

FOLKLORE SOCIETY OF GREATER WASHINGTON
Minutes of Executive Board Meeting
November 3, 1982

BOARD PRESENT: Cliff, Fink, Fitterer, Hickerson, McCracken, Nichols, Turner, Woods, Winters, Day, Olive, Shapiro,

BOARD ABSENT: Hutton

OTHERS PRESENT: Rita Ferrara, Dean Clamons, Linda Lieberman, Dolores Nichols, Bob Clayton

The meeting, at the home of Bill Day, was called to order by the President.

Nichols moved to approve the minutes of the October meeting; Woods 2nd; PASSED.

TREASURER: No report because he needs current figures from committees on expenses and cash flow. He needs dance figures from July through November 1.

MEMBERSHIP: 81 new + 61 renewals = 142 - 90 expired = +52 for the month = 1836 total

NEWSLETTER: Please meet the next deadline with typed legible copy.

PROGRAM: No report

DANCE: Glen Echo would like us to do the Saturday night series again next year. We will book it and pass it on to the next Board (Board agreement). Tab Park puts no requirements on the series; we decide what to have. Sunday night dance is rolling along - the money rolls in. The Brickskeller in the Marafex Hotel at 22nd and P St NW, owned by Mr. Coja, wants to enlarge their dance floor and have "International Dance" with contra, etc., but not squares.

SPECIAL EVENTS: Sandy Solomon is chair of the subway carol sing. The Holiday party is coming along. The Special benefit for the Archive of Folk Culture may feature Odetta and Michael Cooney, and may be on March 4th, with prices at \$5 and \$10. Not much is planned for spring-Rcy Bookbinder has been suggested and he is excellent. Stan Rogers can come Tues. Dec. 14. The Canadian Embassy will print our flyers and do a mailing. He has asked for a \$500 guarantee. The Board says to offer a lower guarantee and a bigger percentage - perhaps \$200 guarantee. Also Tues. is a problem. Alan Stivell is coming in the spring; John McCutcheon will be at the Barns of Wolftrap. Olive suggested that, in light of the budget problems, we seek out performers who "draw". Fitterer said that the Storytelling group would like to be included in the Folklore Society. Winters moved that the Storytelling group become part of the Society. Woods 2nd. PASSED. The Board directed that they be told the obligations they have to the Society as a whole. They will be under Special Events Chair.

MINIFESTIVAL - Cliff reported for Rodgers. The Mini will be on January 22 at George Mason University. The budget is in process. Advance tickets article is needed for the December newsletter.

GET-A-WAY - We are confirmed for Columbus Day weekend in 1983.

PUBLICITY: P.R. for November is out. the PSA's for the program go out today; press releases went 3-4 weeks ago. Seeger and McColl made "Critic's Choice". Turner attended the PRSA conference for non-profit organizations and passed around a notebook of information received at it.

WFF: There will be a staff meeting in December; we need suggestions for contacts for community resources as soon as possible.

BYLAWS REPORT: Woods said that they hope to have a basic job description packet to the Board in December. Mary will tell Nancy that we need the information soon for the Nominating committee to use.

OLD BUSINESS: Cooperative Agreement with National Park Service - Winters presented a draft agreement and ask for Board action tonight to facilitate concluding this agreement in a timely manner. It is essentially a bureaucratic vehicle which differentiates what FSGW can do that other groups cannot. It is much better than just a letter of agreement that we have had on a year by year basis in the past. It is their basic document which Dwain has modified for our non-resident status. It will go through Sept. 1985 (that covers the next 3 festivals and summer dances. In section II, one event suffices. In section III they have space for our archives; there is a requirement that the public have access to them, and it is worded so that it is by appointment. Olive moved that Winters go back and finish final details on the agreement and that as long as the final version is in the spirit that now exists, an officer be authorized to sign it. Fitterer 2nd. PASSED. Winters moved that we adjourn to the Committee of the Whole. Olive 2nd. PASSED. Olive moved to accept the minutes of the meeting of the Committee of the Whole on October 17, 1982. Fink 2nd. PASSED. Winters moved to adjourn the Comm. of the Whole. Fitterer 2nd. PASSED.

The Board reconvened and took up the recommendations of the Committee of the Whole.

MEMBERSHIP: Fitterer moved that the Society take more active steps to introduce FSGW to its natural constituency (ie. those who already have an interest in folklore).

Woods 2nd. PASSED. Fitterer moved that the Board not consider amending the by-laws to address outreach. Nichols 2nd. PASSED.

NEWSLETTER: Fitterer moved that the Newsletter continue as it now is - both in size (not beyond 10 pages) and in format. Nichols 2nd. PASSED.

NEW AND EXPANDING ROLES: Winters moved that the Board appoint a committee to guide and develop educational programs for FSGW, and that among its responsibilities this committee should as a high priority make available interpretive materials to accompany major programs and concerts. In addition the committee should pursue as appropriate: 1) having workshops/demonstrations at FSGW events; 2) more master classes given by those who perform at our events; 3) one-shot introductory classes, eg. "this is what Appalachian music is about"; 4) be a clearing house for educational services in folk lore, arts, music, crafts, etc; 5) series classes eg. how to play the guitar; 6) interpretive and educational material to be handed out at concerts and programs (about that event). There is a need to get more information about what services people would like and what services are available from other sources. We should not duplicate services available elsewhere. Woods 2nd. PASSED. An amendment was made by McCracken to preclude FSGW educational programs from becoming directly involved in public schools. Fitterer 2nd. LOST.

