

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF WOODTURNERS
Board of Directors Meeting
Monday, February 23, 2015

CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the AAW Board of Directors was convened via teleconference at 6:00 p.m. central standard time on Monday, February 23, 2015, with director Kurt Hertzog presiding.

Board members participating in the teleconference were Jeff Brockett, Denis Delehanty, Kathleen Duncan, Art Liestman, Greg Schramek, Louis Vadeboncoeur, Rob Wallace, and Lou Williams. Participating staff members were Linda Ferber, Phil McDonald, and Kim Rymer, and Editor, Josh Friend.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the January 24th and 25th board meetings were unanimously accepted as published.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Greg Schramek summarized the financial report and noted that year-to-date income was \$114k which is \$63k favorable to budget. Cash on hand was \$514k. He remarked that merchandise sales were higher than usual due to the sale of the Getting Started in Woodturning book and anniversary book set, and that credit card fees were elevated as a result of seasonal transaction volume. Operating cash flow expectations for the year range from a high of about \$778k in May, to a low of approximately \$421k in September. Greg stated that he has no concerns about the financial reports for January.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

Resource Directory

Phil McDonald reported that the Resource Directory project budget was based on sales of 5,000 copies and income of approximately \$20,000. However, the new \$5 shipping and handling fee has had a negative influence on demand and a profit is not likely. Advertisers have until April to make final commitments, so there is still time to consider a smaller print quantity and other creative solutions to minimize the potential loss of income.

2015 Symposium

Phil stated that symposium registration sales were brisk in December and January, and are tracking well for February. 200 complimentary registrations were budgeted and about 75 have been recorded to date.

There are currently no rooms left at the Westin. The Omni is 50-60% full and will reach capacity soon. Meeting planner, Gail Olmsted, is negotiating two contracts with other hotels that are attractive, have similar rates, and the potential for free parking, shuttle, etc.

There are currently no major issues, cost variances, or significant concerns.

MNSAB Grant

Phil provided an update on the status of the grant application for Minnesota State Arts Board (MNSAB) Operating Support, which was submitted in January. He indicated that he has since had a number of discussions with the MNSAB and the determination will be made that AAW will not be eligible for this grant period. To be eligible, AAW needed to demonstrate that our 2012-2013 audited financials show contributed income of at least equal to 10% of total net unrestricted income. Contributed income is narrowly defined to include cash contributions and grants from agencies other than the MNSAB. He explained that the AAW may continue to reapply in subsequent years, but cautioned that the MNSAB considers two years rolling in its financial indicators to determine eligibility.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Symposium Committee

Jeff Brockett reported that all plans are on target.

2015 Symposium in Pittsburgh

All Youth Room equipment has been arranged except for the upgraded face shields. Jeff expects to be able to provide an update on this topic in about 10 days.

27 videographer applications were received and references are being checked. Jeff indicated that he has a pool of 25 videographers who will be informed they have been selected, and noted that back up videographers will be needed to offset any fall off. He stated he plans to build an information database to use to identify future videographers.

2016 Symposium in Atlanta

Jeff reported that a call for 2016 symposium demonstrators will appear in the June issue of *American Woodturner*.

Jeff, Phil McDonald, and Kurt Hertzog convened a conference call with the local contingent in Kansas City. They are confident the liaison will be selected soon.

Nominating Committee

Jeff Brockett reported that a call for nominees for 2016 Board of Directors was published in the February issue of *American Woodturner*. He contacted 27 potential candidates. Of those, six confirmed their interest and three wanted more time to consider the opportunity. Jeff noted that nominees have until May 1 to formally apply. He asked each board member to provide to him the name of at least one potential nominee for consideration.

POTENTIAL CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Louis Vadeboncoeur summarized a discussion from the January board meeting about a potential conflict of interest in the Turners Without Borders program. He presented a brief, recommendation, and resolution for the board's consideration.

After an extended discussion, Kurt Hertzog suggested that a decision be deferred and that the documents be reworked and presented for consideration at a future board meeting. Louis agreed to work with Phil McDonald and Kurt Hertzog to revise the documents. He will submit a modified proposal at the next board meeting.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Educational Opportunity Grants (EOG)

Rob Wallace reported the EOG committee has grant money of \$26,000 to award and plans to release funds to 22 selected recipients. He stated that the committee is ranking final applications to determine the threshold and expects to provide a grantee list to AAW headquarters later in the week.

1023EZ

Denis Delehanty updated the board on a new, streamlined "1023EZ" online application procedure, which simplifies the process for smaller groups to attain recognition as charitable organizations under IRS under subchapter 501(c)(3). He indicated that the new process has very few restrictions and would be appropriate for chapters who have annual income of less than \$50,000 and less than \$250,000 in the bank.

NEW BUSINESS

Teleconference Dates

Kurt Hertzog reminded the board of following upcoming teleconference dates:

- Wednesday, March 18th at 6:00 p.m. CST
- Wednesday, April 22nd at 6:00 p.m. CST
- Wednesday, May 20th at 6:00 p.m. CST

He asked board members to contact him if they will not participate.

ADJOURNMENT

Greg Schramek made a motion to adjourn. Rob Wallace provided a second, and the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 7:01 p.m. central standard time on Monday, February 23, 2015.

Respectfully submitted,

Rob Wallace, Secretary