



Board Meeting Minutes

BOARD MEETING – July 5, 2022

Charlie Pilzer called the meeting to order at 8:02 PM as an online Zoom meeting. Quorum (at least 8) was established.

Attendees Present:

Charlie Pilzer, *President*
Caroline Barnes, *Vice President*
Will Strang, *Treasurer*
Jim McRea, *Publications*
Jerry Blum, *At-Large*
Alyssa Hemler, *Dance*
Lucia Schaefer, *At-Large*
Stephen Winick, *Programs*

Absent:

David Shewmaker, *At-Large*

Guests:

Jane Gorbaty
Fred Stollnitz
Lois Shiner
Amanda Muir
Charlie Baum

Approval of Minutes:

- MOTION: To approve Minutes from May 31, 2022 Board Meeting
 - Vote: Jim McRea moved, Alyssa Hemler seconded
 - Resolved: The minutes of the May 31, 2022 meeting are approved as corrected and entered into the Society records.

President's Report:

- Folk Festival went well
- Contra dances on Friday evenings coming along, no covid cases reported in June

Treasurer's Report:

- Assets have gone down because of stock market fluctuations
- Folk Festival resulted in net outlay of money, although a \$25,000 donation from Joan Clifford{'s estate?} helped offset expenditures, vendor costs were up from 2019
- using the Wild Apricot application programming interface to create various useful tools, such as one that collects all the numbers from each contradance session,& working on others to reduce tasks currently done by hand
- Improving the Wild Apricot user interface for registering for events, as it had been confusing people

- Using inexpensive Android tablets to facilitate registering contra dancers at the door
- The Wednesday evening ECDs have been losing about \$100/week due to low turnout.

Getaway:

- Committee has decided that the Getaway should take a sabbatical for 2022. We had a deposit for the West River Conference Center of \$3700 for 2022, and they are keeping half of it, \$1850, in light of our cancellation, & crediting us with \$1850 toward a future Getaway. Rates at West River have increased significantly since the last time, so to reserve the entire place, a guarantee of paying for 141 people, no matter how many fewer than that actually attend, will cost approximately \$28,000, and will require a deposit of \$3700 (adding in another \$1850 to replace what was consumed this year). If we choose to reduce to renting only half the place after signing the contract for the entire venue, we will lose half the deposit automatically. (Substitute other figures for different proportions - renting a quarter of the place, we'd lose 3/4 of the deposit.)

Washington Folk Festival:

- WFF was harder to do this year because the pandemic has affected everyone's life
- Overall the financial outcome was a net loss of about \$17,000; the cost of both the limo shuttle service and the tents was up substantially, in part because both vendors had lost a lot of staff, printing cost was up about \$500 because the appropriate paper was in short supply, fuel costs were way up, and trailer rental costs were up.
- Friends of the Festival donations were not down much, but recruiting new sponsors went badly & program book ads were down. GEPPAC fees for processing financials were as expected. The biggest problem for 2023 will be staffing recruitment, since the Clifford money will cushion the finances. We may need to recruit someone to pursue a MD Arts Council grant since they just received an extra \$40,000,000 to hand out, and we may need to hire a fundraiser to pursue grants from Amazon, local banks, etc.
- **MOTION:** To authorize the WFF committee to pursue planning for the 2023 WFF with up to \$1,000 in expenses in the 2023 FSGW budget.
 - Vote: Moved by Will Strang, seconded by Stephen Winick, motion passed.

Family Dance:

- Coming up this Sunday, Petrachord playing and Lucia Schaefer calling; Charlie Pilzer will be there since Alyssa Hemler will be out of town. Masks required, vaccination required for age 12 & up, recommended for age 11 & younger. Sargon & Sara are running it (handed off from Penelope just before the pandemic, so this is their 1st in-person one). Jamie Platt will do sound.
- We should explore seeing if Revels might be a co-partner, & develop handouts to publicize upcoming FSGW events.

Future Events:

- Some folks are working on a ContraStock for this fall.
- Stephen Winick is working on a concert & workshop by Windborne in September, but probably no concerts in August.
- The CDSS executive board would like to come to DC in October; David Shewmaker is our liaison.

Board Vacancies:

- Secretary, Membership chair, & Publicity chair are still open, & we will need an elections nominations chair; we may need a Publications chair if Jim does move away.

Friday Night Contras:

- Now that they are weekly, they have been slightly positive financially.
- Need to schedule bands & callers through the end of 2022. Open Band dances (every other 2nd Friday) will be in the Ballroom, others will be in the Bumper Car Pavilion.
- Rebecca, who used to lead the Open Band, has moved out of the area, so we'll need a new leader; Bobby Rose was suggested as one possibility.
- **MOTION:** That FSGW continue to co-sponsor, with Friday Night Dancers, weekly Friday evening contradances through the end of 2022.
- Jim moved & Alyssa seconded; motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:**Labor Day Weekend:**

- GEPPAC wants to do a social dance set, family & contra, maybe on Labor Day.

International Dances:

- The websites for Jamie Platt's international dances at Glen Echo say that they are private. We think that is left over from earlier pandemic wording. Charlie Pilzer will discuss with Jamie what updated wording would be appropriate.

Calling Policy:

- Still on our books is a policy that says 25% of our dances will use gendered terms. We should decide whether there is an appropriate update or just vote to cancel that policy.

