

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

- a. The meeting was called to order at 8:31 pm by President Anne Sergeant.
- b. The following FSGW Board Members were present, constituting a quorum: Anne Sergeant (President), Tom Spilsbury (Treasurer), April Blum (Secretary), Lynn Pastore (Membership), Charlie Baum (Special Programs), Charlie Pilzer (Monthly Programs), Tom Tucker (At Large) and Janine Smith (Dance). No one has accepted the Publicity assignment for 2004-2005.
- c. Tim Livengood (At Large) was absent.

2. **Storage / Archives.**

- a. Tom Tucker has agreed to hold the archival material and go through it.
- b. There was some discussion regarding the eventual plans to turn the material over to the Library of Congress. The Board noted that turning it over to the LoC will mean that during the acquisition procedure, there may not be a way for scholars to access it, but everything needs to be cataloged before acquisition.
- c. Tom has gone through many of the tapes, some of which include at least a partial contents list.

3. **By-Laws.**

- a. Anne Sergeant pointed out that Kathy Westra, who originally had agreed to chair a Bylaws Revision committee, has moved permanently out of the area, and therefore a new committee chair is needed to move forward with this very important process.
- b. The new bylaws should probably be presented to the Board in January, so that we can use a single mailing for both elections and acceptance of the bylaws.

4. **Approval of Minutes.**

- a. July 2004.
  1. The July minutes, which had been taken by Betsy Platt, were reviewed.
  2. ***Resolved: That the Minutes for July 2004 be adopted.***  
**Janine Smith moved that the July 2004 minutes be approved. Betsy Platt seconded. By voice vote, the Motion was approved.**
- b. The August 2004 minutes had been previously adopted.
- c. September 2004.
  1. The September minutes were reviewed.
  2. ***Resolved: That the Minutes for September 2004 be adopted.***  
**Lynn Pastore moved that the September 2004 minutes be approved. Tom Tucker seconded. By voice vote, the Motion was unanimously approved.**

5. **Membership Dues.**

- a. The Board had previously decided to increase dues so that the Newsletter would generate enough income to cover its costs, but had previously tabled a discussion of how much to increase each membership level. A lively and lengthy discussion resulted in the following suggested changes:
  1. Individual memberships:
    - One year, \$31 (an increase of \$3—about 10.7%).
    - Two years, \$56 (an increase of \$5— about 9.8%) (a savings of \$3 per year)
    - Three years \$81 (an increase of \$6— about 8%) (a savings of \$4 per year)
    - Lifetime: \$500 (an increase of \$40— about 8%)

2. Family memberships:
    - One year, \$42 (an increase of \$4 – about 10.5%)
    - Two years \$82 (an increase of \$10 – about 11.1%) (a savings of \$2 per year)
    - Three years \$118 (an increase of \$11 – about (a savings of \$2.67 per year)
    - Lifetime: \$750 (an increase of \$50 – about 7.1%)
  3. Student: \$22 (an increase of 10%)
  - b. Tom Spilsbury suggested that perhaps some additional "tweaking" to these figures might be appropriate before adopting final numbers. It was the sense of the meeting that the final figures would be discussed and adopted at the next meeting.
- 6. Washington Folk Festival**
- a. Dwain indicated that he and Dean would like to attend the next Board meeting to discuss the cooperative agreement with GEPPAC.
  - b. The Board discussed their dissatisfaction with the minimal fundraising effort by GEPPAC at least as evidenced by the 2004 WFF, which resulted in a very substantial deficit.
  - c. Charlie Pilzer brought up the possibility of using the Montgomery County Fairgrounds as a new venue, given the increasingly heavy costs at Glen Echo (the parking shuttle, etc.), but felt very strongly that WFF should be kept a free, no-admission-charge event, regardless of venue.
  - d. Tom Tucker stated that costs are increasing and the numbers are certainly going to get worse unless some sort of change is instituted.
  - e. Betsy Platt remarked that it was not good for the relationship between FSGW and GEPPAC to wait for GEPPAC to do the fundraising.
  - f. Charlie Baum pointed out that some grant money is available from the Montgomery County Arts Council, but Betsy pointed out that FSGW is "headquartered" in DC, and therefore probably isn't eligible.
  - g. There was additional discussion of the various escalating expenses (the "rent" and cost of the parking shuttles). It was agreed that the GEICO lot seemed to work well, but that shuttle costs were very high. Some thought might be given to charging at least a small amount per person for the shuttle service, but some felt that this was a "nickel and dime" approach.
  - h. Fund raising continues to be a problem, in part, some Board members believe, because FSGW is waiting for GEPPAC to find sponsors, and GEPPAC is unable or unwilling to find sponsors for FSGW-related activities.
    1. Charlie Pilzer pointed out that we want potential sponsors to identify with FSGW, not with GEPPAC.
    2. Betsy Platt reminded the Board that WFF CC had been critical of last year's fund raising letter, which WFF CC felt negatively impacted their potential donor list.
    3. Charlie Pilzer said that in the future, fund raising should emphasize the ties between FSGW and WFF, not the differences.
    4. The fact that this Board is a "working" board (*i.e.*, each Board member has a specific task), and not a "strategizing" board makes the task of fund raising particularly difficult.
  - i. Dean has stated in previous years that he does not want to continue on the WFF CC; supposedly Dean and Dwain will have a name to propose.
  - j. Charlie Baum stated that he did not think WFF CC should do fundraising without FSGW liaison.

**7. The Problem Dancer.**

- a. The Board briefly discussed whether to deny FSGW membership to The Problem Dancer who has been the subject of much discussion over the last 12 months.
- b. It was the sense of the meeting not to take such a step at this time.

8. **Committee Reports.**

- a. *Newsletter.*
  1. Lesley Frank had no problems to report.
- b. *Dance.*
  1. Janine Smith reported that the RFP for GEPPAC had been submitted, and that the result was that FSGW would have the use of the Ballroom for most of the cold weather Sunday dances. Prices would have to be slightly increased to cover costs.
- c. *Monthly Program.*
  1. Charlie Pilzer discussed his plans for upcoming events; there were about 60 people at the September event, and the Aloha Boys may be available for April or May of 2005.
  2. The proposal for Le Vent du Nord concert with BFMS, which had been discussed at the September Board meeting, has apparently been tabled at least for the present by the Baltimore Folk Music Society. No further action by FSGW is necessary at this time.
- d. *Special Programs.*
  1. Charlie Baum reported that the Getaway was on track for making a slight profit, even with minimal attendance.
- e. *Treasurer.*
  1. Tom Spilsbury noted that final numbers were still coming in, and that it might be necessary to do a final amendment to the budget numbers.
- f. *Membership:*
  1. Lynn reported that about 20 members renewed or joined at the Takoma Park Folk Festival, and that was in part due to the excellent location of the membership booth.

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

- a. The next regular meeting was to have been held on Election Day. The Board will communicate electronically and decide where and when the next Board meeting will be held.
- b. ***Resolved: That the October 2004 meeting be adjourned. Tom Tucker moved to adjourn. Betsy Platt seconded. By voice vote, the Motion was unanimously approved.*** The meeting adjourned at 10:34 pm.