

1. **Call to Order:** Vice President Charlie Baum called the meeting to order at 8:25, but there was no quorum. The following additional members were present: Treasurer Jerry Stein; Newsletter Chair Jeanne Kaplan; Program Chair Janie Meneely, Membership Chair Judy Oppenheim (via Skype), and Tim Livengood and Steve Kaufman, both At Large. Absent were April Blum, Kim Gandy, Richard Aigen, Steve Winick, and Steve Burnett. There was not a quorum, but a meeting was held and this report outlines the discussion.
2. **Approval of Previous Minutes**
 - a. Draft November minutes were read, but approval was postponed to the December meeting.
 - i. The financial information from WFF did not add up.
 - ii. Charlie Baum wished to make a change to 4.c.ii.
3. **Action Item Reports:**
 - a. Still Pending, no report
 - i. Legacies language (holding pending new website)
 - ii. New Dancer/Committee buttons (need FSGW button machine)
 - iii. November 2013 minutes
 - iv. By-laws revision – pending new website
 - b. Independent audit/Combined Federal Campaign.
 - i. Jerry Stein reported on developments for an independent audit and the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) grant possibilities. The CFC offers a free course in how to apply for inclusion in the CFC, and Steve Kaufman, and possibly Jerry Stein, intends to attend the workshop(s). Jerry asked if a "review" or "compilation" might be cheaper alternatives to an "audit" and was shopping around for less expensive auditors. The Board had previously allocated \$10000 for auditing, and Jerry asked if the expense of an audit would be yearly, one-time, or repeated at periodic intervals. Is the expense likely to be recouped in donations made possible by being audited?
 - c. Retrieval of Pat McGee Archival Materials from Texas.
 - i. Charlie Baum reported that he had talked to Kathie Mack just before the Board meeting. Attempts to reach Pat's friend and executor, D'Arcy Fowler, by phone have been unsuccessful, with the call going to voice mail even before it rings. The next step will be to try to reach D'Arcy by snail mail.
4. **Old Business**
 - a. **Web Migration**
 - i. No report because neither April Blum nor Kim Gandy were present.
 - b. **Concerts**
 - i. Janie Meneely shared upcoming ideas, and used the collection of people at the meeting to brainstorm other ideas for programs, and groups that might attract younger audiences.
 - ii. CyberTrad with Matt Olwell attracted a younger crowd, but there were barely 30 people at that concert. (And perhaps the marketing slant scared off traditional music lovers—the set list was a lot more trad that one would have expected from the write-ups.) Low Lily attracted a few young people, all comped-in friends of the performers, and had a disappointingly low turnout.
 - iii. A possibility of some dance bands playing a concert during their visit to town came up. FSGW will also sponsor a Grapevine storytelling session the third Wednesday in January at Busboys and Poets in Takoma as a program, inviting FSGW members to attend with the knowledge that FSGW is making a generous contribution on their behalf, to which they might wish to add.
 - iv. Janie mentioned several other folks who are scheduled, including Joe Newberry and several events at Mount Lubentia, and a possible return for a program by the New Millennium Jelly Rollers (youngsters who would attract a younger crowd).
 - v. The December program will be Magpie's Seasons of Light on Friday, December 18, at Seekers Church in Takoma.

- c. **CDSS Scholarships**
 - i. Discussion postponed.

5. **New Business**

a. **Newsletter Discussion**

- i. Jeanne Kaplan led a discussion about how much obituary was appropriate for the Newsletter. A consensus developed that FSGW members should certainly get mentioned, local musicians probably so, and connections with the FSGW being the factor that determines whether or not to devote a lot of space. She was concerned that obits cater to older members of FSGW, but it was mentioned that those are the folks who need to hear the news in a printed form since they are more likely not to get their info from websites.
- ii. Jeanne also expressed concern that she have control over the content, as her name is on the masthead as Editor and she is therefore responsible and must answer to the Board. There's probably more to discuss at future meetings.

b. **Membership**

- i. Discussion postponed.

c. **April's Automobile Accident**

- i. Email information about April's auto misadventure was read to the Board, and the Board expressed concern for her health and hopes she recovers from any trauma speedily.

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

- a. The next regular Board meeting will be Wednesday, January 6, 2016.
- b. Motion to made by Jeanne Kaplan, and the clamor to second it came from so many voices at once as to constitute unanimous approval.

Programs Chair Report for November 2015

The October programs were enthusiastically received. There was a modest turn out at Seekers Church for the **Jeff Davis/ Brian Peters** return show, but we brought in enough ticket sales to break even and toss a few extra dollars above the guarantee to Jeff and Brian.

The **Low Lily** concert, not so much. Great show, but we lost around \$200.

We lost our shirts on the **Echoes of Erin** show--the one that was a no-fail. We're down \$1000 on that one... I did not get the final paperwork from Loralyn, but maybe Jerry did.

Trio Sephardi (Nov 1) went over very well. The JCC seemed happy. The venue is amazing--great sound tech (lights!). They handled ticket sales, the whole nine yards. All we did was sell CDs and cover the guarantee. Unfortunately, we did not break even though it was reasonably close. I'll ping Dan Kirsch, the JCC music director, to see if he's got the paperwork done yet. It will take a while for the JCC to process the check, but one should be forthcoming. We paid \$1000 guarantee.

Lisa Null's concert was a great success and a good time was had by all.

We gotta do something to draw in young folks.

Idea #1 work full-bore on the Take Back the Music event, which is getting a lot of nods from the younger set.

Idea #2 host our own Youth Trad weekend--only problem is where? needs to be metro accessible and offer beds.

Respectfully submitted,
Janie

Storytelling Report, submitted by Tim Livengood

Grapevine: 2015 October 14

Donations: \$489

Audience: About 48, apart from the organizers and performers (based on donations and counting heads).

Jason Nkwain and Laura Simms

Plenty of people. If we can get about 20 more per night, we will feel pretty satisfied with reaching sufficient audience. The room has enough remaining space that at that many (~70 people), the room will become crowded.

Distributing flyers during the dinner time prior to the performance, around a third of dinner guests were there specifically for the Grapevine performance.

Jason Nkwain is a very cheerful and powerful presence. I am trying to recruit him into storyswaps with FSGW and Voices. **Laura Simms** really knocked it out of the park.

Hope and a Home, 2015 October 26:

Shirleta Settles told stories for FSGW outreach to Hope and a Home, for an audience of 18 children. Payment for this performance is \$200. We got a nice note from our contact person, Grace Dickerson: "Please convey to Mama Shirleta (I think that is what she called herself) how much we appreciated her coming last night. The kids really enjoyed it. They will tell you they don't want to be scared, but they really do like it. They had a great time. Tim, you really do a nice job of getting story tellers for us to enjoy. Great fun! I will remember the game Shirleta introduced to us, as well. That is a keeper for another time. Thanks again, Tim, for "watching over us". "

Tim