



Board Meeting Minutes (Approved 3/5/24 by the FSGW Board of Directors)

BOARD MEETING – February 6, 2024

Charlie Pilzer called the meeting to order at 8:07 PM as an online Zoom meeting. Quorum (at least 8) was established.

Attendees Present:

Charlie Pilzer, *President*
Jamie Platt, *Vice President (joined 8:45)*
Alyssa Hemler, *Secretary*
Jackie Hoglund, *Treasurer*
Jim McRea, *Publications*
Caroline Barnes, *Dance*
Will Strang, *Past Treasurer*
Lucia Schaefer, *At-Large*
Lynn Baumeister, *At-Large*
David Shewmaker, *Membership (joined 8:30)*

Guests:

Maya Pierick (office staff)
Dana Best
Peter Maier
Jane Gorbaty
Joel Bluestein
Jerry Stein
Charlie Baum
Dean Clamons
Carly Gewirz
Fred Stollnitz
Alex Naar

Absent:

Lynn Bayer, *At-Large*
Chris Lindsay, *Programs*

Approval of Minutes:

- MOTION: To approve Minutes from the January 9, 2024 Board Meeting.
 - Vote: Jim McRea moved; Caroline Barnes seconded.
 - Resolved: The minutes of the January 9, 2024 meeting are approved and entered into the Society records

REPORTS:

President's Report and State of FSGW:

- Charlie previewed the busy agenda for the evening.

Treasurer's Report:

- Treasurer Jackie Hoglund reminded that board that the current approved budget predicts a budget deficit for the year. As expected, the balance in the checking account is getting low and Jackie would like to move funds from the board reserve account to cover anticipated expenses.
 - ***MOTION:** Jackie Hoglund moves Will Strang seconds to move \$25,000 from the Fidelity reserve account to the main Wells Fargo checking account. Approved unanimously.*

Office Report:

- Mo has been on tour. Maya continues to work on cleaning up suspended membership data and updating renewal dates in the database.

Webmaster Report:

- Will Strang has created a way to allow people to pre-register for a dance without needing to provide their name and email address.
- Will also created a tool to display membership status during the event check-in process. This will be useful during the upcoming membership meeting.
- No progress has been made on identifying a new database/website platform.

OLD BUSINESS:**Sound Mixing Board for Glen Echo:**

- Charlie Pilzer plans to re-locate extra FSGW mixing board from Joel Bluestein's house to Glen Echo Park. It will be stored upstairs.

Digitization of FSGW Archive Tapes:

- Charlie Pilzer evaluated the scope of the digitization project. There are 427 tapes to be digitized which he estimates is about 600 hours of recordings which will take about 1000 hours of work. Charlie is also contacting others who may have old FSGW tapes to digitize.
- Now that the project scope is known, Charlie will start soliciting bids from possible contractors.
- There is an FSGW member who has volunteered to do metadata research and documentation for the tapes.
- The data will be put on hard drives with the option to put some or all online and make it publicly available.

Nomination/Election Committee:

- David Shewmaker, the committee chair, has had good conversations with many people about serving on the board. The committee has met two times with a third meeting scheduled.
- The first membership meeting is scheduled for Thursday February 8th at the Silver Spring contra dance. The dance is free to members and 25 members need to be present for quorum.
- A second membership meeting is needed in March. On March 11th, Alex Cumming and Audrey Jaber are playing a CD release party at Jamie Platt's house.

- MOTION: *David Shewmaker moves, Alyssa Hemler seconds, that the required March membership meeting be at the March 11th Alex Cumming and Audrey Jaber concert. Approved unanimously.*

COVID Review:

- There was at least one covid case reported after the most recent FND but no known widespread outbreak.
- No action is needed but we'll continue to monitor.

Dances:

- The January barn dance had 70 attendees.
- Hashdance has 62 people registered. The schedule is in the works and the next steps are assigning housing and putting together the volunteer schedule.
- Planning has begun for Contrastock in October.

2024 Getaway:

- The final contract for the 2024 Getaway is higher than the budget that the board already approved for the event. If attendance is equivalent to the 2023 Getaway, this increased expense will not be a problem. No board vote is needed to change the approved budget until the funds are actually needed. Jackie will sign the contract and pay the deposit.
- The current organizing committee is the same as last year and they are still looking for someone to take over as chair for the future.

Washington Folk Festival 2024:

- FSGW hosted an open discussion about the future of the Washington Folk Festival. There are a number of people who are willing to fill important roles, but a lead coordinator has not been identified, despite continued efforts to find someone willing to take it on.
 - MOTION: *Will Strang moves, Lucia Schaefer seconds that FSGW will not sponsor a 2024 Washington Folk Festival.*
 - Discussion: *It is too late to pull off a full festival. FSGW should focus on creating new events, not sustaining an event that is too large to manage. This vote does not eliminate the possibility of bringing the festival back in 2025.*
 - Vote: *8 yes, 1 no, 1 abstention. Motion passes.*
- Charlie Pilzer will notify the committed organizers and the GEPPAC. The decision will be publicized in the newsletter and on the FSGW website.

NEW BUSINESS:

CDSS Scholarship for Susan Taylor:

- Susan Taylor has requested a scholarship to attend a CDSS camp this summer. CDSS will match affiliate contributions. Asking for \$270 from FSGW and BFMS. We approved a scholarship for Susan last year which wound up being cancelled.
 - MOTION: *Caroline Barnes moves, David Shewmaker seconds that FSGW approve a \$270 scholarship for Susan Taylor to attend the Singing Styles and Performance*

Technique intensive course at Pinewoods July 27-August 3, 2024. Approved unanimously.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:54 pm

- Will Strang moved, Jim McRea seconded.

Next meeting will be Tuesday, March 5, 2024, at 8pm on Zoom.