

FSGW Board Meeting Minutes
July 6, 2016

1. **Call to Order and Existence of Quorum.** The meeting was called to order at 8:00 pm by President April Blum. Board members present: Charlie Baum, Vice President; Jerry Stein, Treasurer; Kim Gandy, Secretary; Ingrid Gorman, Publicity Chair; Heather Livingston, Publications Chair; Penelope Weinberger, Dance Chair; Mike Livingston, Program Chair; and Tim Livengood, At Large. Judy Oppenheim, Membership Chair, participated via Skype. A quorum was present. Absent were Steve Winick and Steve Kaufman, At-Large.
2. **Approval of Previous Minutes**
 - a. Draft June Minutes were distributed electronically, and copies were also provided.
 - b. With minor typo corrections, the minutes were adopted.
3. **Action Item Reports:**
 - a. **Independent audit/Combined Federal Campaign.** Jerry is looking into potential auditors for after the end of our fiscal year on August 31.
 - b. **Web Migration progress** (April) No report this month.
 - c. **Pat McGee archival materials retrieval.**
 - i. Kathie Mack indicates no contact with D'Arcy for six months.
 - ii. April has left three messages with a Probate attorney (Michael A. Duran) who may have been hired by Pat to deal with the probate of the estate of Sarah Nell Green. Discussed whether someone might be able to go there in person.
 - d. **Glen Echo Maintenance of Ballroom Floor.** Referred to Penelope as the new Dance Chair. Kim noted that the floor seems to have been repaired in a number of places.
 - e. **CDSS Scholarship.** April is still awaiting the information from CDSS and has asked them again.
 - f. **Reston ECD Co-Sponsored ECD Dance.** No new information since last meeting.
 - g. **Hope and a Home** – On summer hiatus.
 - h. **Photo Archive** – Ready for Mini-Fest photos? Ingrid.
 - i. **Problem Dancer #5** – April. No change since last meeting. April will share the information with Penelope (original letter was sent to GEPPAC) who suggested that the DCCs be informed.
 - j. **Busboys and Poets/Grapevine.** Tim reported that Noa Baum has been getting people for the upcoming season, and they are working on increasing the diversity of performers. They have been soliciting donations and have raised about \$400 so far. Tim will be submitting a budget this fall.
 - k. **Proposed Scholarship.** April will talk to Jackie Hoglund about Coco Glass to get further specifics about the proposed scholarship.
 - l. **Chesapeake Dance Weekend.** April will write up her observations and suggestions and send them to Sargon.
4. **Old Business**
 - a. **Re-branding of FSGW – Membership Benefits**
 - i. April provided a chart of membership totals as of July 5 for the last 15 years. Although FSGW is currently below its 2002 total, it has recovered somewhat from the low of 2013. What can we do to continue the upward trend? Discussed whether it is better to evaluate success based on amount of dues paid or number of members (if all members of a family are counted)
 - ii. Do millennials join organizations? How do we "pass the baton" if no one wants to join the relay?

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- iii. April explained the issues to new Board members – possible discussion of "levels of membership" and moving away from "what can FSGW do for me" and toward "what can I do for FSGW." Mike said that the program committee will be discussing this on Tuesday and will have some specific recommendations. There was a discussion of different ideas for increasing membership.
- iv. Briefly discussed reworking the FSGW logo, and also the use of "FSGW" (just the letters) vs "Folklore Society of Greater Washington". Do we want to redesign letterhead and business cards per Mike's request? April would love to have a new logo designed by October.
- v. Penelope offered to be the point person for revamping the logo and mission – she requested that people send her their "brainstorming" ideas about what we are trying to convey.

b. ***Washington Folk Festival***

- i. The cancellation of the 2016 Takoma Park Folk Festival (below) makes obtaining a clear outline of WFF activities, timelines, etc. even more critical.
- ii. Charlie is going to talk with Dean Clamons and others to gather a sort of "oral history" of how the WFF is done. Tim suggested an oral history from Dwain Winters for archival purposes, which might also provide additional information about "how to" do the WFF.

c. ***Budget Meeting Reminder.*** August 28, Sunday, at 11 am, at April's house.

5. **New Business:** (20 minutes - 8:55)

a. ***Takoma Park Folk Festival (TPFF) Cancellation*** (10 minutes – 8:45)

- i. Charlie Baum reported that the TPFF at Takoma Park Middle School (Sept. 11) is cancelled for lack of volunteer leadership (no Chair, no Treasurer, no lieutenants, etc.) Several of the longtime volunteers are moving away and the rest can't handle it. Fred Stollnitz told Charlie that they're thinking of doing something small, and Charlie suggested a smaller venue, like the Town Hall, rather than the school.

b. ***Programs/Concerts***

- i. Mike has done a fantastic job lining up a significant number of events. How do we publicize them? How do we emphasize that joining FSGW makes one a part of the tradition – and that dues are not simply a quid pro quo for discounts? Mike noted that his committee is discussing the issue of how many (and which) concerts are free, and April noted that there is a desire to have the freebees more evenly distributed, e.g. to include dances as well as concerts. There has also been a suggestion that with a membership comes a certain number of free events, to be decided by the member.

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

- a. The next regular Board meeting will be Wednesday, August 3, 2016
- b. Motion to adjourn by Tim, seconded by Ingrid. Motion passed without objection. The meeting was adjourned at 9:10pm