

1999 MWNGG STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING, August 13, 1998

A meeting of the MWNGG Steering Committee was held Thursday, August 13, 1998 at the home of Mary Mergenthal. Present: Ellis Jones, Judy Zachary, Frank Siegle, Kay Thomas, Marveen Minish, Mary Mergenthal

Mary Mergenthal called the meeting to order at 7:18 p.m.

The minutes of June 25, 1998 were approved as mailed.

The Treasurer's report was deferred, hoping the Treasurer would be present later.

Progress reports were given:

Ellis Jones reported no response by phone in seeking airline discounts; he will go to the airport in person.

Ellis also reported on the program booklet. Bob Williams is currently occupied with the Fair so he and Ellis will meet next week. The next step will be to search for a printer in the area. In August 1999, there will be a packet-stuffing party at Ellis' home. Registration material will be needed by November 15, 1998. June 1 - 15 will be the deadline for all information for inclusion in the booklet.

Mary Mergenthal reported that the concert soloist is Jeremy Huw Williams. His fee is 1700 pounds plus airfare. Katharine Ananda Owens will be his accompanist at a fee of \$650. The Committee needs to finalize contracts and work with Ticketmaster for individual sales.

Kay Thomas moved that Jeremy Williams be paid 1750 pounds plus \$1200 airfare cost and receive hotel room for 4 nights, and that Katharine Ananda Owens be paid \$650. Frank Siegle seconded. Motion carried.

The Committee was concerned about a \$30 ticket price for the concert, which is the figure in the budget. Reserved seating was suggested for registrants. Mary asked the Concert Committee for a "Ticketmaster" report by the October meeting.

In the area of publicity, Mary Mergenthal distributed text for an ad in the Columbus booklet. It was noted that there was an error; Cor Cymraeg should be Cor Cymru. Mary showed standardized ads for Ninnau and Y Drych. The texts are different. There will be 2 horizontal ads through August 1999 for both Ninnau and Y Drych with the exception of April, when a full back page for registration will be used. Registration will also be on the web. Cost will be \$2000 for each paper for the year. It was proposed to use a display classified ad at \$220 per month for six months. The budgeted figure is \$4,500 for publicity. Ellis Jones moved that the budget for publicity be set at this time at \$6,000. Kay Thomas seconded. Motion carried.

National Public Radio has contacted Ellis Jones for plans for next year.

Mary Mergenthal distributed stationery sample. The Committee approved. A red dragon and green note will be requested if financially feasible. Ellis Jones moved that Mary Mergenthal be authorized to proceed with decision on the color on the stationery and arrangements for its printing. Frank Siegle seconded. Motion carried.

Dick Thomas is looking into transportation; perhaps golf carts for taking

people to the Eisteddfod; they would not be feasible for the Gymanfa.

Marveen Minish reported that David Jones is working on Marketplace arrangements and will meet with the appropriate person at Columbus.

Frank Siegle reported on the Folk Group Committee progress. Frank, Audrey McClellan and Mary Mergenthal met. A group called Carreg Lafar is touring the U.S. now. Their fee is \$3,500. One member is a schoolteacher and will be checking to see if time off can be obtained.

Robin Huw Bowen is also a possibility, as is a folk dance group.

The suggested Nosen Lawen idea is to have a room in the hotel that will feature a Nosen Lawen each night. People can sign up to do their talent. This will be like the late night hymn sing. The hotel will also be asked for a room to be used as a "pub."

Brit's Pub and The Local would like to meet with the Committee re a pub gathering. They would probably do a flyer and give them to their other patrons. Judy Zachary, Laurie Bradshaw and Frank Siegle will begin discussions with these two places. Frank will report to Audrey about these ideas.

The Seminar Committee will have a retreat in Wisconsin to discuss further plans. They are considering 50-65 topics and currently have 18 that they consider "must do."

Mary Mergenthal distributed a revised Time Frame.

Kay Thomas discussed the Banquet. The speaker will be Gareth Daniel; Garrison Keillor is out of town, so that idea was discarded. Kay moved that Gareth Daniels be paid \$1,200 plus hotel room furnished. Frank Siegle seconded. Motion carried. The Banquet Committee will meet regarding the price of the banquet before the October meeting.

Mary Mergenthal reported on the children's program. One children's session (Friday) was cancelled because Minnesota schoolchildren start school BEFORE Labor Day. Tom Davies has written a puppet story with dragons, sheep and a little boy. \$500 out of the children's program budget was allotted for it. It will not be part of the children's program, but Mary Mergenthal will gather a group in Minnesota and ask out of state children who wish to participate to register and receive a tape to rehearse.

Judy Zachary reported that a hotel for backup which has cheaper rates would be the Holiday Inn Express at \$79 flat rate for single, double, triple or quad.

In the matter of tours, Howard Davies wants to focus down the tours so they don't distract from the Gymanfa.

In other areas, it was reported that the Thursday Celtic pageant will be at 6:30p.m.

Mary Mergenthal showed photos that will be used on the Columbus booth. Mary has arranged for giveaways regarding the Twin Cities to be given away at the booth.

Ellis Jones moved that Mary Mergenthal be authorized to arrange for notepads for publicity . Kay Thomas seconded. Motion carried.

Staffing the booth at Columbus was discussed.

NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD AT THE HOME OF MARY MERGENTHAL, FRIDAY, OCTOBER 2, 1998 at 7:00.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:20 p.m.


Secretary