

**Attendees:** President Mary Cliff, Membership, Newsletter Chair Roxanne Watts, Secretary Cat Tucker, At-Large Sue McIver, Dance Chair Penelope Weinberger, At-Large Steve Roth, Publicity Chair Katie Blaisdell, Treasurer Jerry Stein, Non-Board member Guests, Gabe Popkin, Linda Goodman, and Janine Smith,

**Absent:** Vice-President David Shewmaker, Chair Stephanie Kaufman, Program & Events Chair Marty Summerour, At-Large Member Hannah Platt

Mary officially called the meeting to order at 8:19 pm when we were all gathered.

Minutes for October and November – Motion made by Katie to accept the minutes as amended, 2nd by Sue. Motion passed.

### **Treasurer's Report:**

- Treasurer says we are solvent.  
Dennis Cook has been hired as a consultant related to web support .  
Board Liability Insurance + need for van policy - holding

### **Dance Report:**

- Did we finish English Country contract with G.E. Town Hall?
  - Steven checking with Tom Spilsbury to verify.
- Motion made by Penelope and was seconded by Sue, that we give permission for use of the sound equipment for the New Year's Eve Dance. Motion passed.
- Do we have/can we get generic Sunday/Wednesday dance flyers? (for concerts)
  - None are available
  - Dance info is all on the web and on the dance calendar – it was noted that folks aren't sure that we really need a flyer
  - However, Katie said she'd be glad to come up with a dance flyer if we thought it would be useful.
- Contrastock is moving forward. 3 bands play a set each and there will be a set with all of the bands mixed in. 1 pm to 11 pm
  - Potluck dinner
  - Various pricing options were discussed as well as the possibility of using wristbands.
  - Steve said he would prefer not having to have "police" as to whether everyone on the floor has a wristband.
  - There will be no advance sales because GEPPAC doesn't allow them.
- Family dance
  - Eric M is incredibly busy and too busy to participate
  - There is a page for the family dance on Facebook
    - It is a good way to solicit attendees
    - We will send out the URL and encourage people to attend
- New FSGW sponsored square dance – Janine Smith & Gabe Popkin were present to put forth the proposal to begin one
  - Penelope Weinberger moved that we approve; Katie 2<sup>nd</sup>; motion passed.
  - Gabe brought a few handouts re: the square dance
  - To be held on a Saturday, every-other-month
  - Current Committee: Gabe Popkin and Janine Smith
  - Traditional squares – not western squares
  - Budget – project 100 people, charging them \$5 per head. Give half to talent and then half split between church and FSGW.
  - Key elements: inexpensive, accessible to Metro and community-based
    - Intend to use local talent – local musicians and callers are excited about participating
  - Jerry will check with the insurance company related to a new venue for this event
  - Been in touch with St. Stephen's Church in Mt. Pleasant

- Very open to non-profits using their space
- Church just wants to ensure that the group has insurance
- Has a good space and can fit 8 squares comfortably
- Gabe and Janine are totally open to other venues if folks want to suggest them
- There is no liability policy issue with alcohol consumption – though we cannot sell alcoholic beverages
- Are door sheets, reports to Leslie improving?
  - Leslie's happy with what she's receiving from Penelope
- Contra Sonic (f/k/a Techno) location (Artisphere?)
  - Haven't been able to get a response from the Artisphere folks, so can't even consider booking events there if they don't communicate back to us.
  - Not straight Techno music, so Penelope came up with a new branding/name, thus the change from "Techno" to Contra Sonic.
  - 115 people at the first dance...overflowing crowd. Parks says that the annex room capacity is 235 people.....but first dance was very tight.
  - Will be in the ballroom for December...taking it one month at a time. 40% of door to the Park for the use of the ballroom.
    - Breakdown: 23% to DJ 23% to caller, 14% to FSGW, 40% to Park for ballroom.
  - The dance will build to larger numbers as it becomes more well-known.
  - Callers booked out through March. Checking with some of the callers booked on Sunday's to see if they are interested in staying over to call for the Contra Sonic dance..
  - A lot of positive feedback – people have requested a 3-hour dance, so that's what it is becoming.
  - Should make a push for membership from the college crowd.

#### **Membership Report: NO REPORT**

#### **Newsletter Report:**

- Request came through for a different kind of sing: do-wop
- Found whole collection of old newsletters that were stored at Jim Cole's house.
- Deadline for January newsletter is December 10<sup>th</sup>.
- Important that we be able to bring newsletters to ALL FSGW events

#### **Publicity Report:**

- What internet ads ran last month? Where & for what events?
  - No list tonight but Katie will e-mail it out
  - Katie hasn't done an ad for every event
  - Puts a 50 limit on internet ads
    - Every time she's put a 50 limit, she hits the maximum
- Is there a list of places publicity is going?
  - Yes, Katie has an excel spreadsheet and would be happy to share it.
- Are we cultivating contacts for placing stories?
  - Not successful at cultivating this list.
  - Would like to place follow-up phone calls – Sue McIver volunteered to assist with making these calls
- Let us get flyers *to ALL events*

#### **Program/Events Report:**

- About 50 people for Dana & Susan Robinson; About 80 people for Joe Hickerson
- "Special events" adding one more program (Michelle Chinoire is not coming). New program will likely be Phil Wiggins.
- Tentatively working with new Rosslyn Artisphere for Archie Fisher & Garnet Rogers (4/12) (220-seat dome theatre)

#### **Old Business:**

- Need to reimburse Pat McGee for hardware he is using to digitize FSGW's archive material?
  - \$1763.50 – Jonathan Eberhart Fund . Motion was made and seconded –was passed to reimburse Pat
- Web Committee: new guy, Sandy Aubin – there is much communication between Dennis & Sandy
- Getaway – need to approve committee for 2011 (Charlie)

- Midwinter Fest - April – sent report – expects to make about a thousand dollars this year
  - Should have the schedule by this weekend
  - At least two young peoples' groups
  - Buying ads for MiniFest – Linda Goodman
    - House of Musical Traditions has volunteered to give the drumming workshop and to provide banjos for the banjo workshop
    - HMT owner, David Eisner, suggests that we consider reaching out with paid advertisement (\$3,000 would be just right)
      - He thinks placing ads in the Gazette and Takoma Voice would be beneficial
    - Linda has rate sheets if we are interested in advertising.
- Still looking for a volunteer coordinator for the Washington Folk Festival
- Eisteddfod Festival in Catskills - I got the idea that FSGW is very busy and very traditional for a current society. Everybody is trying to find where the kids are. We need to go where they are; not expect them to come where we are.
- Keep an eye out for possible board members & suggestions for Nominating Committee.
- Please be ready to communicate your willingness or lack, thereof, to run for another term.

**New Business**

- No new business

Next meeting: Tuesday, January 4, 2011 at Glen Echo.

The meeting was adjourned at pm (Motion to adjourn was made and 2<sup>nd</sup>, motion passed.

Respectfully submitted by Cat Tucker

