

1. **Existence of Quorum and Call to Order**
 - a. The meeting was called to order at 8:11 by Vice President Charlie Baum, with President April Blum acting as Recording Secretary.
 - b. The following eight members were present, constituting a quorum: April Blum (President), Charlie Baum (Vice President), Susan Stimpfle (Publications), Liz Milner (Publicity) Steve Burnett (Dance), Janie Meneely (Membership), Tim Livengood (At Large), and Jadzia Sawa (At Large). Richard Aigen (Treasurer), Kim Gandy (Secretary), and Steve Winick (At Large) were absent.
 - c. Also present were Judy Oppenheim and Roxanne Watts.
2. **Approval of Previous Minutes**
 - a. Draft September minutes were distributed electronically, and copies were also provided.. August minutes had been previously distributed, but could not be approved at the September meeting, which did not have a quorum.
 - b. There were misspellings of names in the September minutes, but no other changes were required.
 - i. August Minutes: Jadzia Sawa moved to accept the August minutes, and Tim Livengood seconded. The August minutes were unanimously approved.
 - ii. September Minutes. Tim Livengood moved to accept the September minutes as amended to correct misspellings. Janie Meneely seconded. The September minutes were unanimously approved.
3. **Action Item Reports:**
 - a. The following items are pending, no reports at this meeting.
 - i. Independent audit
 - ii. Legacies language
 - iii. Required election if no contested positions
 - iv. Database scrub schedule
 - v. New Dancer/Committee buttons
 - vi. November 2013 minutes
 - b. Calendar of when we need extra Newsletters (base order is about 1150).
 - i. February @150 extra for Mini-Fest
 - ii. April @50 total extra; half for Chesapeake Dance Weekend, half for Potomac River Sacred Harp Convention
 - iii. June @500 extra for FSGW Washington Folk Festival
 - iv. July-August double issue) @100 extra to last two months
 - v. September @250 extra for Takoma Park Folk Festival
 - vi. October @ 250 extra - 150 for Takoma Park Street Festival, 50 for Getaway and 50 for Contrastock
 - vii. November @100 for Capital Maritime Festival
 - viii. December @150 extra for Revels performances
4. **Old Business**
 - a. **Election of New Programs Chair**
 - i. A motion to appoint Judy Oppenheim as replacement Programs Chair (Marty Summerour having resigned for health reasons at the August meeting) was circulated electronically immediately after the September Board meeting (at which no quorum was present), and was unanimously approved. The By-Laws require that such electronic votes be reaffirmed at a Board meeting.
 - ii. **Resolution: Liz Milner moved that Judy Oppenheim be appointed to serve the remainder of the 2014-2015 term as Program Chair. Janie Meneely seconded. Judy Oppenheim was unanimously elected by eight**

members of the Board of Directors (a two-thirds majority of the remaining Board members).

- iii. Judy briefly outlined for the Board her long time association with FSGW, including her familiarity with FSGW's software.
 - iv. With Judy's election, the number of Board members present was nine, one more than a quorum; Jadzia Sawa, who had a previous commitment, left early, but there was still a quorum of eight Board members.
 - v. The Board briefly discussed typical concert size, whether or not the Puppet Company Stage might be a possible concert venue, use of the Ballroom Annex or the Glen Echo Town Hall, and thoughts on funding at least one annual "big" concert.
- b. **50th**
- i. Roxanne Watts reported that a few members have bought tables and are donating tickets to those who cannot afford to come. Brief discussion about how to offer the tickets.
 - ii. John Dildine was a founder of FSGW and its first president.
(1) **Resolution: Liz Milner moved that John Dildine be given a lifetime membership to FSGW for his outstanding services as First President. Steve Burnett seconded. The resolution was unanimously approved.**
 - iii. Charlie Baum reported that he and others had made frequent announcements regarding 50Fest at the Getaway, but there were not many purchases.
 - iv. Steve Burnett and April Blum had previously discussed using wristbands, distributed at the Bumper Car Pavilion, for admission to the dance the evening of the 50th. Steve said that he would acquire wristbands, and as he would be at the Family Dance, he would see that the wristbands were given to an appropriate check-in person at the Bumper Car Pavilion. The Door Committee in the Spanish Ballroom would keep proper accounts to ensure GEPPAC's records regarding attendance were accurate.
- c. **2014-15 Budget**
- i. Richard Aigen had previously circulated the proposed 2014-15 budget, with additions and corrections, which budget was approved electronically.
 - ii. A motion to approve the budget and authorize the Treasurer to continue to disburse FSGW funds was circulated after the August 2014 meeting (the fiscal year begins September 1); with no quorum at the September meeting, a continuing motion to approve the budget and authorize the Treasurer to continue to disburse FSGW funds
 - iii. **Resolution: Steve Burnett moved that the proposed 2014-15 budget as amended be adopted. Susan Stimpfle seconded. Judy Oppenheim abstained . The resolution passed by a simple majority.**
- d. **Raise Membership Price and/or add a fee to cover printing/ mailing costs**
- i. The Board had previously discussed increasing membership costs slightly as well as adding a fee to partially cover the significant costs that printing and mailing the newsletter currently entail (slightly more than half of the annual membership fee).
 - ii. There was a lengthy, lively and spirited discussion regarding this issue. The eventual Board consensus was that at the moment, FSGW is in comfortable financial territory, and no dues increase can really be justified.
 - iii. However, the majority of those present also agreed that some sort of additional fee for members who wish to receive paper copies of the Newsletter would be appropriate. Charlie Baum noted that some long-time members would object

