



Board Action Summary

Tuesday, July 2, 2024, 8.00pm

For the convenience of members, the Board is providing a summary of actions taken at its July 2nd, 2024 meeting. This summary is not a substitute for the official minutes and record of the meeting, which can be found at <https://www.fsgw2.org/minutes/index.php>

President's Report

Dear Members,

I am honored to serve as the President of FSGW for the 2024-2025 term. I am thankful to those who have served before and look forward to continuing the work of the organization to bring the folk arts to new audiences in the DC Metro Area. For those who are unfamiliar with my background, I am a Middle School music teacher, professional singer, and social dance caller that specializes in LGBTQ+ and Family-friendly dances. I hope to utilize my background as an advocate for equitable and decolonized arts education to expand FSGW's programming to new audiences. I have been an at-large member since 2020 and am excited to learn from the folks who have been in the organization much longer.

I have three primary priorities that I will be tackling the rest of the summer. They are to 1) secure new venues for events in public transit accessible corridors, 2) streamline and formalize operations for our administrative staff and volunteers so that questions go to the right folks and 3) explore grant funding opportunities to support our programs. You will see in our treasurer's report that we are running a budget deficit so if you have any knowledge or interest in these topics, I would love to talk to you!

We have a great group of people on this term's board, some new to the organization and some returning. We are still in need of a Membership Chair, and a Program Chair. The Membership chair is basically the hype person for the organization. They attend events, meet new folks, and work with our office staff and Publicity Chair to communicate the mission of FSGW. If you love attending our events, talking to folks, and sharing the great work that we do, then this could be the position for you! The Program Chair is another important role. This person helps book musicians for concerts as well as assists with all non-dance programming when needed. If you are active in the Folk music community or want to get more involved and strengthen your skills in putting on events, then we would love to have you!

Speaking of Programming! We have two great events coming up, the FSGW Picnic in the Park, which is being restarted as an annual event, and the Mary Cliff Celebration. Check those out below and then continue reading for the rest of the Board Action summary.

Chord-ially,

Lucia Schaefer (they/she)
President, Folklore Society of Greater Washington

FSGW Picnic in the Park - Sunday, July 14, 2024 @ Glen Echo Park, MD

- 11:00am - 12:00pm: **Storytelling** led by Voices in the Glen and **Open Sing** led by Charlie Baum
- 12:00pm - 1pm: Picnickers are invited to BYO Lunch as well as a contribution to the "SNACK-luck." Bring something sweet (ex. dessert), savory (ex. chips) or healthy (ex. veggies or fruit) to share that requires no utensils
- 12:00pm - 12:30pm: **Joke Swap** led by Bill Mayhew
- 12:40pm - 1:00pm: **FSGW Membership Meeting**
- 1:00pm - 3:15pm*: **Barn Dance** featuring live music by Charlie Pilzer (piano), Steve Hickman (fiddle), and Rebecca Weiss (fiddle) with calling by Lucia Schaefer and Caroline Barnes. This is a multi-generational dance, all ages and skill levels are welcome to participate.

*During the break of the Barn Dance, we will have a **special percussive dance demonstration** by cutting Edge Sword and Just in Time!

- 3:30pm - 5:00pm **Open Band Jam** lead by Bobby LaRose

This event is FREE but registration is helpful. You can register [HERE](#)

Mary Cliff Celebration - Sunday, September 15th, 1-4pm @ Ireland's Four Provinces Restaurant in Falls Church, VA

- Mary Cliff is a life-long fan of music and broadcast radio. In the "folk scare" of the early '60s, she sang in "Hootenannies" and worked at DC' legendary Cellar Door nightclub. Falling into radio in 1966 as a typist, then programmer with radio host Dick Cerri, she's been on air since 1968, hosting (what we now call) progressive rock on WAVA, on WHFS and on the new WETA in 1970. From 1972 to 2007, as a WETA staffer, she produced and presented classical and other music, news, public affairs, interviews and folk – honing skills in writing, engineering, editing and line producing local and nationally released programs. Assigned the folk show in March 1973, she continued presenting a wide variety of material while on WAMU and WAMU" BluegrassCountry until 2015.
- This event will be attended by Mary Cliff and there will be speakers as well as musical numbers that share the story of her career and influence on the folk scene over her career. We are still building the program and would love to add folks who wish to speak or play. You can contact president@fsgw.org to express interest.
- Ticket Price: \$50 (includes 3-course lunch, soft drinks, and tip).

You can purchase tickets for this event [HERE](#)

Treasurer's report

- Account balances as of 5/31/24
 - Main: \$23,920.20
 - Dance: \$10,049.55
 - Rivers: \$25,000.00
 - WFF: \$2,000.00
 - Fidelity: \$77,526
 - Vanguard: \$155,726
- We are currently running a budget deficit of -\$28,730 compared to the -\$49,246 deficit in the budget. The approximately \$6,000 annual Wild Apricot fee will be paid on June 30 bringing the deficit to approximately \$35,000.
- 2025 Budget preparation: At the July meeting we will review the 2024 budget, at the August meeting we will review the draft 2025 budget, and at the September meeting we will vote on the 2025 budget.

