

FOLKLORE SOCIETY OF GREATER WASHINGTON

Minutes of Executive Board Meeting

Wednesday, December 3, 1980

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Mary Cliff, Nan Goland, Kathy Hickerson, Claudia Kravets, Dolores Nichols, Nancy Schatz, Susan Schwelling

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Bob Clayton, Lars Hanslin, Bob Hitchcock, Dave Olive

OTHERS PRESENT: Jonathan Eberhart, Al Taylor, Mia Gardiner, KC King, Don Nichol

The Meeting was called to order by Kathy Hickerson. The minutes were approved

MEMBERSHIP - Dolores Nichols: For November we have 44 new members, 37 renewals, and 123 expirations, with a net loss of 42 for the month and a total of 1257 paid members.

PUBLICATIONS - Nancy Schatz: The next Newsletter deadline is Dec. 15.

PROGRAM - Kathy Hickerson: Betty Smith took in \$74. The Gospel Jubilators are the Dec. program. Barry O'Neill is scheduled for Jan. Kathy is thinking about Cranberry Lake from upstate New York for Feb. -- perhaps a combination concert and dance with a family dance on the following Sat. Mary suggested Robin and Linda Williams. May is still open.

SPECIAL EVENTS - Mary Cliff: The Metro Sing will be at noon instead of 1:00. There will be a Friday night rehearsal. Pete Benson will not be at the open sing so Kathy will run it. Bruce Phillips was a great success, with 261 tickets sold in advance (280 sold all together) Mary rented 100 chairs and picked them all up herself. THREE CHEERS FOR MARY! The gate was \$935. Bruce Phillips was paid over \$600. Lou Killen will be in Sun. He need to be picked up and delivered back to National. Mary will check with Lars about the sound system. The Christmas party on the 19th will feature the Allenadale Singers to start things off. We will charge \$2 and provide punch. There will be a sampler on Jan. 3 with Debbie Smith, a Jewish music group, a story teller, and a single guy (Mike Rivers) as planned participants. The Mini Festival committee has taken a tour of rooms, decided on placement of events, necessary volunteers, etc. Mary suggested having a couple of open sings in the pit of the National Visitors center, perhaps on the subject of trains. Trapezoid wants us to apply to the Mid Atlantic Regional Arts Council for a \$400 matching grant for them. We voted No. Dave and Mary are working on plans for a Mardi Gras weekend, Feb. 28.

TREASURER - Nan Goland: Final Getaway Accounting shows income of \$5534 and expenses of \$3648, with a profit of \$1886. We had hoped to make \$2500. All the day people who signed up at the park have paid. Income for October was \$8230 with expense of \$5232. For Nov. income was \$1752, and expenses \$1858. These figures do not include Dance.

PUBLICITY - Claudia Kravets: Claudia set up a spot with Ed Tourney featuring the Bosom Buddies. He may do future spots on Alice and Mike and John Jackson at the Takoma Tap Room. Ed can't plug our name or mention our organization on these kinds of spots but at some point he will do one on us as an

organization, perhaps we should target the WFF as a good time for that. There are both opportunities and dilemmas in working with Ed. Claudia can make suggestions but cannot always develop the content and at some point loses control. She is also working on our relationship with Weta. WETA called her for suggestions for their Thanksgiving Eve Art Beat program. The only content they developed into an interview was Kate Charles and Claudia thought the photography left something to be desired. Claudia's goal is to be used for resource as well as content. She is making contact with PM Magazine. WTOP will do an interview with Slim about the Family Dance. WAMU will do a spot with the Gospel Jubilators. WHUR will also feature them on Sunday. Kathy will take their flyers to Howard. Claudia is concentrating this month on black coverage and hopes to have the family dance featured in the Kids' Column. New Volunteers: Gail Blumenthal is doing PSA's. Elaine Wilson has offered to do writing and TV Liason. Dwain and Claudia have met with Helen and Mary and still want to meet with Joe and Bruce to get some ideas about who does what well - as ideas for story angles and to get quality coverage. Routine things have been mailed out. The Post hasn't featured us in a while. Ametta Dixon from the Museum of African Art will help with publicity for Black Groups. Gil Carter of the Sunshine Skiffle Band would like to do a dance for us.

