

### 1. Quorum and Call to Order

- a. The meeting was called to order at 8:02 pm by President April Blum. The meeting was held at the Irish Inn at Glen Echo, since the Board's regular meeting space in the Arcade Building at Glen Echo Park was unavailable due to the federal government shut-down.
- b. The following were present, constituting a quorum: April Blum (President), Charlie Baum (VP), Noel-Marie Taylor (Secretary), Liz Milner (Publicity), Mary Cliff (Past President), Roxanne Watts (Publications), Marty Summerour (Program), Steve Burnett (Dance), Tim Livengood (At Large), and Molly Graham Hickman (At Large).
- c. The following Board members were absent: Richard Aigen (Treasurer), Janie Meneely (Membership), and Steve Winick (At Large).
- d. The following non-Board members were present: Will Strang (Webmaster).

### 2. Approval of Minutes

- a. The Minutes of the meeting held September 10, 2013 (for September 2013) had been previously circulated among the Board members, and corrections were provided.
- b. ***Resolved: That the Minutes for September 2013 be adopted.***  
**Charlie Baum moved that the August 2013 minutes be approved. Steve Burnett seconded.**  
**By voice vote, the Motion was unanimously approved.**

### 3. Action Item Reports

- a. Independent Audit Committee: April spoke with Richard Aigen. Now that most of the paperwork is in hand, he is comfortable contacting an auditor, and will do so.
- b. WALA: April received an email. Annual fee \$150 for their services. NO FURTHER ACTION NEEDED.
- c. Books-A-Million: Saturday November 23 has been approved by BAM. Tim will be meeting with Lisa Dunlop. There seems to be some disconnect between store managers about what planning is in places, and which stores will have performances. He will continue to work on this.
- d. Retrieval of Fiscal Year 2012-2013 information: Most of the information has been retrieved and passed along.
- e. Takoma Park Street Festival: Festival went very well, lots of information was handed out. There was lots of interest in the new food programs we are presenting. NO FURTHER ACTION NEEDED.
- f. Youth Traditional Song Scholarship: Charlie has not yet reached Julia.
- g. CDSS 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Application: The application has been submitted. NO FURTHER ACTION NEEDED.

### 4. Banners

Sample banner designs were reviewed and the requirements as laid out by GEPPAC looked over. It was determined that eight to ten banners would be needed for both the Mini-fest and WFF; they would also be available for use at other events (concerts, dances, etc). Cost would be approximately \$140 each. The current goal is to get the banners in time to display at the Mini-fest.

### 5. Continued Budget Discussion: Changes in Fee Structures

- a. One way to cover the imbalances in our current budget would be to adjust the membership fee levels; this has not been done since 2006. Mary also points out that we miss a huge opportunity by not specifically targeting our lifetime members as potential donors – perhaps we should do a special event for them?
- b. Another possibility is going to either an online-only newsletter, or a pay-for-hardcopy newsletter. There are many aspects to this idea that would need to be evaluated before a decision could be made.

- c. It was noted that both of these are only ideas for discussion; at this time, no changes are likely to be made until AFTER the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration year.

## **6. 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Planning, Continued**

Discussion of ideas for the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebrations continues. Mary thinks we should look into working with the NEA or NEH for funding of a possible weekend or symposium about the roots of folk music – where did we come from? How did we get to where we are now? She and Marty will investigate this idea.

When planning and suggesting ideas, please keep costs in mind; they will need to be accounted for in our budgets.

## **7. Mini-Fest Update**

The Mini-Fest will be held on February 8. April Blum will again chair the event.

- a. New "American Roots" Chair is Kim Forry.
- b. New Classroom track Chair is Molly Graham Hickman (learning from Linda Goodman).
- c. Continuing Chairs are April Blum (Dance, hallway shenanigans and logistics); Charlie Baum (Cafetorium, evening concert); and Lisa Null (Traditional Song).
- d. April recommends a slight increase in admission price.
- e. Some suggestions for making lines move faster at admissions (always a slow-down): cash-only line, more volunteers, buttons instead of wrist bands. A special button for the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary was suggested and greeted with great enthusiasm.

