

Draft FSGW Board Meeting Minutes

September 4, 2018

Attendance and Quorum: Charlie Baum (President) called the meeting to order at 8:10pm. A quorum was present: Jerry Stein (Treasurer), Kim Gandy (Secretary), Sinead Walshe (Publications), Mike Livingston (Programs), Jen Furlong (Membership) via phone, Ken Mayer (At Large), Ingrid Gorman (At-Large) and Jerry Blum (At Large). Absent were: Molly Hickman (Vice President), April Blum (Past President), and Penelope Weinberger (Dance).

Adoption of Minutes: Mayer moved and Stein seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the July meeting, which was adopted without objection. Jerry B. moved to adopt the notes from the August meeting at which there was no quorum. Mike objected to adopting notes from a meeting at which there was no quorum, and no vote was taken with regard to those notes.

Report and Request from Former Board Member: Tim Livengood, former board member who organizes storytelling events for FSGW, was recognized at the beginning of the meeting. He asked whether the \$1600 for Hope and a Home will be continued and was told that it is in the budget. He also proposed a \$4500 budget for Grapevine and estimated that approximately \$1000 would come back in donations, based on FSGW paying \$100 per teller per event, plus the cost of the venue, and that a total of \$100 per event would come back to FSGW from the door donations. Renee has been trying to get Grapevine sponsorships from businesses around Takoma Park. Noa Baum has convinced storytellers to take less money than they normally would accept. Mike asked whether there had been any Foundation or Corporate funding proposals, and Tim replied that none have been made. Tim plans to request reimbursement of his expenses, and then donate that money back to FSGW. He noted that Donald Davis, a highly respected teller, will come in January.

Old Business and Follow-ups:

- *Washington Folk Festival:* Charlie reported that the Washington Folk Festival's 2018 deficit was only \$7500, much less than we had feared, given the truly horrible weather. It was pointed out that this was primarily because of a \$10,000 donation, and that the loss would have been much higher otherwise. Charlie noted that Molly Hickman has some thoughts/concerns about the future of Washington Folk Festival (and the changing management structures at Glen Echo Park) to share, but that will be postponed until October, because she can't make it tonight.
- *Ratification of Approval of Takoma Park Street Festival booth.* Ken moved to ratify the prior action taken via email: "I move that FSGW allocate \$150 to rent booth space at the Takoma Park Street Festival, to be held October 7, 2018." The motion carried without objection.
- *Sound equipment training program with Dan Kahn.* Jen Furlong has talked with Dan but does not have anything conclusive to report. Dan has asked a lot of questions about what we want, and Jen is talking with him about our needs. Dan wanted to know who is doing sound backup for concerts now. Mike says that it varies based on the venue and the act. Jen asked whether performers typically bring their own equipment, and Mike says that it varies. Charlie said the main goal is to increase the number of people who know how to run the equipment. Jerry B. suggested doing videos that could be posted.
- *Combined Federal Campaign* – Jerry S said that we are going to start applying for it soon. Kim noted that this usually happens in the fall.
- *Wild Apricot Migration* – This is in progress. Kim noted that, as reported at the August meeting, Lynn Baumeister has been notified by Jen of the recognition we voted to provide to her.

- *MiniFest* – Regarding applying for use of the middle school, Jerry S. noted that this is all in progress and provided an update.
- *Publicity chair search* – Charlie has done a write-up of the position, which he sent to Ingrid and Molly and will share with the board. Where would we publicize this opening? Jen offered to teach people about using social media for publicity. Kim suggested posting it on Idealist with other volunteer opportunities. Liz Milner will share with folklore program at George Mason, and Ingrid suggested Steve Winick also. She will contact both, and also put in Facebook. Kim suggested American Studies students at GWU, and will ask Kip Lornell for a contact.
- *Archives currently in April's basement*, and volunteer efforts to help catalog. Ingrid met an archivist, and will talk with her about helping with the project. Charlie estimates 1.5 hours per box, and there are probably only 10 more boxes. Charlie has completed four of them and has created a spreadsheet that can be added to.
- *Adding library subscriptions* – and doing so in a way that doesn't screw up the Wild Apricot membership rolls. Jerry Stein has reached out to Beth Soderberg but hasn't heard back. He will reach out to her again. Gellman Library has paid, but not many other libraries.
- *Advertising/support in DC Labor Chorus program* – This was requested by Fred Stollnitz. DCLC bought an ad in the Washington Folk Festival program and hopes we can reciprocate. . A quarter-page for \$125 or a half-page for \$250 or a full-page for \$400. Mike noted that they are inviting ads to honor their founder, Elise Bryant, who Charlie says has also been a supporter of FSGW. Ingrid noted that many more people saw the WFF program (thousands) than would see their program, so it's hard to tell what is reciprocal. Kim moved that we reciprocate with an ad in the DCLC program, with the reciprocal amount and ad content to be determined by Ingrid. Sinead seconded. Passed without objection.
- *Claude Martin Memorial Life Membership Award* – We have been asked to identify “a distinguished former FSGW board member” to serve on the panel judging applicants for the award. The consensus on August 19 was to ask Mary Cliff first. Charlie has asked Mary Cliff and is waiting to hear.
- *Adoption of 2018-2019 Fiscal Year Budget*. After a lengthy discussion, Ken moved to continue the existing budget for two months. Seconded by Jen. Motion carried without objection.

Next Meeting

Next regular Board meeting will be Tuesday, October, 2, 2018. Charlie will be late and asked whether someone else can handle keys and opening the space.

Adjournment

Gandy moved that we adjourn, and the motion carried without objection.

Program Committee Report (submitted by Mike Livingston)

In August 2018, FSGW produced or cosponsored three concerts: Cat and the Fiddle with Abe Joyner-Meyers & Darrow Sherman; Susan Pepper & Ash Devine; and the Julia Patinella Trio. These events had a total audience of 83 and a net cost of \$1,260, or an average subsidy of \$15.

Since and including July 2016, the subsidy rate for concerts has been:

- >\$15 in 12 out of 26 months (46%)
- \$10-\$15 (target range) in 7 out of 26 months (27%)
- <\$10 in 7 out of 26 months (27%)