LARGE SCALE EVENTS: Fitterer moved that it be FSGW policy that we have no prohibitions against programming large scale events such as major concerts. Woods 2nd. PASSED.

Winters moved that the President appoint an individual to form a committee to explore the consideration, preparations, and consequences of doing large scale events.

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NEW PROGRAM AREAS: A number of suggestions were made including: 1) children's concert series; 2) family and/or children's dance; 3) educational tours; 4) festival tours (ie. arrangements for transportation to festivals); 5) more craft related functions such as quilting bee, barn raising, bread baking; 7) ethnic foods series; 8) co-sponsored events such as at nursing homes; 9) shopping center concerts; 10) social events such as parties, caroling, and pot-lucks.

ARCHIVES: Fitterer moved that the functions of the FSGW archive should include as its first priority the complete and accessible documentation of FSGW activities. Further, that its long term goal shall be an archival record of all folklore related activities in the greater Washington area, and that to implement these goals an archive committee should be formed to be chaired by Bill Day and that this committee shall identify what materials we should be saving in the archive and then set up a general plan for collecting and filing that material. Woods 2nd. PASSED.

SUPPORT FOR PERFORMING MEMBERS: Winters moved that the Board form an ad hoc committee, with Claudia Kravets as its organizer to query performing members about their needs from the Society. Olive 2nd. PASSED.

FINANCE: Winters moved that the Board accept the findings of the Committee of the Whole that we a) establish an explicit policy regarding the appropriate level for cash reserves; and b) we actively explore new alternatives for sources of funds. Alternative sources of funds discussed included grants such as from NEA, t-shirts, cookbook, and recordings of local performers. In addition the Board should establish a finance committee whose task is to draw up a five-year plan based on the Finance section in the notice for this meeting. The finance committee should also recommend a reserve fund formula. Olive 2nd. PASSED.

NEW AND EXPANDING ROLES (continued): Publications: Fitterer moved and Woods 2nd that we publish a "folk services" directory. PASSED. Folklore: Hickerson moved that we contact our local folklorists to find out how we can better serve their needs and inquire how we can make better use of their capabilities. Winters 2nd. PASSED. Folk Club: The Board recognized that our budget does not allow consideration of a folk club at this time. Fitterer moved that the Board should pursue the possibility of running a 'Red Fox - like' stage. Woods 2nd. PASSED.

OPERATIONS: Winters moved that it be an explicit policy that FSGW has no prohibition on paying non-performing members for professional services to FSGW. Olive 2nd. PASSED. Winters moved that the finance committee be instructed to consider the financial impact of paying for membership services when they draw up the five-year financial plan. Olive 2nd. PASSED. Winters moved that the By-laws committee should be asked to provide job descriptions prior to formation of the Nominating committee. Olive 2nd. PASSED. Winters moved that the job description and check-lists should include volunteer needs. Olive 2nd. PASSED.

The Board tabled discussion of: 1) outreach policy; 2) support for performing members; 3) selling records of performing members at our concerts; 4) an additional publication separate from the Newsletter.

OLD BUSINESS (CONTINUED): Hickerson moved that we abolish the Volunteer Coordinator position. Woods 2nd. PASSED. Hickerson moved that we develop a questionnaire for recruiting volunteers for essential services in the Society by the January Board meeting. Fitterer 2nd. PASSED. Olive moved that Woods be appointed to chair this. Fitterer 2nd. PASSED. Discussion included the suggestion that it be sent out in the Newsletter, that it should be made available at events, that it ask for areas of expertise such as publications, fundraising, graphic arts and the media. Woods will compile lists from the returns and pass the information along to the committee Chairs.

NEW BUSINESS: Hickerson brought up the listing of the FSGW in the Weekender's calendar. We should write and thank them for listing us but point out that we are listed incorrectly. We should buy the publication. A letter will be prepared by the secretary for the President's signature, and a copy of the publication will be obtained. Hickerson moved we consider the Washington Clearinghouse questionnaire. Woods 2nd. PASSED. Board members should come to the December meeting with ideas. The Epicot Center in Florida has asked for names of performers to perform there. Mary Cliff will give them this list. An auditorium available for use was announced. It is the YWCA Penny auditorium at 9th and G St. NW. It seats 150 and the cost is \$50 for the evening (5 hours). Ticket sales are to be split 50-50. The question of who should get the volunteer lists now existing was discussed. Turner moved that the Volunteer list be restricted to Board members and the organizers of FSGW events unless specific exception is approved by the Board, and that the confidentiality of all copies shall be maintained. Woods 2nd. PASSED. It was agreed that the minutes of the Board meeting incorporating actions taken by the Board on recommendations of the Futures Committee would be made available to members upon request to the Secretary.

Next Board Meeting will be December 1 at Turner's. Chili supper will be available for those who can come. The January Board meeting will be at Wood's.

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