

**American Association of Woodturners
Board Meeting
August 19, 2013**

Call to Order

A regular meeting of the AAW Board of Directors convened by teleconference at 6:05 p.m. CST August 19, 2013, Board President Dale Larson presiding. The following board members also participated: Tom Wirsing, Botho von Hampeln, Kurt Hertzog, Stan Wellborn, Rob Wallace, Lou Williams, Binh Pho, and Cassandra Speier. Joining the call were Phil McDonald, Betty Scarpino, and Linda Ferber.

Approval of Minutes

Minutes of the June meeting in Tampa were approved as submitted, and will be posted to the AAW website.

Selection of 2014 AAW Lifetime Member

After brief discussion, Tom Wirsing nominated Al Hockenbery to be the AAW Lifetime Member honoree at the 2014 symposium in Phoenix. The motion was seconded by Sandi Speier, and the board approved the nomination unanimously.

2015 Symposium Site Selection

Phil and CCC representative Gail Olmsted reviewed a selection matrix of three candidate cities: Columbus, Cleveland, and Pittsburgh. Phil emphasized that in addition to geographical considerations, his top priorities were to minimize the travel costs to AAW members and to maximize the revenue potential to the AAW itself.

After a detailed overview of the assets and liabilities of the possible sites, the city of Pittsburgh clearly offered the most advantageous prospects, in the view of Phil, Kurt, and Gail, the three persons who had visited each site. Kurt moved to select Pittsburgh as the 2015 symposium site, and the motion was seconded by Rob. The board approved the motion by a vote of 8 to 1, with Binh Pho opposing the measure.

Finance Committee Report on July Budget

Sandi and Phil reported on the meeting of the Finance Committee and noted that revenues and expenses to date were in line with the 2013 budget. Some symposium expenditures remain to be paid, but they are not unanticipated or greater than expected. Sandi moved to accept the finance report, and it was approved unanimously.

Phil noted that the Internal Revenue Service Form 990 for the AAW had been reviewed extensively by Phil Hauser and other committee members. The board unanimously approved submitting the 990 to the IRS.

Executive Director Report

Phil reviewed four key areas included in his detailed ED report. These included:

- Resolution of the per diem payments to foreign demonstrators at the national symposium.
- Taking measures to be more assertive in protecting the intellectual property of the Association.
- Review of the safety disclaimers that the AAW includes in its publications and other materials.
- Consideration of whether the AAW general liability insurance policy adequately protects the Association from legal claims, noting that the AAW does not enjoy so-called “charitable immunity” from such claims.

Phil announced that after extensive presentations from various membership database vendors, he was inclined to proceed with installation of software from www.yourmembership.com, a nationally reputable database company that provides a wealth of advantages at a moderate cost. The database would replace the existing AAW membership databases that have become outdated and incompatible with newer web applications.

After further discussion, the board agreed with Phil that the new system could go into operation sometime in October.

Online EOG Auction

Binh raised the possibility of again trying to conduct an online capability for bidding in the annual EOG auction at the symposium. After discussion, he moved that the AAW proceed with a system that would place auction pieces selected through a juried process onto the AAW website in advance of the symposium, and allow remote bidders to participate in the live auction. Rob seconded the motion, which then passed unanimously.

Payment of EOG Proceeds to POP

Dale and Binh pointed out that the AAW has by longstanding practice donated 10 percent of proceeds from the EOG auction to support POP activities, but that had not been done in recent years. The consensus of the board was that this payment should be restored to POP.

Raffle Lathe

The winner of the raffled “blue” lathe at the Tampa symposium had already purchased a new lathe and decided to return the lathe he won in the raffle to the AAW. Phil will work on a plan to use the lathe for promotional purposes.

Giles Gilson Legacy Video

Binh noted that the AAW had intended to produce a video of Giles Gilson’s career and artistic accomplishments but that the project had never been completed. He suggested that the video could be completed at a cost of around \$3,500. Because the proposal affects the budget, it was referred to the Finance Committee for a recommendation.

Respectfully submitted,

Stan Wellborn, AAW Secretary