## **8. GEPPAC and the Government Shut-Down**

- a. April attended the press conference held by Ike Leggett at Glen Echo. He stated that if the park was still closed by the weekend, the county would take control of it and run it so GEPPAC's programs could be held there over the weekend.
- b. Donna Barker and her staff have been spending many hours finding alternate locations for classes and events, making sure managers are available, and otherwise keeping programs running as much as possible.
- c. With the park closure, GEPPAC has lost tens of thousands of dollars. At this time we will publicize their fundraising attempts; we will look at making a donation once the situation is settled and we see what happens.

## **9. Anti-Harrassment Policy in Newsletter**

Steve feels that given the work that has gone into crafting this policy, we should make the policy well publicized and well known – regular inclusion in the newsletter would be part of this. He feels that this is actually a positive step – we are proactively making it clear that we will not accept inappropriate behavior at our events.

The Board is of mixed feelings on this topic. Some feel that by putting the policy in constant view, it implies that there are problems and that this will keep people away from our events.

Due to time constraints, further discussion was tabled until next month.

## 10. Website and Plug-in Ticketing

Webmaster Will Strang presented information about our website and changes which are both in process and needed.

- a. One of the first things that needs to be done, in order to make any web changes, is to update MyOrg.Net (MON) from version 6 to version 7. Will feels that there will be a lot of testing needed in order to facilitate this change, especially of the back-end work areas.
- b. While this may not fix ALL the things that we would like changed about our website, it would be a step in the right direction. Will is going to get a test version of v7 running for us so we can learn how it works. He assures us that much of it will look familiar, but that there will be some changes.
- c. Ticketing. After investigating ticketing options, it seems doing our own ticketing and processing payments via PayPal is not the best option any more. Rather, Brown Paper Bag appears to be the most well regarded plug-in program that we could use. It would easily be added to our website, and be available immediately for use for Nowell Sing We Clear ticketing. While it might mean minimal extra work for our users (typing in addresses a second time), it appears that the processing of tickets will be less problematic. If Brown Paper Bag works well for this event, it could be used for future events as well.

*d. Resolved: That Brown Paper Bag Ticketing be used for Nowell Sing We Clear.*

**Tim Livengood moved that Brown Paper Bag ticketing be used to process tickets for the Nowell Sing We Clear event. Liz Milner seconded the motion. By voice vote, the motion passed.**

- e. Looking ahead, Will notes that at some point, a project manager may be needed to help with the web upgrades and changes. He stated that this may be a position that the Board chooses to hire someone to fill.

## 11. Committee Reports

Committee reports were submitted for review by board members.

## 12. Next Meeting Date & Motion to Adjourn

- a. The regular October Board meeting will take place on Tuesday, November 5, 2013.

*b. Resolved: That the October 2013 meeting be adjourned.*

**Marty Summerour moved to adjourn, Liz Milner seconded. By voice vote, the Motion was unanimously approved. The meeting adjourned at 9:50 pm.**

### Action Items:

- Independent Audit Committee to select a firm to perform audit. (continuing)
- Books-a-Million details to be finalized. (continuing)
- Banners to be ordered (modified 10/15)
- TPA&HC / FSGW showcase: Janie, Tim, Marty & Charlie will discuss possibilities for this program. (continuing)

- Youth Traditional Song Scholarship: Charlie will find out what happened with the \$500 donated last year, and ask if the donation this year can be in the form of a named scholarship to be awarded to a participant from the DC area. (continuing)
- FSGW 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary tote: April will look into. (continuing)
- “50 Songs for 50 Years” project: Charlie, Mary, and Steve W. will compile an initial list of people (and possibly songs) that should be included. (continuing)
- Anti-Harrassment Policy publication (added 10/15)
- Brown Paper Bag Ticketing to be added for Nowell Sing We Clear (added 10/15)