

Attendance/Introductions and Quorum

Charlie Baum (President) called the meeting to order at 8:05 pm and all present introduced themselves. A quorum was noted. Additional board members present: Ingrid Gorman (Vice President), Jerry Stein (Treasurer), Kim Gandy (Secretary), Mike Livingston (Programs), Ben Sela (Dance), Jerry Blum (At Large), Don Fahey (At Large), Renée Brachfeld (At-Large), and Cassie Sherman-Marks, who participated via phone. Jen Furlong (Membership) joined the meeting later via Zoom. Sinead Walshe (Publications) and April Blum (Past President) were absent.

Incoming board members were welcomed. Those participating were Will Strang (incoming Treasurer), Neil Zimmerman (incoming Secretary), Jim McRea (incoming Publications Chair), Charlie Pilzer (incoming President), and Nancy Lisi (incoming Publicity Chair). Guests attending the meeting were Michal Warshow, Bill Rucker, Robert Swain, and Marty Blumsatt.

Adoption of May minutes

The minutes were sent out electronically and printed copies were provided. After minor corrections, Livingston moved adoption, Fahey seconded, and the minutes were adopted without objection.

OLD BUSINESS

Progress reports, updates, and debriefs:

- **Chesapeake Dance Weekend** – Michal Warshow reported that they have looked into alternative venues, including Camps Louise/Airy and Buffalo Gap, and also solicited potential sponsors. The offered sponsorship amounts were not sufficient to dig the event out of the hole financially, and the other camp costs were not significantly different from the longtime venue. Buffalo Gap may be a possibility but it would require a committee to put it together, and at the moment that is not forthcoming. Michal thanked FSGW for sponsoring -- it's been a great 37 years – and the board thanked Michal and the committee for their work.
- **Dance Meeting (June 9)** – Ben Sela & Ingrid Gorman reported on logistical plans. Ben, Ingrid and Kim have talked with Nanette Alvey, the professional facilitator we have hired. They are working out the details for speakers/timers/AV. Discussed whether we need to have a release form, or at least post a sign. Need a music stand for people who have notes. Renée suggested an iPad for counting down the time would be better than a timekeeper holding up signs. Neil requested that it be made clear that no decision will be made before the new board takes office. Kim said that longstanding practice has been that such decisions are made by the dance chair. Jerry B. suggested that this may be a policy decision that should be made by the board, so it wouldn't change depending

on who was dance chair at any given time, which can be addressed at a future meeting. Based on a show of hands, seven board members will be at the listening session.

Charlie P. reads the bylaws as delegating such decisions to the dance chair, and that taking this from the hands of the dance chair may require a bylaws change. Neil reads the bylaws differently. Neil asked who would decide whether a person is being disruptive, and Kim responded that having someone address this possibility was suggested by the Facilitator. Discussed whether the audio/video should be posted, and whether it would stay posted. Cassie thinks it should stay posted. Bill Rucker said that Cincinnati had people write out a statement, which was posted, but then the discussion went beyond what they had written in their formal statement.

- **Review of FSGW finances** – Jerry Stein reported that next month we will have a detailed financial report that includes Chesapeake weekend and the Washington Folk Festival. He will send the financials to the new board in advance of the next board meeting.
- **Distribution of event passes with membership** – Mike sent the art to Jenn last month. Ingrid got a welcome letter for her renewal, with a bunch of old stuff (e.g. family memberships) so she sent edits. Also she received no passes. This is something we need to figure out with Jen.
- **Bal DC** – Jerry S. gave them the deposit check for the venue and website. The total was \$3,012.50 for ½ the venue cost (the required deposit) plus \$60 for the website. They've told Jerry S. that they don't think they will need the \$1,000 subsidy they originally requested from FSGW.

NEW BUSINESS

- ***Thank you, April Blum, for filling in as our guest July/August FSGW Newsletter editor!***
- ***Choice of Meeting Dates for the 2019-2020 Board.*** Kim reported the days of the week that are available for meetings at Glen Echo (Mon through Thurs, with preference for Tues or Weds). Charlie P. asked whether there was objection to continuing to meet on the first Tuesday of each month. Neil, as incoming Secretary, would prefer meeting on different days, and asked that this decision be delayed until the July board meeting, in case alternate dates might be available at a different local venue.
- ***Procedures/policies for dealing with complaints.*** Ingrid talked about the board's work with Nanette Alvey, in particular an in-person retreat where the participating board members agreed that we need to have more policies for dealing with complaints or other problems. This will end up being in the bailiwick of the new board. Ingrid is willing to continue working on this. There was an extensive discussion of different kinds of

potential problems that the board should consider how to deal with. Neil asked whether there is D&O liability insurance (answer: No) or liability insurance for events (answer: Yes).

In the context of potential complaints, Neil suggested that board members not speak at the listening session. Jim felt it was more honest for members to be public about their opinion. Will noted that they would have to be speaking as private individuals and not as board members.

- **Thank you to the departing 2018-2019 Board for your service.** The board expressed its thanks to the departing board members, April Blum, Mike Livingston, Sinead Walshe, and Cassie Sherman-Marks for their service to the society!

Next board meeting in July

The next meeting is scheduled for 8pm Tuesday, July 2, Glen Echo Park Arcade Room 201

Adjournment

Don moved to adjourn the meeting, Jerry B. seconded. The motion carried without objection.

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

Getaway – Charlie B. reported that the programming is completed, and he and Dean Clamons will be revising the cost of attending this week (a slight increase, but also they are working out inconsistencies between categories).

Program – Mike Livingston reported that in April 2019, FSGW produced or cosponsored two concerts: Andrea Beaton & Troy MacGillivray and Two Sisters. These events had a total audience of 74 and a total cost of \$54, or an average subsidy rate of zero.

In May 2019, FSGW produced or cosponsored three concerts: McKain Lakey; Andy Cohen & Eleanor Ellis w/ Bill Ellis; and Donna Ray Norton & Melanie Rice Penland. These events had a total audience of 87 and a total cost of \$2,420, or an average subsidy of \$28.

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

>\$15 in 14 out of 34 months (41%)

\$10-\$15 (target range) in 9 out of 34 months (27%)

<\$10 in 11 out of 34 months (32%)

Storytelling – Tim Livengood reported that FSGW presented musician Marsha Goodman-Wood in our outreach series for Hope and a Home on Monday, May 20, 2019. No information available on how many children participated. Marsha performs music for children with a bent towards science.