OLD BUSINESS: Jonathan will bring T shirts to the Open Sing. We have an exhibit at Landsburg's Hall for WHAACO. It includes WFF pictures, T shirts, an old fiddle, Dulcimer and a collage of Newsletters. Someone should take a picture of it for our archives. It would be nice to have a photographer at the family dance. Channel 9 filmed the exhibit. It will be shown Dec. 13 and 20 at 1:00pm. The exhibit will be up until the end of Jan. The DC Center for Creative Space has the positions of Ex. Secy. and Director of Photography open. Mary will be the FSGW representative to their executive board. She went to the Tenants Council meeting. She has taken care of insurance for the use of our office space (does not cover events there). Mia suggested that a board meeting be held there and the facilities toured. WETA radio will broadcast live from two windows there at the End of Jan. - will have some live music too. We are required to be at tenants meetings. Mary will do this. She should bring copies of their minutes to each board meeting and our secretary should keep a file of them. The president of FSGW should appoint a by-laws committee and chairman so the chairman can call a meeting and work begin. The first WFF meeting will be in Jan.

NEW BUSINESS: three people have volunteered to coordinate the Gospel Sing - Sharon Kass, Elaine Wilson, and Ellen Maske. Mary will choose one. Mia proposed that FSGW have an archivist as an ex-officio board position to provide continuity rather than having to be re-elected each year and have limited terms. Bill Day has said that he would be interested in such a position. Mia suggested the position be created by by-law amendment to indicate the importance of the position and so the position can never be dropped. The archivist's main concern would not be administrative records but rather the humanities and artistic aspects of our work. The position could interface with publicity and involve keeping a folder on every event. Susan made a motion that we indicate the sense of the board for the creation of this position, and that the details of wording for the by-laws be

handled as part of the agenda of the by-laws committee. (using Mia's submitted sample ammendment as a guideline). Nan seconded. Passed 7 - 0. Nancy moved and Claudia seconded that until such a position is officially created Lars should appoint an archivist immediately. Passed 7 -0. Craig has resigned as member-at-large. Lars will be asked to contact the 3rd and 4th candidates, Larry Alpert and Carrie Johnson to find his replacement.

KC reported his feeling that the Glen Echo process of planning for future use of the park is more exercise than substance. However he felt that it would not hurt our interests to participate more closely in the planning process. Some members of the Glen Echo community are opposed to mass use of the facility and have suggested re-opening the pool or use as a nature center. The park service has a planning staff. A problem is that visual artists are residents and performing artists come from the outside so they don't have as much input on a day to day basis. Al Taylor submitted his proposal for the future development of Glen Echo to the FSGW Board. Kathy reminded everyone that none of us as individuals, even board members, speak for FSGW in palnning meetings or written suggestions. If we want to overwhelm Glen Echo with ideas for use we must do so as individuals. Al Taylor suggested that FSGW submit a formal answer to the planning report. The park has asked for community input. Do we want to be involved as an organization? The merits of Al's proposal, which he wanted us to respond to, are incidental to whether the FSGW purpose is served by repponding to Glen Echo. We should not start with a proposal and then wittle it down to what we can somfortablely support. Rather we should first decide if we do want to have a proposal. The sense of the Board was that we approve of a Center for the Traditional Arts but that we are not capable of creating it. We all agreed that we would like to see the facilities available year fround, and that our members are available to perform, but we do not want to tie in FSGW officially. Mary will draft a letter to the park stating that FSGW hopes that the traditional arts will remain a major emphasis at the park, that we will serve as a resourse, and that we will ask our members to submit their individual ideas to them. We can publicize in our new\$letter that the planning process is going on and give a name for interested individuals to contact. FSGW should work only in the capacity as an advocate for the traditional arts in general, as a lobbieist. Interested individuals may bring petitions to Jan. events. The next meeting will be on Jan. 7 at Mary's house.