



**Board Meeting Minutes** (Approved by the FSGW Board of Directors on 2/3/26)

**BOARD MEETING – January 6, 2026**

Lucia Schaefer called the meeting to order at 8:03 PM as an online Zoom meeting. Quorum (at least 8) was established.

**Attendees Present:**

Lucia Schaefer, *President*  
Jamie Platt, *Vice President*  
Joel Bluestein, *Treasurer*  
Jackie Hoglund, *Past Treasurer*  
Alyssa Hemler, *Secretary*  
Betsy Platt, *Program*  
Paul Lieberman, *Publications*  
Ingrid Gorman, *Publicity*  
Liz Donaldson, *At-Large*  
Ayan Kishore, *At-Large*

**Absent:**

Aristhide Nobanza, *Dance Chair*  
Sherry Lynn Smith, *Membership*  
Tim Livengood, *At-Large*

**Guests:**

Milo Pierick (office staff)  
Mo Brachfeld (office staff)  
Jane Gorbaty  
Charlie Baum  
Donna Rogall  
Fred Stollnitz  
Linda Zebooker  
David Shewmaker

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**Approval of Minutes:**

- MOTION: To approve Minutes from the December 2, 2025, Board Meeting.
  - Vote: Joel Bluestein moved; Liz Donaldson seconded. Approved unanimously.
  - Resolved: The minutes of the December 2, 2025, meeting are approved and entered into the Society records.

**Open Forum:**

- None

**REPORTS:**

**President's Report:**

- Lucia noted that things will get busy in the new year.

### Treasurer's Report:

- Account balances:

Fund Name	12/31/23	12/31/24	12/31/25
Vanguard	\$150,702	\$176,973	\$202,918
Fidelity	\$123,897	\$80,864	\$64,571
Wells Fargo	\$54,327	\$32,667	\$25,057
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$328,926</b>	<b>\$290,503</b>	<b>\$292, 546</b>

- Final WFF numbers are still being calculated. There were some unplanned costs. The net cost will likely be around \$3,500, not including Eberhart funds of up to \$10,000. We received another \$1,000 donation last month.
- Joel reviewed FSGW's investment portfolio and thinks they're in good shape. Returns have been very good the past few years.

### Dance Report:

- December Dances:
  - Barn Dance: December 14: Penelope Weinberger called to Becker Family Band.
  - Silver Spring Contra: December 11: David Giusti called to Frog Hammer. 125 registered, 115 attended.
  - Wednesday ECD as per usual

Date	Registered	Attended
12/3	37	36
12/10	35	35
12/17	39	39

- January Dances:
  - Barn dance: January 11 Katie Stahl calling to The Magnolia House Band (Sarah, Sargon, & Leuna).
  - Silver Spring Contra: January 8: Chloe Levine calling to Raven & Goose (Corwin Zekley and Grace Fellows).
- Upcoming:
  - The date for Contrastock changed because GEPPAC double-booked the venue. The new date is 10/3. The committee is working on hiring bands and callers.

### Program/Concert Report:

- Past:
  - December 13: House concert with Kaleidoscope.
- Upcoming:
  - The Flurut concert has been rescheduled for January 25<sup>th</sup>.
  - Betsy is finalizing the details for a concert with Magpie for February 6<sup>th</sup> (backup date is February 21<sup>st</sup>). Betsy will sort out if this concert will be a free-for-members membership meeting. It may be a good opportunity to recruit new members.

**Office Report:**

- Some members were disappointed that there was no New Year's Eve contra ball. There's been some interest in bringing it back for next year.
- Milo is archiving invalid email addresses in Wild Apricot and working on entering past Washington Folk Festival donations in Wild Apricot to help with future fundraising efforts

**ACTION ITEMS:****Board Elections 2026:**

- David Shewmaker has agreed to chair the election committee.
- MOTION: *Moved by Joel Bluestein, seconded by Jackie Hoglund to appoint David Shewmaker as the Chair of the Election Committee for 2026.*
- Lucia and Alyssa have reached their term limit and will be cycling off the board, although Lucia will serve one additional year as past president. Jamie Platt will not be running for reelection.
- The February membership meeting will be the Silver Spring contra dance. The March membership meeting will be the MiniFest.

**DISCUSSION ITEMS:****Internal-Facing FSGW Safety Policy Guidance:**

- Lucia asked folks to add comments to the draft before the next meeting.

**IT Admin Role and IT Tracker Spreadsheet:**

- Daniel Kolb expressed some interest in helping with some IT tasks. Joel will reach out to him to discuss. Joel will be the go-between between Daniel and Will Strang.

**Dancer Retention and Check-in Table for Events:**

- At the December Silver Spring dance, we accepted cash and registered people in Wild Apricot when the line lessened. We also accepted credit card payments through square.
- There were 14 first-time attendees who received a second-dance free ticket. Tickets will be given out at the January dance as well.

**Washington Folk Festival:**

- Planning meetings will kick off very soon.

**MiniFest:**

- Lucia did a first call for talent and received 8 responses. She is continuing to reach out to possible performers and jam leaders.

**FSGW Meetup:**

- Jim McRea has been paying for Meetup for FSGW out of his own pocket and would like to pass the expense to FSGW.
- FSGW events get posted on Meetup and 364 people follow our account. Only a few people actually RSVP to our events on Meetup.

- The board consensus was that it seems worthwhile to keep a Meetup account. We will work with Jim to update the payment method and will record it as an administrative expense for the organization.

**Meeting Adjourned at 9:21pm**

- Joel Bluestein moved, Ingrid Gorman seconded.

Next meeting will be Tuesday, February 3, at 8pm on Zoom.