

Friday afternoon, May 17, 2019 in Ballroom One

Annual General Membership Meeting Agenda

I. Board President, Don Baker called the meeting to order, introduced board members, and gave a brief overview overview of SERFA's past year. To summarize, he explained that our move to Chattanooga was a combination of organization grow which required more space than Montreat could accommodate. He acknowledged that while the Chattanooga community has been both welcoming and supportive, the Conference Committee will rely on membership surveys to determine the overall success of our first conference in Chattanooga. He urged all members to look for the survey in their e-mail past conference and to offer their improvement suggestions so the Board can make informed decisions that will benefit the membership.

II. Don announced that the three candidates running for re-election to the Board, Abby Parks, Roberta Schultz, Isabel Taylor, were re-elected by the membership to serve for three-year terms. Don thanked Denise Williams for her service as election chair, and encouraged membership to run for office next year when the Board will also have terms expiring. He also announced that Board officers for the next year will be elected at the onsite board meeting on May 18, 2019. Don's own term as Board President will officially end on May 18, 2019.

III. Don introduced Executive Director, Art Menius who gave the director's report on SERFA's finances, which is status quo to where we were last year with approximately \$40,000 cash-in-hand. Even though the Chattanooga location is more expensive and our attendance did not grow, A grant of \$25,000 from Riverview Foundation offset additional expenses incurred from changing our conference site. Art thanked the Chattanooga Conference and Visitors Bureau for their help in the transition. Art thanked the Board for serving as conference committee

members, including thanks to the Program Committee and Showcase Committee. He also thanked conference sponsors.

IV. Art introduced Jerod Rivers who manages membership for Folk Alliance International to speak for FAI. Jerod announced that FAI is holding the Regional Leadership retreat in Chattanooga immediately following SERFA to illustrate the challenges and gifts a location change can present to a regional organization. He then announced that the 2019 FAI Conference in Montreal was the most successful thus far with a projected 2,910 in attendance despite three feet of snowfall. He then invited everyone to attend the 2020 FAI Conference in New Orleans.

V. Don thanked Jerod and opened the floor for questions. As there were no questions this year, Don adjourned the Annual Membership Meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,
Roberta Schultz (Board Secretary)