

FSGW Board Meeting Minutes
April 2017 meeting, held March 29, 2017

1. **Call to Order and Existence of Quorum**

April Blum (President) called the meeting to order at 8:03pm. Also present: Charlie Baum (VP), Ingrid Gorman (Publicity), Jerry Stein (Treasurer), Kim Gandy (Secretary), Penelope Weinberger (Dance), Judy Oppenheim (Membership) via Skype, and Tim Livengood and Steve Kaufman (At-Large).

2. **Approval of Previous Minutes**

- a. Draft March Minutes were distributed by email and print copies were provided.
- b. With minor corrections, Charlie moved to approve and Tim seconded. Motion passed.
- c. Approval of February minutes, which had been postponed from the March meeting, was postponed to the May meeting so that we can have printed copies for review.

3. **Action Item Reports:**

- a. **Independent audit/Combined Federal Campaign** (Jerry) No change this month.
- b. **Pat McGee archival materials retrieval.** (April) No change this month.
- c. **Hope and a Home** (Tim) Candace Wolf told stories for the FSGW outreach effort in support of Hope and a Home on 27 March, 2017. There were 21 children plus 5 college students, plus 4 full adults, with 3 or 4 of the children under the age of 4.
- d. **Grapevine** (Tim) This was held on March 8 with Noa Baum and Megan Wells. There were 41 people, and they collected \$748 in donations.
- e. **Proposed Scholarship** (April) The person who originally proposed setting up a scholarship has realized that it is more complicated than she thought, and has decided not to pursue it. This item is FINAL.
- f. **Washington Folk Festival Manual.** (Charlie) No change this month.
- g. **Musical Theater adaptation** (Mike) No change this month.
- h. **Distribution of Donated 78s and Books.** (April). Betsy Platt is working on this, thinks she will finish by next month.
- i. **WFFL.** (April) April and Jerry need to meet with GEPPAC staff to alert them to the possible/probable change of venue for WFF. Ingrid has talked to Dwain, who would like to remain involved as "technical manager" or something like that.
- j. **Alternate WFF** (Charlie) Progress on alternate site?

4. **Old Business**

a. **Logo**

- i. Ingrid is following up on a new logo design, and has requested a small additional sum for this work in progress.
- ii. Ingrid and Mike are waiting for a final design approval before getting additional promotional material ready.
- iii. The Web Migration Project Manager will need the logo for the wireframes.
- iv. Possible special meeting just to consider the logo designs?
- v. Resolution: I move that FSGW allocate an amount not to exceed Five Hundred Dollars for additional design work on the FSGW logo, to include additional design work and furnishing of final artwork in all formats, in both color and black and white versions.

b. **Web Migration**

- i. The Web Migration committee (Will Strang, Lynn Baumeister, April Blum and Kim Gandy) had a cordial and useful meeting with the new Project Manager, Beth Soderberg.
- ii. Beth will begin by reviewing the material provided by Lynn Baumeister, and will prioritize tasks and get back to the Web Migration committee with a plan of attack.
- iii. Lynn Baumeister has apparently found a "back door" way to enter members into the data base who do not have an email address without having to create a "dummy" email address.

c. **Elections**

- i. The slate appears to be complete. Nominations close Friday, March 31.
- ii. To consider for the next round of Bylaws:
 - (1) Is it possible to elect a slate by acclamation?
 - (2) Is it possible to require that all ballots be electronic only?

d. **GEPPAC Annual Gala**

- i. Who of the current Board is able to attend?
- ii. Who else could be asked?
- iii. B&W ad 5 wide by 3.875 high, due in pdf or jpg by May 1 to go into program. Ingrid should have last year's format.

e. **New Annual Life Membership Award** (tabled until next meeting, when Mike will be present).

- i. Article III, Section C of the FSGW bylaws as amended July 2008 states: "Honorary memberships may be extended to individuals only on the unanimous approval of the board and may be with or without limit of duration." From that premise, and without requiring any change in the bylaws or incurring any significant cost,
- ii. Mike (Program Chair) proposes to establish an annual award of a lifetime membership, the Claude Martin Memorial Honorary Life Membership. This will effectively constitute an FSGW Young Artist Hall of Fame. The annual membership would be conferred on significantly accomplished but still rising Washington-area folk artists under age 30, selected annually in September by a committee reporting to the Board of Directors for confirmation in accordance with the Bylaws.
- iii. The screening and selection Committee should consist of:
 - (1) FSGW Program Chair;
 - (2) FSGW Membership Chair;
 - (3) FSGW President or another person chosen by the President;
 - (4) A member of Claude Martin's family or another person chosen by the Martin family; and
 - (5) A distinguished former FSGW Board member chosen by the Board of Directors.
- iv. Criteria: The award would be presented to a musician, singer, dance teacher or caller, storyteller, or other traditional artist who is:
 - (1) Recommended by the five-member screening committee (see above) to the Board of Directors;
 - (2) Deemed geographically eligible; and
 - (3) Under 30 years old at the time the award is presented.
- v. Discussion/Resolution.

5. **New Business:**

a. **Sound equipment** (tabled for next meeting, when Mike will be present)

- i. Does FSGW need additional sound equipment?
- ii. Does FSGW need to train sound engineers or at least ensure familiarity with FSGW equipment?

b. **Family Dance and Training for Callers**

- i. Report by Penelope Weinberger
 - 1) Family Dance
 - 2) 8 week training class for new callers, to include not only Contra, but also English, Family, and Squares (all four are FSGW activities). Participants will be charged a modest fee of approx. \$10 per session (\$80 total). Callers class will debut with Green Light Karma at the Spanish Ballroom.

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3) Tim moved to allocate an amount not to exceed \$2,000 to conduct the Callers Practicum series and to pay the bands. Ingrid seconded and the motion carried.

c. *Invite Incoming Board Members to Attend May Meeting?*

i. April proposes that nominees (all of whom are running unopposed) for Vice President, Membership, Dance, and At Large be formally invited to attend the May meeting as well as the traditional June meeting. Board agreed to do this.

d. *Peggy Seeger Biography*

i. April received an email from Jean Freedman, who has published a biography of Peggy Seeger and wants to know if we can publicize it through FSGW.

ii. We should have some sort of standard policy for this sort of request. Do we ask her to buy a small ad in the Newsletter? Do we include a mention in the email blast? Other?

e. *Wish List for Bylaw Revision*

i. It's time to start compiling a list of what needs to be changed, so we get to all of it. We weren't able to get to this item at the meeting but will keep it on the agenda.

ii. Already discussed at past meetings:

(1) Easier method to amend Bylaws.

(2) Change to membership structure – one person, one membership. All members' dependents get the membership rate for events

(3) Change one Board position to IT Liaison

(4) Address "corporate" issues (Revels). They can't vote, and therefore need a different type of membership, such as "affiliation."

(5) Election of a completely unopposed slate (by acclamation?) Should we allow for write-ins?

(6) Elect only HALF of the Board each year? Or elect Board for two-year terms – i.e. elections held only every other year instead of every year. This might also require rethinking the "five-year" limit.

(7) Eliminate the differentiation between "Programs" and "Concerts" which is no longer reflected in the Board positions.

6. *Next Meeting and Motion to Adjourn.*

a. The next regular Board meeting will be Wednesday, May 3, 2017.

b. Time moved to adjourn and Jerry seconded. The motion passed.