

7/2/19

Charlie Pilzer called the meeting to order at 8:14 PM. Quorum (greater than 8) was achieved. Present: Charlie Baum (Past-President), Jerry Blum (At-Large), Don Fahey (Program), Kim Gandy (At-Large), Ingrid Gorman (VP), Jim McRea (Publications), Will Strang (Treasurer), Neil Zimmerman (Secretary); remotely: Renee Brachfeld (At-Large), Ben Sela (Dance, started later). Jerry Stein (past-Treasurer), Nancy Lisi (Publicity) came later.

Minutes: McRea moved adoption, Fahey seconded, passed without objection.

Groundrules: Charlie P. discussed guidelines for running the Board meetings. Civility; Robert's Rules of Order; policy book (compiled by Neil); wants Board to focus on long-standing strategic issues such as declining attendance and membership.

Treasurer's Report: net loss \$ 25 k to date in FY (10 months). Charlie P predicts \$ 10 k loss on Festival, based on preliminary report from Joel B. Discussion of budgeting and financial controls. Overall assessment from Treasurer and past Treasurer: We are solvent, but not sustainable. Agreement to form a Financial Committee with Will S. as head; charter includes financial controls i.e. contract signing, policy about check limits for dual signatures, first draft of Budget, is it proper for FSGW to disburse funds to groups of individuals (Bal Folk).

Publications: Jim McRea: The Newsletter has too many pages at present. The Goals for 2020 include getting publications back under control, with a max size of 20 pages if at all possible. The focus will be on FSGW events, with those occupying prime space at the front of the newsletter. Previous requests from Mary Cliff to include 6 pages of individual events will need to be reviewed more closely and pared down to the local events of interest to our members.

Publicity: Nancy Lisi: "I've just been fooling around on Twitter, Instagram, Facebook, to try to build follower numbers, especially for younger people".

Dance: Ben Sela: Dance Committee has not yet had formal discussion following up on listening session. Charlie P. will facilitate a work session and hope to come to the next Board meeting in August with motion(s).

Bal Folk: No contract has been signed; more detail to follow. Check written by Jerry Stein has been cancelled. Will S. will write a new check for no more than \$ 3, 000. Agreement: No one will sign any contract for Bal Folk on behalf of FSGW without a motion of the Board.

Hashdance (three weeks away, contra dance with only Larks and Ravens): 87 people signed up.

Program: Don Fahey: Vision: at least 1 concert/month, mix of traditional and newer/younger/less-traditional groups/genres. Financial Goal: Break even; Minimal Goal: Lose no more than \$ 10 k in a year (this is the historical average of Program).

Potomac River Convention (sacred harp singing): May request a grant to cover rental.

WFF: Joel Bluestein will show up for August meeting for fuller report. Question: Did previous Board authorize 2020 WFF? Answer: No. Charlie P. suggests we decide in next two months to authorize/not authorize 2020.

Next Meeting: August 6, 8 PM. Neil will reserve first Tuesday 8 PM.

Move to Adjourn: Don Fahey moved, Neil seconded, passed by affirmation at 10:17 PM.

Written Report by Tim Livengood

The Grapevine storytelling program hosted featured tellers Edith Armstrong (aka Mama Edie McLoud Armstrong) and Tim Livengood (aka Tim) on June 12, 2019 at Busboys and Poets Takoma, for an audience of 56. We had three open mic participants – one slam poet, one balladeer, and one teller – King, Charlie Baum, and Maia Heye (sp?). Donations at the door came to \$616 shared equally between the featured tellers. FSGW also will pay each teller \$150 by check, for a total of \$458 each.

I can also give an end-of-the-year financial report. By my calculations for the 2018-2019 Grapevine season, including the June 12 event

Donations at door:	\$6293
Donations at door distributed to tellers:	\$5566
Amount paid to tellers by FSGW:	\$1677
Donations at door transferred to FSGW:	\$727 + \$15 donated explicitly for FSGW = \$742
Donations to FSGW on behalf of the Grapevine:	\$935 ← targeted donations

Net paid from FSGW funds: $\$1677 - \$742 - \$935 = \0 . Wow! The donations and payments match exactly.

We budgeted \$1000 for venue fee, but Busboys and Poets never billed us for it. We cannot rely on this level of subtle support in the future.

We budgeted \$500 for advertising. Actual expenditure was \$201.31, paid by Tim Livengood using PayPal (see attached receipts).