

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF WOODTURNERS

Board of Directors Meeting

February 19, 2014

CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the AAW Board of Directors convened via teleconference on February 19, 2014, with Board President Dale Larson presiding. The following board members participated by telephone: Denis Delehanty, Philip Hauser, Kurt Hertzog, Art Liestman, Binh Pho, Rob Wallace and Lou Williams. Board member, Cassandra Speier, was not able to participate. Also joining the teleconference were Phil McDonald, Betty Scarpino, Linda Ferber and Kim Rymer.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the January 2014 meeting held in Phoenix were approved with revisions and will be posted to the AAW website.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Finance Committee Report on January Budget

Philip Hauser reported that January 2014 expenses were on track with the budget. He also noted that total registrations for the 2014 symposium are low when compared with average registrations for this same period over the past several years. Monthly financials early in the year can offer only preliminary indications of annual performance. The January membership count, while higher than the same period last year, were lower than the targets set for January.

Finance Committee Role & Endowment Trust Handbook Revisions

Philip Hauser reported that based on a recommendation by the Finance Committee, John Hill reviewed the Endowment Trust Handbook and recommended changes. Philip Hauser withdrew the current draft from board consideration and will submit a revised draft to the board for approval at a later date.

Philip Hauser made a motion that the updated description role of the Finance Committee which was discussed during the January board meeting be approved by the board. The new description was approved unanimously as submitted and will be incorporated into the AAW Board handbook.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

New AAW Website & Membership System

Phil McDonald indicated that staff plans to undertake a two-pronged approach to launch of the new AAW website and membership system. The first phase will take place over the next few days and involve Professional Outreach Program (POP) members and chapter officers who will be invited to preview the website, populate profile information and provide feedback to staff. The second phase will be a launch to all members. The full launch will occur at a later date based on preview remarks. He also noted that staff will develop a "Frequently Asked Questions" webpage to assist members with the new system.

Symposium Marketing

Phil McDonald reported that 2014 symposium registration results are significantly lower than expected although it is too early to assign significance or to use these results for projections. To increase registrations, email blast messages will emphasize speakers, education, demonstrations and other reasons why members should attend. Staff will work with chapters to promote the symposium and are working with Al Hockenbery on a plan to broaden the symposium registration incentive plan with chapters that was tested last year in Florida.

Update on Editor Search

Phil McDonald stated that more than 100 applications were received for the open editor position. The search committee has reduced that candidate pool to 15. The five top prospects will be sent a packet that includes a list of questions, and the remaining ten candidates will be notified of their status as still under consideration. Teleconferences with the top five candidates will be scheduled over the next few weeks. Finalists, when determined, may need to travel for a face to face interview. The target date for a candidate offer is mid-March 2014.

Dues Increase Announcement

Phil McDonald indicated that staff has drafted the communication announcing the membership dues increase which cites rising expenses and investments in service improvements as the primary reason for the increase. The announcement is scheduled to be sent to the full membership on February 20.

Chapter Relations Initiative

The Chapter Relations Initiative work group has been confirmed and the first working session is expected to launch during the first week of March 2014.

SYMPOSIUM COMMITTEE REPORT

Kurt Hertzog reported that the plans for the 2014 symposium are on target and that demonstrators have been set. He noted that the committee is concerned about equipment because one of the vendors who normally supplies lathes is facing financial difficulties. He indicated that shipping for equipment and tools is being coordinated with the local chapter using an individual's business address. Currently, there is not an address available for artwork shipping.

SYMPOSIUM SAFETY POLICY

Rob Wallace presented a revised draft of the symposium safety policy for demonstrators and vendors in the tradeshow area.

Kurt Hertzog made a motion to accept the policy as written. Rob Wallace seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

ANNUAL LATHE DRAWING PROPOSAL

Denis Delehanty proposed that the Powermatic lathe used for the annual end of year drawing be awarded to a chapter versus an individual, as is the current practice. He noted that this arrangement could offer AAW and Powermatic increased visibility. Kurt Hertzog indicated the importance of consulting with Powermatic before considering any changes in the current program.

Dale Larson suggested that the lathe proposal be revisited during the June board meeting.

EOG PROPOSALS UPDATE

Rob Wallace reported that the EOG grant proposals have been distributed and are in the process of being ranked. He noted that the rankings will be compiled and winning proposals will be announced during the week of the February 24.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Dale Larson noted that nominations for open 2015 board positions are needed by May 1. He asked that board members forward suggestions to Binh Pho and J. Paul Fennell. Binh Pho stated that he will follow-up with individuals who were nominated but not elected last year to encourage them to reapply.

ADJOURNMENT

Kurt Hertzog made a motion to adjourn. Rob Wallace seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 6:54 p.m. central standard time on Wednesday, February 19, 2014.

Respectfully Submitted,
Cassandra Speier, Secretary