Takoma Park Folk Festival:

- Will take place 9/11/2022 at the Takoma Park middle school, but outdoors. Traditionally FSGW has sponsored a stage by providing a \$500 donation and a free insert in the FSGW newsletter.
- **MOTION:** That FSGW sponsor a stage at the TPF with a contribution of \$500 and in-kind publicity.
- Will Strang moved, Jim McRea seconded, passed unanimously.

New Fans for Spanish Ballroom:

- Several of the big fans that have been in use for years to help ventilate the ballroom have died or are dying.
- **MOTION:** That FSGW allocate up to \$5,000 to purchase effective floor-standing fans for Glen Echo Park.
- Will Strang moved, Stephen Winick seconded, motion passed.

Next meeting will be Tuesday August 2nd at 8pm on Zoom.

Meeting Adjourned at 10:05 pm.

- Vote: Will Strang moved, Jerry Blum seconded

Appendix I: Treasurer's Report

FSGW Treasurers report of assets – July 5, 2022

Date or Month end	(working) Wells Fargo	(reserve 1) Vanguard	(reserve 2) Fidelity	Total	Reserves gain/loss	Reserves % diff
07/05/2022	79,880.84	127,215.95	109,529.59	316,626.38	+18,730.31	+8.6%
Note: A 2nd \$25,293,17 bequest from estate of Joan Clifford was received in 7/2022						
05/30/2022	61,864.89	134,414.80	115,404.43	311,684.12	+31,804.00	+14.6%
05/02/2022	87,284.61	133,697.60	115,172.46	336,154.67	+30,854.83	+14.2%
04/04/2022	88,351.28	143,903.92	123,001.41	355,256.61	+48,890.10	+22.4%
03/01/2022	75,767.29	140,649.04	121,940.60	338,356.93	+44,574.41	+20.4%
01/04/2022	72,745.91	150,344.01	128,602.44	351,692.36	+60,931.22	+27.9%
Note: A \$25,293,17 bequest from the estate of Joan Clifford was received in 12/2021						
12/06/2021	36,651.31	146,446.72	126,705.53	309,803.56	+55,137.02	+25.3%
11/01/2021	31,321.07	147,161.63	128,693.30	307,176.00	+57,839.70	+26.5%
10/04/2021	31,268.27	140,573.28	124,831.36	296,672.91	+47,389.41	+21.7%
09/13/2021	29,994.51	144,253.69	127,604.38	301,852.58	+53,842.84	+24.7%
08/02/2021	32,687.16	142,564.25	126,135.07	301,386.48	+50,684.09	+23.2%
07/05/2021	37,822.42	141,479.16	125,569.95	304,871.53	+49,033.88	+22.5%
05/31/2021	40,699.83	138,035.50	123,377.44	302,112.77	+43,397.71	+19.9%
05/04/2021	41,232.36	137,626.97	122,757.45	301,616.78	+42,369.19	+18.9%
04/06/2021	42,545.65	134,943.68	120,784.77	298,274.10	+37,713.22	+17.3%
03/01/2021	48,267.61	131,580.49	119,473.45	299,321.55	+33,038.71	+15.2%
02/01/2021	58,058.47	129,013.97	118,010.28	305,082.72	+29,009.02	+13.3%
01/04/2021	52,794.77	127,206.75	116,715.94	296,717.46	+25,907.46	+11.9%
12/01/2020	27,346.43	125,928.08	114,143.40	267,417.91	+22,056.25	+10.1%
Note: \$25,209.70 of Online NYE Sea to Sea money arrived and left from Dec thru April						
11/10/2020	26,186.10	122,838.49	111,092.92	260,117.51	+15,916.18	+ 7.3%
10/05/2020	21,136.34	119,688.20	108,153.37	248,977.91	+ 9,926.34	+ 4.5%
08/31/2020	21,815.20	121,517.25	108,884.60	252,217.05	+12,386.62	+ 5.7%
08/03/2020	23,751.64	117,052.91	106,509.14	247,313.69	+ 5,546.82	+ 2.5%
07/06/2020	28,418.41	114,073.75	104,161.83	246,653.99	+ 220.35	+ 0.1%
06/02/2020	29,503.20	111,511.23	101,300.54	242,314.97	- 5203.46	- 2.4%
05/05/2020	30,650.56	106,193.26	95,963.14	232,806.96	- 15,858.83	- 7.3%
04/06/2020	34,481.27	100,919.09	90,955.89	226,356.25	- 26,140.25	-12.0%
03/25/2020	33,581.81	87,688.84	96,000.54	217,271.19	- 34,325.85	-15.7%
03/03/2020	36,344.38	108,885.54	99,980.64	245,210.56	- 9,149.05	- 4.4%
pre-Covid-dip high		112,766.67	105,248.56	(baseline = 218,015.23)		0.0%
1/21/2020	28,619.19	114,403.43	103,821.83	246,844.45		
12/2019	23,224.46	112,184.47	102,230.49	237,639.42		

11/2019	17,861.62	110,191.15	100,202.95	228,255.72
10/2019	19,176.85	107,789.58	98,445.01	225,411.44
09/2019	39,960.56	106,288.85	97,080.95	243,330.36
06/2019	15,900.81	110,576.98	111,243.31	237,721.10

FSGW lost money in FY2016 thru FY2019, and so withdrew \$199,000 from reserves.

Vanguard total withdrawn: \$179,000

Fidelity total withdrawn: \$20,000