

FOLKLORE SOCIETY OF GREATER WASHINGTON
Box 19114, 20th Street Station
Washington, D.C. 20036

July 3, 1983

Paul J. Goland
2853 Ontario Road, N.W.
Washington, D.C.

Dear Paul:

I have received your letter regarding the survey of halls for FSGW events. Based on your numerous stated provisos, I have decided to ask someone else to do the survey.

When I asked you to do it, I had in mind getting some needed help, not setting up an infrastructure to handle a relatively simple task. I don't want anyone to take on this project who wants "authority without responsibility," as you have said you do. I want someone who will be personally responsible and who will get the job done as quickly as possible.

Even though I intend to ask someone else to do the survey, I believe I should address, at least briefly, your "apprehensions" about the project. First of all, your assumption that your work would be left "to gather dust on a shelf" is an unfounded one. There has been a pressing need for such a survey for a long time. I have no doubt that even a few suggestions of alternatives to WES would be welcomed--and pursued--by those with FSGW programming responsibilities.

Second, when I asked you to do the project, there was no implication that it would be a "program" rather than a short-term "project," or that you would become "the resource person for auditoriums" or would be saddled with the task for a year. In fact, as I recall, I stressed the short-term nature of the project and the fact that information was needed just as soon as possible!

I'm sorry you're not willing to do the job as requested. I'm sure you understand, too, that I simply can't deal with all the strings you attached to your acceptance. I think you'll find, working with the Board this year, that what FSGW really needs is people who are willing to accept both authority and responsibility--who are willing to pitch in and do what needs to be done when it needs doing. If everyone were to demand acceptance of a set of terms before accepting an assignment, as you did, we'd be hard pressed to get anything done.

Sincerely,

Kathy Westra Hickerson
President