

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF WOODTURNERS

Board of Directors Meeting

December 19, 2019

CLOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION

CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the AAW Board of Directors convened via teleconference, at 1:03 p.m. Central time on Thursday, December 19, 2019, with President Greg Schramek presiding.

The following Board members were present: Rick Baker, Jeff Brockett, Andy Cole, Janet Collins, Joe Dickey, Kathleen Duncan, David Heim, and Ken Ledeen. 2020 Board member-elect John Beechwood III was also in attendance, as were Managing Editor Josh Friend and the following staff members: Linda Ferber, Phil McDonald, and Kim Rymer.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Greg Schramek called for corrections to the minutes of the November 16-17, 2019, Board meeting. There were no corrections. Rick Baker made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Kathleen Duncan seconded the motion and the minutes of the November meeting were unanimously approved.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Financial Reports

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

- Income Statement unadjusted year-to-date: \$223k (\$147k favorable to budget)
- Income Statement adjusted year-to-date: \$147k (\$48k favorable to budget)
- Income Statement, 2019 year-end forecast: \$189k (\$80k favorable to budget)
- November 30 "Cash-on-Hand": \$923k
- Year-end Forecast "Cash-on-Hand": \$1,117k

2020 Budget Approval

The Treasurer, on behalf of the Finance Committee, moved that the AAW Board approve the 2020 operating budget as submitted.

Jeff Brockett seconded the motion and the 2020 budget was unanimously approved as submitted.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

Membership Reports

Phil McDonald explained that November membership acquisitions fell below target levels. For the second month in row, renewals most notably impacted actual acquisition performance. Lower advance renewals have been lagging both against plan and when compared with the same period last year. At this point, we do not know whether it is random or if there is an underlying cause. Priority will be given to further analysis in January. Linda Ferber explained that the top reasons people don't renew are that they are aging out and are no longer active in woodturning or that they have lost interest.

New Technology

Phil McDonald stated that significant band aids have been placed on the new website in the past week due to systematic issues not visible to members. Staff workload has not decreased, and some members have required significant assistance to reset their passwords. Staff is addressing issues with page redirects and linkages, continuing to add content that could not be added until after launch, and are closer to achieving what was originally intended.

January Meeting

Phil McDonald indicated he will send information prior to the Board packet for January. He asked Committee chairs to get reports to him by Friday, January 10, to be included in the packet.

SYMPOSIUM COMMITTEE

2020 Symposium - Louisville Update

Janet Collins noted the following points:

- Volunteers will be coming to the January meeting; the list of volunteer leads is filling up and most slots are expected to be filled by January.
- JPW is receptive to AAW's request for donations and it appears that we will get what we need from them.
- The symposium schedule will be sent to the Board after has been confirmed with each of the demonstrators. Their approval is critical prior to distribution.
- The list of Board member assignments for Louisville has been completed.

Phil added the following details:

- Contractor quotes and have been included in the budget. The onsite AV contract using AAW equipment has been solidified and will be about \$15k (vs. \$40k without using AAW equipment). He said that the Committee is now focusing on the schedule and timeline.
- Trade Show Vendor booth sales are at \$72k, as of the end of November. The ad sales team effectively backfills gaps and is not aware of any big vendors bowing out to date.

2021 Symposium - Omaha Update

Janet Collins reported that the invited demonstrators for Omaha have been contacted and she has heard back from 75% with no refusals to date.

BOARD APPOINTMENT INITIATIVE

Kathleen Duncan indicated that two versions of the Board appointment initiative have been drafted.

Rick Baker summarized the differences between the two:

- 1) AAW states it will appoint a Board member and AAW allows its members to vote for two Board members.

- 2) The second version is not as transparent. AAW allows members to vote for Board members, two Board members will be elected by the members and one Board member will be appointed by the Board.

Discussion followed including dialogue about times when AAW did not have people on the slate with needed skills, and that it would be beneficial to be able to appoint person to the Board for needed skill sets.

Phil McDonald stated the timeline is important and prompted Kathleen and Rick to consider coming back with the proposed language for the Bylaws change for the January meeting.

2020 BOARD MEETING CALENDAR

Greg Schramek announced that the 2020 Board meeting time for all monthly teleconferences has changed from 2:00 p.m. CST to 3:00 p.m. CST.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

None

UPCOMING MEETINGS

All Thursday video conferences will be held at 4:00 p.m. Eastern time / 3:00 p.m. Central time.

- Jan 18 & 19 (arrive Louisville Fri 1/17)
- Feb 20
- Mar 19
- Apr 23
- May 21
- Jun 1, 2 & 8 (arrive Louisville Sun 5/31)
- Jul 9
- Aug 20
- Sep 17
- Oct 22
- Nov 14 & 15 (arrive Saint Paul Fri 11/13)
- Dec 17

ADJOURNMENT

Andy Cole made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Kathleen Duncan seconded the motion and the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 2:45 p.m. Central time, on Thursday, December 19, 2019.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Duncan, Secretary