

FOLKLORE SOCIETY OF GREATER WASHINGTON

Minutes of Executive Board Meeting

February 3, 1982

Board Members Present: Cliff Fitterer, Coland, Hickerson, Nichols, Olive, Schatz, Turner, Winters,

Board Members Absent: Fink, Hanslin, Kravets, Clamons, McCracken

Others Present: Jonathan Eberhardt, Don Nichols, Linda Lieberman, Bill Day (Off-board)

Called to Order: 8:20 p.m.

Minutes read and approved as corrected

MEMBERSHIP: 119 new + 54 renewals - 102 expirations = 71 increase: Total now 1606

The new directory is now ready and will be available at the Open Sing

PUBLICATIONS: Newsletters are available tonite. Next deadline is Feb. 13th (no mail delivery on the 15th). It will be mailed out on 22nd. Dance announcements are increasing: on the hotline too.

PUBLICITY: Claudia doing well after operation: she will bring printouts of list to the next meeting

TREASURER: Please turn in your expenses. The gate at the last program netted an incredible \$348. The sampler netted \$355 (which goes to WHACO). Manifest: had \$2,307.50 income; \$2351.50 expenses to date with some bills yet to pay. It will about come out even. This means that we are NOT going to make the \$2500 profit we had hoped - that will have budget implications. Sacred Harp wants \$150 to buy sacred harp books which will be resold. They anticipate recouping \$110 immediately and the rest eventually. This is really an advance to be repaid.

MOTION: Moved by Olive; Seconded by Winters - PASSED

Olive requested he be allowed to buy some file cabinet which the treasurer needs. He can get them very cheaply 12-drawer for \$15 or 2/\$25. Agreed that he should buy them as fast as he can!

PROGRAM: Fink suggests a raise in the price of House Concerts to \$3.50 and \$4.00. The contract for Jackie Torrance is \$400

SPECIAL EVENTS: April 14 - Johnny Collins and Jim Mageen - House concert  
April 5 - Roy Dunn - blues concert at the Ethical Soc.

Ray Fisher wants to come back in late June alone

March 14 - Jean Ritchie Ethical Soc. not available. It is a Sunday night. Discussion of where to have it. Since she has a delicate light voice, the hall is important. Hickerson has found two possibilities; 1) Smithsonian's Carmichael auditorium. They would be willing to co-sponsor it. The cost is \$100 to staff on a Sunday night. It has 275 seats. 2) Gaston Hall at Georgetown Univ., described as a cavern. It would cost \$300 (rental 150 + insurance + guards), The acoustics are good, but the lighting is not. Prices will be \$4 and \$5. We will pay her a \$500 guarantee or 75%, whichever is greater. Claudia will do the publicity. Discussion included the information that there will be a St. Patrick's day parade downtown that afternoon - no impact on our concert. A poll of the board showed 5 favored Gaston Hall, 2 did not, and 2 abstained.

Michael Cooney has been offered a gig on Wed. nite (at the Meany center) before his concert for us on Friday night. He has asked for our approval of his taking that gig. No one has any problem with his doing so.

Manifest discussion: Olive said several people from out of state some distance have asked for refunds due to the bad weather. Board agreed to do so. Coland said that at our pre-festival concert with Bessie Jones, the fact that she was not there was not announced to people at the gate. Coland feels that if a performer does not show up, customers should be told BEFORE they pay their entry fee.

In this case the absence of the advertised performer and the substitute were only announced from the stage after everyone had paid and entered. The question of having a reduced price in such cases was discussed. Hickerson said our policy should be formalized and so

MOTION: Moved by Winters - "I move that it be FSGW policy that at any event at which an advertised performer will not be on the program, that attendees be informed of the program change prior to the taking of admission fees. The responsibility for this notification lies with the producer of the event."

Fitterer seconded. - PASSED.

More discussion on same problem - did we attempt to notify the public. We did have the change in the POST \$ on WDDM. The money takers tried to tell people, but it is difficult with a mob of people and trying to make change, etc. Especially in this case where the price structure was a complicated one, being tied in with the mini-fest the next day.

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE: Audrey Calhoun and Claudia Lambshire from the National Park Service - National Capital Area - Glen Echo - came to speak with the board about our cooperative association with their organization.

MOTION: by Winters - "I move that we co-sponsor the summer dance series with the Park Service. \*at Glen Echo." Olive seconded - PASSED.