- to the surcharge, but the Board wishes to encourage its members to "go green" and use the on-line Newsletter as a primary source.
- iv. Janie Meneely pointed out that we still give Newsletters away at FSGW events, so members who object to a small surcharge could simply come to an early event and get a paper copy at no additional charge.
 - v. Charlie Baum suggested that the surcharge be phased in, starting with the next membership renewal for all non-lifetime members.
 - vi. There will be no change for the "Newsletter Only" subscribers (they are non-local, and do not receive membership privileges).
 - vii. It was noted that each "paper" subscription costs FSGW considerably more than fifty percent of the annual fee. (Roughly \$20 of a \$33 subscription.)
 - viii. April Blum suggested that an additional annual fee of \$6.00 – fifty cents per month – be instituted as soon as possible – no earlier than January 2015. This amount would not cover the entire cost of printing, folding, and mailing the Newsletter, but would partially reimburse FSGW for first-class postage.
 - ix. **Resolution: Tim Livengood moved that a Six Dollar (\$6.00) annual fee be instituted, starting no earlier than January 2015, to be charged to each individual member or family membership holder who wishes to receive a paper version of the FSGW Newsletter. Susan Stimpfle seconded. The Motion carried unanimously.**
 - x. The Board recognized that this would require some work by the Webmaster and/or other web administrators. If they recommend other than a "rolling start" the Board can reconsider the timing. As currently envisioned, FSGW members who renew in January will be charged \$6 per membership year (so a one-year individual paper membership would be \$33 plus \$6, a two-year would be \$62 plus \$12, etc.). Anyone who joins with a three-year membership in December 2014 will not be paying the "paper" fee until they renew in 2017. By December, 2017, all memberships should be updated.
 - xi. We can inform FSGW members using Email blast, announcement in the Newsletter, Headline on the website.
 - xii. Consideration of a real "electronic" version of the Newsletter - something with live links, and that would be limited to FSGW events, and updated once per week or so, was tabled – but the Board was in favor of something much more dynamic and less static (links to videos) .
 - (1) Janie Meneely spoke about the "first of the month" problem – that events which occur early in the month often don't get enough attention for people to plan ahead. She suggested that calendars in the Newsletter also include the first few days of the following month.
 - (2) Charlie Baum suggested that a "next month" calendar with live links be instituted and maintained on the website. Tim Livengood recommended using the Google calendar app.

5. New Business:

- a. Partnership with Creative Cauldron.
 - i. Liz Milner reported that in the past, we have selected a performer and did all contract work, and asked if this protocol should be continued.
 - ii. Possible programs – Flory Jagoda, Mai Herson, Sharon Katz, Matt & Shannon Heaton?
 - iii. Liz further reported the possibility of partnering with Creative Cauldron to obtain an NEA grand from the Arts Council of Fairfax County.
 - iv. The door receipts were split between the performer(s) and Creative Cauldron (i.e., no share to FSGW). Liz expressed her opinion that the venue is very nice,

- gives FSGW a foothold in the Virginia suburbs, and reported that she saw lots of new faces.
- v. Laura Connors Hall, who runs Creative Cauldron, apparently has asked if the current terms need to be changed.
 - vi. After some discussion among the Board, the sense of the Board was that since the performers and Creative Cauldron were happy with the current set up, and since from FSGW's perspective it's an outreach program, there was no need to change the financial setup, but that the decision will rest with new Program Chair Judy Oppenheim.
 - vii. Judy will need to take the lead.
- b. Proofing assistance for Susan**
- i. The Board discussed how well and quickly proofreading was being done.
 - ii. Liz and April have both volunteered, and Charlie Baum and Fred Stollnitz both help. How many is too many?
 - iii. Susan Stimpfle has a list of "tickler" emails which should result in information coming in to Susan in a more timely fashion.
- c. Issues with the Web site**
- i. Donations, Bequests.
 - (1) Susan would like a "Donations" button – there is a way to make donations, but it's too hard to find.
 - (2) April has done some research on making donations through a Will or Trust, and has drafted language which is ready to go on the website –but, again, we need an obvious spot.
 - ii. The Board needs to re-visit the question of sticking with MyOrg.Net or moving on to an industry-standard, widely-used system which would enable FSGW to use more volunteers without laborious training. This topic will require further discussion.
- d. April had passed along to Tim an email she had received from a teacher in a Montgomery County school regarding a literacy event for February 2015. The school has no funding, but this is a one-off, outreach event. Tim will follow up, and has suggested storyteller Baba Jamal as a possibility.
- 6. Next Meeting and Motion to Adjourn.**
- a. The next regular Board meeting will be Wednesday, November 5, 2014 in Room 301 of the Classroom Building..
 - b. Liz Milner moved to adjourn, Susan Stimpfle seconded, and the meeting adjourned at 10:01.