late for the newsletter. WETA will bet back in touch with us well in advance of the next marathon.

The possibility of running a workshop on the sound system (3-4 hours on a weeknight, with 10 people maximum) was discussed. Some Board members feel we should wait until after we see if we will have a new sound system. The matter was not resolved.

Mia reminds people to give her any publicity materials they saved on the Glen Echo Festival. (Jeff Deitchman had received a packet of materials from Joanna Eagle of Glen Echo staff, which he sent to the Board); and reminds committee chairmen to submit reports.

NEW BUSINESS: The deadline for the Glen Echo grant application is Oct. 1. Two meetings are needed to discuss what we want to ask for, and to actually write up the application. The first meeting will be Tues. Sept. 5 at Mia's.

Don reports that we have had a request from Jim Scott of Fairfax County, who wants some help in establishing documentation of county folklore. Apparently he wants help in writing a proposal, and then will go for funding. Mia will contact him to find out what he has in mind, and possibly suggest some people who could help get a proposal done.

Wally reported that while Dee and Delta Hicks were here for the National Folk Fest., their house in Tennessee burned to the ground with all their possessions. NCTA has contributed \$1000 seed money to start a building fund, and probably will do a benefit concert for them. Wally suggests that we also present a benefit (perhaps WES will donate the hall). The Board agreed, and Arlene will coordinate arrangements, aiming for the 3rd or 4th weekend in September. Admission would be \$3 for everyone, with a hat passed for further contributions. Wally moved that in addition, FSGW contribute \$100 to the Dee and Delta Hicks Building Fund. The motion was seconded and passed, and a check will be sent to NCTA, earmarked for the fund.

Mary reported on progress for the Stivell concert, and distributed flyers. Unicorn Times is handling most of the publicity. There is a problem of single members wanting more than one ticket at special member rates. There is no way to police this with tickets sold at commercial outlets, but Mary will call the people who have sent mail orders. Some complimentary tickets have been sent to the French Embassy. Mary is getting insurance.

Nancy reviewed the major points which have come to our attention from the questionnaires, including the demand for basic instrument workshops, and for more events in Virginia; and the apparent willingness of the membership to pay more for events if necessary. Also discussed were members' comments on cliquishness in FSGW and the necessity for Board members, especially, to go out of their way to be friendly to all members and newcomers. Some people also commented that Board members should be more visible and accessible--they didn't know whom to approach with comments and problems. Board members will wear name tags at FSGW events henceforth. Nancy will write an article for the newsletter on the questionnaire results.

Dave reports that he may be moving to California before long, and we should consider the possibility of having to find a new publicity chairman. The Board agreed that Dick Rodgers, who ran against Dave, would be the best bet, then next to be considered should be the members-at-large, and then others who may be interested.

Mia is interested in applying for a 3-month, full-time internship at Natl. Endowment for the Arts, and needs the sponsorship of a non-profit organization such as FSGW. The Board agreed. The question of whether the availability of such things should be publicized to the membership was discussed; it was decided that there was no need; Mia came to us for sponsorship, and others can do the same. If she gets the internship, she will write an article about her experiences.

Debbie mentioned that we need a logo for the Glen Echo Festival; we could perhaps pay a designer \$50, which the Board agrees should come out of the grant. Debbie suggests John Beame might be able to do a nice design.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:50.