Discussion on a general cooperative agreement: Audrey Calhoun explained that a cooperative agreement between the Park and the society will answer a lot of questions. Winters said that a coop agreement is a loose contract with no money. It would define our working relationships and responsibilities. We are discussing a 3-year (multiple year period) agreement. Such an agreement gives us rights. The right to be in the park. It makes additional events easier to do there. The question of us providing our own food for an event (ie. ethnic food) was raised. The answer is that if the concessionaire cannot provide the food, we can, for a day, provide our own. Meetings we might desire to hold at Glen Echo would be easier to schedule if we already had an agreement with the Park. Winters said he would like to have the "sense of the board" concerning the agreement. The question of using Adventure Theatre was raised. WE are the ONLY ones they let use it.

MOTION: Olive moved that we pursue a generic coop agreement between the Park and FSGW to cover all FSGW events held in the Glen Echo Park.

(An agreement between "mutually consenting adult organizations")

Nichols seconded - PASSED

Marge Wooten is in charge of Ft. Hunt - a possible FSGW picnic site. 285-2600

MINIFEST: Cliff is writing a report. There were 200-250 paid admissions. Only 3 workshops leaders that did not show up. Given the BAD weather this is very good. There were a number of difficulties with the site - rooms hard to find, small, too many entrances to the building. The soundproofing between rooms was great. The dance workshops went fine; the song swap was sooooooper - best in years. BUT - we need a new location and we should start now. We can pursue the living buildings program, government space on days off, the pentagon. Performers were given the option to come in free, but it was noted that this was a fundraiser. WMAL and WAMU ran "Still On" messages. The Hotline was called every 60 seconds from 9 am on. More site suggestions: D.C. buildings that once were schools and now aren't. Schools are our because of their policy of no booze. This brought up a discussion of the emphasis on drinking on stage. Schatz suggested we think about how much we want to do this. It seemed too "pushy" and inappropriate. What about smoking? We may need NO SMOKING signs. St. Albans did drop \$450 of the fee as well as the cost of the maintenance man. So Our cost was \$750 total. This drop in fee was because of the heroic effort of our attendees in removing the library books from in front of the 'weeping' wall'

of water caused by broken pipes. The library would have been a total loss if we had not been holding our function there. This was pointed out to the St. Albans administration by our President - resulting in the reduction in fees.

WHACO: Cliff said that there would be a meeting of the Foundation tomorrow at 10am. It may dissolve. Informal space would continue for tenants. We may get new space. The open space has a stage and a piano. The Dervishes (Sufi) under the Dia Foundation are coming in April - 6-7-8- with musicians and dancers. A Dhikr would like a large 800-1000 audience hall to perform in. They would like their performances to be free. The National Council on the Aging wants performers to perform in their courtyard.

WFF: First organizational meeting was last week. Have a good staff, looks great. The committees are formed. They will need copious volunteers in March and April to construct the stages. Bumper Cars gets moved and will require 30 people. We will need to have a spring "Spit and Polish" party off the ballroom. It needs paint, too. We may move a yurt to the organic garden - "Yank a Yurt" party. The staff is:

Tri-chairs: Winters, Eberhardt, Mackall

We will have ~~deaf~~ interpreters. Next mtg. is Feb. 23 (raindate 25th).

OLD BUSINESS: Sound system: we have a new mixer, a Kelsey which is very sturdy and durable, a rugged machine. Cost: \$1200. It is 12 channel and has a case, which was included which is worth \$200 if bought separately. It gives us really great sound. It is larger in volume (size), but lighter in weight than our old mixer. There will be a workshop to learn how to use it.

Bylaws: There will be another meeting on Feb. 10. Most controversial issue is the paying of members for performing and for services to the society. Please give input. The committee has had NO input from either the membership or the board to date.

Press Credentials: Policy discussed - ~~moved that "The Folklore Society~~

MOTION: moved that "The Folklore Society Board or its designee reserves the right to decide when to admit the press without fee. The guideline shall be if it is in the interest of the society and the performers to admit them." Winters seconded, PASSED.

Get-A-Way: The president said that it was the time for the rotation of the Get-a-Way committee. She submitted her nomination for Dolores Nichols to co-chair the committee for next fall. The board approved.

NEW BUSINESS: Nominating Committee needs to be appointed. President will get a slate for this committee and present it to the board members by telephone for approval because the time is short. The committee is to have a slate to present to the board by the March board meeting. Mailings: Underground Sound has requested to be allowed to offer a discount to Society members, and they wanted to put it in the newsletter. Board recommended that they buy an ad if they wish. WFF-printing of program - Tabled.

NEXT MEETING:: Mary Cliff's

April - Schatz

May - Day?

June - Hanslin?

Adjourned 10:58 p. m.