

FSGW Board Meeting, February 4, 2015

1. **Call to Order and Quorum** The meeting was called to order by April Blum (President) and a quorum was declared. The following additional board members were present: Charlie Baum (Vice President), Richard Aigen (Treasurer), Kim Gandy (Secretary), Steve Burnett (Dance), Liz Milner (Publicity), Judy Oppenheim (Program), Jadzia Sawa and Tim Livengood (At Large). Janie Meneely (Membership) arrived shortly thereafter.
2. **Approval of Previous Minutes**
 - a. Draft January minutes were distributed electronically, and copies were also provided.
 - b. The minutes were adopted with one correction and without objection.
3. **Action Item Reports:**
 - a. Pending, no report
 - i. Legacies language (holding pending new website)
 - ii. Required election if no contested positions
 - iii. New Dancer/Committee buttons (need FSGW button machine)
 - iv. November 2013 minutes
 - v. Independent audit (Richard)
 - vi. Laminated signs for WES about parking
 - b. Replacement of Newsletter Editor. April reported that Russell Hamm may be interested.
 - c. Hope and a Home – Tim Livengood reports that storytelling was cancelled due to weather in January
 - d. Wild Apricot – April said that Lynn Baumeister reported that evaluation of WA is continuing.
 - e. Sending email alert that the new month's Newsletter is online. This may have been done by the previous editor, but information and instructions were apparently not given to the incoming editor. Will Strang has been working on a method that uses the current website's capabilities. He and April Blum will coordinate sending a test alert for the next issue (the March issue will be ready in February). April will write up instructions to pass on to the next Editor.
4. **Old Business**
 - a. **Data Base Issues and Wish Lists**
 - i. Judy Oppenheim agreed to act as the board's liaison with Will Strang, acting as the communication hub to ensure clarity of communication between Will and the FSGW board.
 - ii. February newsletter has a request for members to update their listings on the inside back page.
 - iii. February newsletter also has a request for someone to design a scalable logo for FSGW.
 - iv. Sandy Aubin has resigned from the FSGW Web Administration position he has held for several years. Janie Meneely moved the following resolution, which was adopted unanimously after multiple seconds:
RESOLUTION: The Board thanks Sandy Aubin for his services, and appreciates the many hours of time he has devoted to FSGW affairs.
 - v. Will Strang has been a mainstay of FSGW Web Administration, and Judy Oppenheim moved the following resolution, which was adopted unanimously after numerous seconds:
RESOLVED: The Board wishes to thank Will Strang for invaluable assistance in Web Administration and his willingness to help with the many technical demands of the acquisition, testing and installation of a new Content Management System.
 - b. **Fee to cover mailing costs** Item carried over from last month
 - i. Will has implemented the necessary changes which permit online purchase of both a membership and additional postage for paper Newsletter delivery. This has been tested by Mandy Burnett.
 - ii. Discussed whether we want to encourage members opting for paper to "round up" and make a small extra donation when they renew. Decided that people are already doing so without prompting.
5. **New Business:**
 - a. **Outreach to Nursing Homes/ Assisted Living Facilities**

Liz Milner has suggested another area of outreach – assisted living/senior residences. A sizeable proportion of our members are boomers, beginning to enter these facilities. Some have excellent performance spaces and enthusiastic audiences and many cater to "active adults." Such outreach

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could give new artists a place to perform, and fits our image as a community-spirited organization

If FSGW funds this sort of event, what would we expect in return?

- (1) Sell tickets to non-residents? Larger establishments like Greenspring have fairly elaborate security arrangements.
- (2) Advertising? How do we let people know?
- (3) Mostly daytime events? Parking is sometimes limited, particularly for medium size places like Sunrise. Will there be ASCAP issues?

Liz provided a draft letter for Board review and Janie offered to follow up on the responses.

b. Frequency of Email blasts.

How often is too often? Liz has gotten "Once a week is too much" and "Once every two weeks is not enough." Board agreed that you can never please everyone, and that once a week seems reasonable.

c. Member survey

- i. Liz has created a survey and distributed it to the board. The questions were discussed.
- ii. Additional questions were suggested:
 - (1) What venues do you consider too difficult? Why? (E.g., WES, parking?)
 - (2) Do you belong to an organization that has a performance space?

d. Elections Carried over from last month

- i. The Bylaws require at least 3 people. Jim Cole is willing to serve as "advisor" and Mary Cliff has agreed to serve.
- ii. April will locate and reread Ryan Holman's memo about last year's election.
- iii. If there are no contested elections, we can consider using electronic balloting.
- iv. Paper balloting is extremely expensive and wasteful, as only a tiny percentage of mailed ballots are returned, but if we cannot be absolutely sure about ballot counting, we will probably need to do paper ballots this year.

e. Filming Mini-Fest

- i. Laurisha Cotton – will be making a short film of this year's Mini-Fest.
- ii. Do we also want short (2-3 minutes) clips of FSGW activities – storytelling, family dance, concerts, special dance events, regular (weekly) dances, sings for the new website, could we begin an archive of "highlights" or "samples" and do we need some sort of release from artists and participants?

f. Mary Cliff and WAMU

- i. "Traditions with Mary Cliff" has long been a staple on WAMU, with blues, ballads, ethnic and traditional music. According to Mary's post, she recorded her last program last Saturday. WAMU has shut down her mailbox and has laid off a number of people and cancelled programs.
- ii. Discussed an article, tribute concert and other possibilities for recognizing her trailblazing work, as well as collecting messages for her.
- iii. Discussed the possibility of producing a podcast (Cliffhanger? Cliffcast? New Traditions?) with Mary, weekly, monthly, occasionally. Need to find out whether Mary is interested, and if so, begin to investigate costs, ASCAP releases, etc. April will ask Mary about her interest in the concert and/or the podcast.

6. Next Meeting and Motion to Adjourn.

- a. The next regular Board meeting will be Wednesday, March 4 2015.
- b. Charlie Baum moved adjourn the meeting, Judy Oppenheim seconded. Meeting was adjourned without objection.