

Minutes of the Future of FSGW discussions, held on Zoom

[Future of FSGW meeting minutes - Part 1 \(pdf\) 2/14/2023](#)

[Future of FSGW meeting minutes - Part 1 \(Google Doc\) 2/14/2023](#)

[Future of FSGW meeting minutes - Part 2 \(pdf\) 2/21/2023](#)

[Future of FSGW meeting minutes - Part 2 \(Google Doc\) 2/21/2023](#)

Kickoff of the Future of FSGW discussions

Charlie Pilzer, the president of the Folklore Society of Greater Washington has initiated a series of discussions concerning the future of FSGW: why it was formed, why it exists today, who it serves, what it should and how it should do it.

The first meeting, discussing the why and who was held on Tuesday, February 14, 2023. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 21, 2023. Charlie's introduction letter is reproduced below.

From: "Charlie Pilzer (Gmail)" charliepilzer@gmail.com

Subject: The Future of the Folklore Society of Greater Washington Discussions

Date: February 8, 2023 at 11:17:50 AM EST

To: Charlie Pilzer charlie@charliepilzer.com

As discussions, there will be no action taken at either of these meetings.

They are for information exchange and idea generation.

You are welcome to share this link with others who might be interested in the discussion.

Here is the link for the meetings the next two Tuesdays, Feb 14 & Feb 21.

FSGW President is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: The Future of the Folklore Society of Greater Washington

Time: Feb 14, 2023 07:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85976486638?pwd=ZlBFdThNeTZrMWlBeTVzRC9KWmRRQT09>

Meeting ID: 859 7648 6638

Passcode: 730501

One tap mobile +13017158592,,85976486638# US (Washington DC)

The meeting on Tuesday, Feb 14 will focus on:

Why:

Why should FSGW exist? What needs does it fill in 2023? If FSGW did not exist, would it be created in

2023?

Who:

Who is involved / invested in FSGW and its events.

Participants - those who attend the FSGW dances, festivals, sings, concerts and every activity. What encourages participants to come to events?

Performers - those who perform at a concert, a storytelling, or a dance.

Members - those that pay a membership fee to belong to FSGW. What value does FSGW provide to members? What do members value about FSGW?

Volunteers - why do individuals contribute (often significant) time to be a "do-er", one of those that make FSGW happen

Leaders - the committee members and board members who undertake, with no remuneration, the organization, strategy, guidance and oversight of FSGW?

The meeting on Tuesday, Feb 21 will focus on:

What:

Before pandemic, FSGW presented, sponsored and co-sponsored more than 250 events a year.

Currently, FSGW co-sponsors multiple weekly dances, monthly sings, storytellings, concerts and several annual events. In 2023 there may be 150 or more events.

In the future, what events should FSGW present and/or sponsor. How many and which annual events? Monthly events? Should FSGW continue to be a presenter?

Should it be more of an arts support organization - working with other organizations by providing services

What does FSGW do now that it should continue to do?

What does FSGW do now that it should not do?

What does FSGW not do now that it should/could do in the future?

What are the strengths/weaknesses/opportunities/threats facing FSGW. (a classic strategic plan exercise)

Resources for the Future of FSGW discussions

[One Proposal for the Future of FSGW \(pdf\) 2/21/2023](#)

[Will Strang's bleak view on the future of the Folklore Society of Greater Washington - updated 2025](#)
[Will Strang's bleak view on the future of the Folklore Society of Greater Washington - original 2/21/2023](#)

Add stuff here

Background documents

[FSGW Strategic Planning Questionnaire 1998.pdf](#)

[FSGW Results of Strategic Planning Questionnaire Fall 1998.pdf](#)

[FSGW Strategic Planning Retreat report Feb 7 1999.pdf](#)

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Last update: **2025/05/24 11:48**

