



Board Meeting Minutes

BOARD MEETING – June 2, 2026

Lucia Schaefer called the meeting to order at 8:04 PM as an online Zoom meeting. Quorum (at least 8) was established.

Attendees Present:

Lucia Schaefer, *President 25-26, Past President 26-27*
Jamie Platt, *Vice President 25-26*
Joel Bluestein, *Treasurer*
Jackie Hoglund, *Past Treasurer 25-26*
Alyssa Hemler, *Secretary 25-26*
Sherry Lynn Smith, *Membership*
Ingrid Gorman, *Publicity*
Paul Lieberman, *Publications*
Betsy Platt, *Program*
Liz Donaldson, *At-Large*
Ayan Kishore, *At-Large 25-26, Vice President 26-27*
Tim Livengood, *At-Large*
Daniel Greenstein, *At-Large 26-27*

Stephan Rochefort-Dych, *Dance Chair 26-27*
David Nicholson, *Secretary 26-27*
Charlie Pilzer, *President 26-27*

Absent:

Aristhide Nobanza, *Dance Chair, 25-26*

Guests:

Milo Pierick (office staff)
Mo Brachfeld (office staff)
Charlie Baum
Donna Rogall
Timothy Foley

Approval of Minutes:

- MOTION: To approve Minutes from the May 5, 2026 Board Meeting.
 - Vote: Jackie Hoglund moved; Tim Livengood seconded. Approved unanimously.
 - Resolved: The minutes of the May 5, 2026 meeting are approved and entered into the Society records.

Introductions of current and elected board members:

- Existing board members and incoming board members introduced themselves and described their current and/or future involvement with FSGW and what they're excited to do as board members.

Open Forum:

- None

REPORTS:

President's Report:

- Lucia will be dedicating a lot of energy as past president to programming in northern Virginia.

Treasurer's Report:

- Account balances:

Fund Name	12/31/23	12/31/24	12/31/25	5/31/26
Vanguard	\$150,702	\$176,973	\$202,918	\$217,729
Fidelity	\$123,897	\$80,864	\$64,571	\$59,488
Wells Fargo	\$54,327	\$32,667	\$25,057	\$23,422
TOTAL	\$328,926	\$290,503	\$292, 546	\$300,639

- The English Spring Ball was well attended and did well financially.
- Investment income continues to offset expenditures.
- Joel transferred \$10k from the Fidelity account to the Wells Fargo account. A \$20k transfer was approved in April 2025 but this is the first transfer since then.
- We are going to drop one of our four Zoom licenses to reduce cost. The Open Sing will move to one of the other licenses.
- Joel continues to work on receiving the bequest from former member Michal McGinn. A long-lost relative is contesting the bequest. We are hopeful that will not be a problem but it is slowing things down. GEPPAC has engaged some legal support and we may need to contribute to that in the future. Joel has contacted some of the other beneficiaries as well.
- Joel gave an overview summary of our bank account structure for the benefit of new board members.

Dance Report:

- May Dances:

- Barn dance: May 10: Kappy Laning called to Liz Donaldson and Becky Ross.
- Silver Spring Contra: May 14 Too Hot Mamas! Janine Smith and Susan Taylor called to Dead Sea Squirrels: Cathy Mason, Craig Edwards, Henry Yoshimura.
- Wednesday ECD as per usual.

Date	Registered	Attended
2026-05-06	47	45
2026-05-13	44	44
2026-05-20	30	30
2026-05-27	31	31

- June Dances:

- Barn dance: June 14: Janine Smith and Kim Forry calling to L'Adoré Fiddlers.
- Silver Spring Contra: June 11: Kim Forry calling to The Bone Shakers: Gina Faber, Joe DeZarn, and Ralph Gordon.

- Annual Events:

- English Spring Ball May 16: 113 registered, 108 attended
- Contrastock registration is open

Program/Concert Report:

- September 19: VODA Trio at Seekers Church
- October 1: Syncopaths house concert (co-sponsored)
- November 6 or 14: Windborne at Seekers Church
- December 19: Karen Ashbrook holiday concert at Ascension (waiting for confirmation from the venue) with Eileen Estes, Andrea Hoag, and Paul Oorts
- Betsy is still looking for new venue ideas for concerts and additional people to help at the door of concerts.

Membership Report:

- Sherry would like to increase our membership numbers. One first step is updating our flyers and getting them out at events.
- The Baltimore Folk Music Society (BFMS) Membership Chair reached out to Sherry because they are seeing a decline in membership and are interested in having a broader conversation.

Office Report:

- Milo and Mo outlined their roles and tasks as office staff.
- Milo finished updating subscription settings in Wild Apricot so our members can unsubscribe from specific lists without unsubscribing from all FSGW communications
- Mo and Milo attended a CDSS webinar about social media for events. Mo suggested creating a photo policy to post at FSGW events to notify our attendees that their photo might be used in FSGW publicity

ACTION ITEMS:

None

DISCUSSION ITEMS:**Washington Folk Festival:**

- Booking is well underway for the festival.
- Ayan announced that we received the Maryland State Arts Council grant for \$4000 and thanked everyone who helped with that application.
- We have made it to panel review round for the Montgomery Arts and Humanities grant but have not heard yet if it was awarded.
- The festival is in dire need of a volunteer coordinator.

Takoma Park Folk Festival:

- The festival is September 27th. FSGW has historically sponsored a stage and publicized for them. In return, they publicize for our Washington Folk Festival.
- Charlie Pilzer will reach out to Robin at TPFF and then loop in Ayan to discuss the specifics of a sponsorship deal for 2026.

FSGW picnic:

- The picnic is scheduled for October 11th at Glen Echo which is the same day as the barn dance. There will be programming before and after the barn dance.
- Lucia will start contacting people via email to start putting together programming.

Moved by Betsy Platt seconded by Jackie Hoglund to move to executive session at 9:39pm.

Moved by Liz Donaldson seconded by Betsy Platt to exit executive session at 10:11pm.

Meeting Adjourned at 10:11pm

- Liz Donaldson moved, Betsy Platt seconded.

Next meeting will be Tuesday, July 7 at 8pm on Zoom.