

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF WOODTURNERS
BOARD MEETING
Friday, April 19, 2019

CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the AAW Board of Directors convened via video/teleconference, at 1:05 p.m. central time, on Friday, April 19, 2019, with President Greg Schramek presiding.

The following board members participated in the video/teleconference: Rick Baker, Jeff Brockett, Andy Cole, Janet Collins, Joe Dickey, Kathleen Duncan, David Heim, and Ken Ledeen. Additionally, the following staff members joined the call: Linda Ferber, Phil McDonald, and Kim Rymer. Managing Editor Josh Friend was absent.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Greg Schramek called for corrections to the minutes of the March 21, 2019, board meeting. There were no corrections and David Heim made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Rick Baker seconded the motion and the minutes of the March meeting were unanimously approved.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Financial Reports

Joe Dickey summarized the financial reports for March 2019 and noted the following points:

- Unadjusted net income as of March 31 was \$321, \$85k favorable to budget.
- Adjusted net income as of March 31 was \$64k, \$40k favorable to budget.
- The 2019 year-end forecast for net income was at \$108k, \$0k favorable to budget.
- March 31 "Cash on Hand" was \$1,066k.

Additionally, Joe mentioned the following details:

- A portion of Cash on Hand is restricted, or in effect treated like restricted, and represents dues paid early.
- Membership income is slightly ahead of target.
- Most chapters anticipated to participate in the symposium group discount have submitted their registrations.

Endowment Trustee Reappointment

Joe Dickey made a motion to reappoint David Wahl as Endowment Trustee for an additional three-year term. (David Wahl's current term ends July 25, 2019.) Jeff Brockett seconded the motion which was unanimously approved.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

Quad Graphics Contract Extension

Phil McDonald requested a motion to approve a two-year extension on the contract with Quad Graphics (the company that prints *American Woodturner*). He said in addition to the extension, the addendum contains several pricing concessions by Quad which are favorable to AAW. David Heim made a motion to approve the two-year extension on the Quad Graphics contract. Jeff Brockett seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

Membership

Phil McDonald reported that membership acquisitions for March exceeded the plan by 5% with 1,008 achieved vs. 950 planned. He said total year-to-date membership acquisitions remain at 5% higher than same period last year. April membership acquisitions so far are above plan.

Phil indicated that slightly more than 100 membership acquisitions have been attained through the Rockler partnership at March 30. He noted that AAW branded feature articles are being included in Rockler's Woodworkers Journal. Phil explained that Josh Friend is exploring a prospective relationship with Fine Woodworking, which will be similar to the reprint project for journal article sharing.

2019 Raleigh Symposium

Phil McDonald reported that a detailed symposium update is included in the board packet. He noted that programmatic things are coming together earlier with credit to Linda Ferber. Phil stated there are currently no substantial variances. Hotel demand has been vigorous. The third hotel is filled and we are waiting for a contract on the fourth hotel. Phil noted that some cancellations will occur closer to the event date, but hotel rooms is a good leading indicator. The current revenue plan is based on 1,300 attendees, which Phil cited is realistic. In tracking against prior years, more than half of registrations come in the final 90 days.

A discussion ensued about the maximum number of attendees the event could reasonably handle. It was generally agreed that measures would be available to mitigate demand if extremely high. It was noted that early attendance projections are merely a means of putting brackets on likely and best cases.

Software Technology Project

Phil McDonald indicated he anticipates an interim report to the board regarding the status of the software project.

SYMPOSIUM COMMITTEE REPORT

Jeff Brockett reported that there will be no break between opening ceremonies and speakers. He hopes the number of volunteers signed up will increase.

Handout Book Enhancements

Jeff explained additional information will be added to the handout book. Presentations without a lathe demonstration and beginner track sessions will be indicated. A discussion about leveraging the symposium handout book followed.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Jeff Brockett reported the committee interviews all candidates for the board. May 1 is the deadline for prospective candidates to indicate intent and the final slate of six will be provided by the middle of May.

FRACTAL BURNING / INSTANT GALLERY POLICY

Rick Baker explained that there has been inconsistency about whether to allow items with fractal burning to be displayed in Instant Gallery. He believes AAW should not allow these items to be displayed. A discussion followed which included current policy and ideas for addressing the dangers, including signage placed by fractally burned pieces, and ineligibility for awards.

Jeff Brockett made a motion to amend the current policy to prohibit work exhibiting fractal burning from being placed on display in the Instant Gallery at the annual symposium. Rick Baker seconded the motion. A vote was taken with seven in favor and one against the motion.

DIVERSITY STATEMENT

Kathleen Duncan called attention to the draft of the AAW diversity statement in the board packet. She noted that it is based on a statement by the Ecological Society, and that she would like a discussion of the wording and concept.

Kathleen made a motion to adopt the diversity statement and incorporate statement into *American Woodturner*, Woodturning FUNDamentals, the bylaws, and website. Jeff Brockett seconded the motion with was unanimously accepted.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Deena Kaplan

Phil McDonald explained that on short notice AAW received an offer from collectors Jerry and Deena Kaplan to acquire a portion of their personal collection of wood art. Deena's failing health is contributing to the urgency for making arrangements to meet personally with them and view their collection. Tib Shaw visited the Kaplans in the past week to inventory the collection. Deena wishes for the donation to be unrestricted with AAW given complete discretion on dispensation. One of the existing Instant Gallery excellence awards will be named in honor of Jerry and Deena Kaplan.

Fine Woodworking Videos

Rick Baker stated that he has had discussions with David Heim and Josh Friend about safety issues in videos published by Fine Woodworking. He asked how these matters should be addressed.

David Heim reported that the video is part of Fine Woodworking's "Woodturning for Furniture Makers" video series. The problem is that no one is wearing eye or face protection. David indicated that to discuss the topic in Josh's absence would not be productive and suggested postponing discussion to another meeting.

UPCOMING BOARD MEETINGS

May 23

June 20

July 8, 9 & 15 {July 7 Fly-in Day} – Raleigh

ADJOURNMENT

David Heim made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Kathleen Duncan seconded the motion and the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 2:26 p.m. central time, on Friday, April 19, 2019.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathleen Duncan, Secretary