Office Report

- All Life Members have been updated to receive email that the newsletter is ready
- Finished emailing all regular members to say the newsletter is ending and asking if they would like to be refunded or make a donation.
- Assisted with a survey of the local ECD dancers on the Covid protocols regarding the windows/fans. Data has been collected and shared.
- Continue work on updating and publicizing events.

Webmaster Report

- Activities in progress:
- Answer questions from the general public, board members, and office staff.
- Provide technical support beyond answering questions, to board members and office staff.
- Support registration, check-in, and reporting for the June 23, 2024 co-sponsored concert: Sonya Cohen Cramer - You've Been a Friend to Me - CD Release Concert
- For the July 1 board member changes, plan and implement the changes in email forwarding and online account permissions.

- Ongoing maintenance and enhancement of the Admin Tools that run on fsgw2.org, primarily:
 - Event Counts and Income helper - <https://fsgw2.org/eventcount.php>
 - Find contacts and examine them - https://fsgw2.org/find_contacts.php
- Email all Friday Night Dance registrants about the July 1 change in dance sponsorship, inviting them to subscribe to FND and FSGW mailing lists. Email is written, working to assemble the mailing list.
- Enable using fsgw.org logins to login to the FSGW Wiki on wiki.fsgw2.org. The primary effort is to develop a Wild Apricot customized OAuth authentication plugin for DokuWiki. This is partly done.
- Other items:
- Our Wild Apricot service will renew on 6/30/2024 for 1 year at a cost of \$5,724.00 USD.'

Dance Report

- As of the June 28th Friday night dance, FSGW concludes its involvement in the Friday night dances at Glen Echo.
- Caroline and Laura have had a meeting to hand off dance chair responsibilities.
- GEPPAC has not yet sent out its request for proposals for 2025 dates, but Laura will be completing FSGW's proposal (for Hashdance, Contrastock, and the Barn Dance) once the form is available (typically due in September).
- Upcoming events:
- ECD every Wednesday as usual
- July 11th: Silver Spring contra dance LOCATION CHANGE: Seeker's Church in Takoma Park, DC
- July 14th: Barn Dance as part of the FSGW picnic, with performances at the break.
- October 20th: Contrastock in the bumper car pavilion. The event is fully booked and we are working on publicity efforts.

Board Action Items

Wild Apricot Privacy Policy, Refund Policy, Terms of Service

- FSGW's website host and database, Wild Apricot, requires a Privacy Policy, Refund Policy, and Terms of Service to be posted on the website. Alyssa Hemler and Will Strang drafted policies using policy generators and example policies from other organizations.

The Board adopted the Privacy Policy, Refund Policy, and Terms of Service as amended. They will be made publicly available in the coming weeks.

New sound system for ECDC (submitted by Angela Nugent, ECDC)

- The ECDC needed to update the ECDC mic and receiver system to be legally compliant with FCC wireless transmission standards.

The Board moved to reimburse the ECDC \$607.27 for the recently purchased updated microphone and receiver system.

TPFF Sponsorship

- This year's Takoma Park Folk Festival will be held at the Takoma Park Middle School on Sunday, September 8, rain or shine! As you may (or may not) know, the Takoma Park Folk Festival is a treasure of the D.C.-Maryland-Virginia region, a 45-year annual tradition that brings together folks from all across the region (and beyond) to enjoy community, music, crafts, and food. Over the years, the Festival has evolved into a signature and joyous event in the Takoma Park/Silver Spring area, highlighting not just folk music, but the sounds and talents of ALL the folks of the uniquely diverse greater D.C. metropolitan area. Traditionally, each year's Festival features more than 50 artists selling their crafts, more than 40 musical performances over 6 stages, and draws 7,000 to 8,000 festival-goers. The event is COMPLETELY free to attendees, family-friendly, and driven by hundreds of volunteers. During the pandemic, the commitment to hold the Festival remained strong, with virtual festivals in 2020 and 2021 and an all outdoor festival in 2022. But since 2023 we are BACK to full 6-stage capacity with indoor and outdoor spaces large enough to host more crafters, community interest groups and many international food offerings. We continue to have a loyal following on social media and in the community and are excited to host this energetic event with more focus than ever on diversity of offerings and attendance! While we are almost exclusively run (year-round planning and day-of operations) by volunteers, we do need to fund a large budget to present this high

quality event and are feeling the pinch of rising costs and more limited resources. Our festival runs on sponsorships, donations, and grants, and we would love to partner with you to support this incredible community event. While the event is just one day, your sponsorship comes with many perks over the coming months, including shout-outs on our social media, your name/logo with a link on our Festival website and inclusion in the Festival program. As your sponsorship increases, there are additional benefits such as inclusion in our printed materials and shout-outs at the Festival. I'm including an [information sheet](#) that outlines the many levels and opportunities for sponsorship. If/when you are ready to discuss this more, let me know. I'm happy to schedule a phone/Zoom call or meet up to chat more with you. While you're considering, feel free to learn more about us on our website, TPDFF.org or follow us on social media- Facebook: Takoma Park Folk Festival (TPFF), Instagram: TPFolkFestival.

The Board approved a sponsorship level at a rate of \$1,000 and is hoping to provide some programming for the event as well as a membership outreach table.

The Next Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, August 6, 2024, 8pm Online via Zoom