

1. **Quorum and Call to Order.**

- a. The meeting was called to order at 8:16 pm by President Anne Sergeant.
- b. The following were present, constituting a quorum: Anne Sergeant (President), Jim Cole (Past Treasurer), Lynn Pastore (Membership), Susan Clark (Publicity), Charlie Baum (Monthly Programs), April Grastorf (Secretary), Janine Smith (Dance), Betsy Platt (Special Programs) and Lesley Frank (Newsletter) .
- c. Kathy Westra (VP), Dennis Cook (Past President), Jean McAulay (At Large) and Holly Steussy (At Large) were absent.
- d. The following non-FSGW-Board-members were present: Dean Clamons.

2. **Approval of Minutes.**

- a. The Board agreed to defer approval of all pending minutes until the next meeting.

3. **Fund Raising.**

- a. An additional \$2300 has been received; the checks have been given to Janine or to Kathy.
- b. Betsy did data entry.
- c. Anne will sign the thank-yous.

4. **Washington Folk Festival.**

- a. Anne stated that she had received a copy of the agreement, and that she would submit it to WALA.
- b. Dean Clamons provided the following updates:
  1. *Safety*: Stan has been appointed by the Park Service to work on all safety issues.
  2. *Parking*: There has been no progress at all on the parking/transportation problem.
  3. *Sponsors*: No sponsors have signed up.
  4. *Shuttle Buses*: They are looking for a sponsor for the buses, but nothing so far.
  5. *Donations*: Because of the recent FSGW-wide donor solicitation, some long-time WFF donors are not willing to make an additional donation. Therefore the WFF line item is down.
  6. *Tents*: No local rental places have been contacted to determine what they would charge for labor (erecting and taking down tents).
  7. *Program*: The program is full.
  8. *Volunteers*: They will need more volunteers over the next two months.
- c. Susan asked Dean for additional information/input/guidance as to how she could or should help publicize WFF. Dean responded:
  1. The advertising budget is very small.
  2. He already has a publicity committee.
- d. Lynn stated that she has started to enlist volunteers to man the membership booth.
- e. April asked if some sort of "Suggested Donation" signs were prominently displayed near the entrances. Dean said such signs were used.
- f. Sales of performers' CDs will be handled through House of Musical Traditions (HMT); GEPPAC will take 5%, not 25%.
- g. Sales of Tshirts are supposed to be in the same location as in previous years, but Dean needs to follow up with Glen Echo.
- h. Specifics for the program will be available within two weeks, but not in time for the May newsletter.

5. **Newsletter.**

- a. Some difficulties with newsletter labels have created delays for certain members, but the problems are intermittent and hard to pin down.
- b. If the newsletter is more than 24 pages, it is hard to fold, and it might be more appropriate to mail it flat, rather than folded. Lesley will find out if that increases the postage cost.
- c. Lesley would like to move Joe Hickerson's column to the website unless filler is needed.
- d. Lesley feels that too many copies are being printed. Anne noted that the supply at the Ballroom is never sufficient, and requested that more newsletters be provided for that venue. There was a brief discussion of whether providing free copies of the newsletter at dances keeps some potential members from joining.
- e. There was a brief discussion as to whether a separate virtual issue for one of the summer months would be done again this year, as it was for July last year.

6. **Election of Officers.**

- a. The Nominating Committee has a full slate except for Publicity. Jim is trying to persuade one member of the Open Sing and/or Sacred Harp group and one member of the Storytelling group to serve as At Large members, to ensure that their interests are represented on the Board.
- b. Aside from two candidates for President, all nominees are running unopposed.

7. **GEPPAC.**

- a. Janine reported that she had submitted a proposal for the use of the Park facilities for the regular Sunday night dance on March 5.
- b. On March 15<sup>th</sup> she received an email from GEPPAC, indicating that substantial increases in fees were contemplated. The minimum fee for the Bumper Car Pavilion (BCP) would increase to \$200 for Sunday night, and the minimum fee for the Ballroom would increase to \$400.
- c. Janine surveyed the dancers, and approximately 80% indicated that they would support an additional charge of approximately \$2 per dancer to use the Ballroom in the fall and winter.
- d. Anne pointed out that it had been reported to her that one of the persons responsible for setting the new fiscal policy regarding use of the Ballroom had supposedly remarked that because FSGW has substantial funds in money market and other accounts, FSGW should subsidize the Ballroom to a much greater extent.
- e. Anne indicated that she would contact GEPPAC and point out:
  1. The remark described above would appear to be inappropriate use of "insider information" and
  2. Notice of the increase was improperly given.

8. **Miscellaneous New Business.**

- a. **40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.** If FSGW wishes to mark the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary by a special article in the *Washington Post Sunday Magazine*, the article needs to be written by someone knowledgeable and submitted well in advance to the Post.
- b. **E-mail to Members.**
  1. There was a brief discussion of the possibility of setting up an "opt-in" mailing list for members, which would alert members to concert dates, special events, etc.

2. In addition, as volunteers will be needed for the WFF, the Board discussed whether or not to send out by email a request for volunteers. It was the sense of the meeting that sending out a request to the membership for volunteers by using emails provided by those members was not inappropriate.

9. **Committee Reports.**

- a. Some committee reports were covered earlier in the evening.
- b. *Special Events:*
  1. Betsy reported that the Mosaic concert lost money; the May event will celebrate Mary Cliff's anniversary.
- c. *Membership:*
  1. Membership continues to drop.
  2. Lynn will follow up on the Directory and report back to the Board.
  3. A new data base manager is being sought; she will refer all potential candidates to Dennis.
- d. *Monthly Programs:*
  1. Charlie reported January attendance of 44, February of 93, and March of 130.

10. **Next Meeting and Motion to Adjourn.**

- a. The May 2004 regular meeting will be May 4, 2004.
- b. ***Resolved: That the March 30, 2004 (April 2004) meeting be adjourned. Susan Clark moved to adjourn, Janine Smith seconded the Motion. By voice vote, the Motion was unanimously approved.*** The meeting adjourned at 9:49 pm.