

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF WOODTURNERS

Special Meeting of the Board of Directors

Thursday, April 2, 2020

CALL TO ORDER

A special meeting of the AAW Board of Directors convened via Zoom teleconference, at 3:00 p.m. Central Time on Thursday, April 2, 2020, with President Greg Schramek presiding.

The following Board members were present: Rick Baker, John Beechwood III, Jeff Brockett, Andy Cole, Janet Collins, Joe Dickey, Kathleen Duncan, and Ken Ledeen. Also, in attendance were Managing Editor Josh Friend and staff members Linda Ferber, Phil McDonald, and Kim Rymer.

CANCELLATION OF 2020 AAW SYMPOSIUM IN LOUISVILLE

Phil McDonald explained details about the contract cancellation negotiations with the Kentucky Exposition Center (KEC) and the Crowne Plaza Hotel. Patty Kealy, Conference Direct, is still working with the Crowne Plaza on final details of the cancellation. Phil said he is in the process of accumulating materials requested by the event cancellation insurance adjuster, including contracts and the budget, and expects to send all initial submittals by Friday, April 3. He explained that the insurance is anticipated to cover unrecoverable expenses, gross budgeted receipts over expenses, and the claim will be based on AAW's net margin, plus actual expenses incurred.

Discussion ensued about what specifically is, and is not, covered by insurance. Phil indicated that he will discuss interpretation of the insurance policy at the Finance Committee meeting on Friday, April 3.

Phil explained that registered attendees will be refunded for paid registration fees. Credit card refunds will be automatically reimbursed to the credit card. AAW cannot recoup credit card fees on the transactions. Checks will be mailed to other preregistered attendees.

Phil indicated if a registered attendee elects to donate their registration fee to AAW, they should receive the refund first and then may send AAW a clean donation. If AAW accepts the registration fee without processing a refund first, potential complications may arise in any settlement with the insurance company.

Linda Ferber explained when AAW cancels the sale on the website, an email notification will be sent to the attendee. Those who paid by credit card will see the money refunded on their statement automatically. AAW could also send an additional notification to registered attendees about the refund, which includes a link to the donation page of the website.

Phil stated that minor contracts, such as those for leasing equipment, etc., will be cancelled when the KEC cancels.

Jeff reported that the Powermatic lathe for the lathe raffle had been delivered and had not been painted, so Powermatic picked it up. He indicated that since there will be no lathes to give away to recipients of EOG lathe grants, that those grants be carried forward to 2021. A letter should be sent notifying grant recipients of this change.

Janet Collins indicated that all invitations to invited demonstrators for Omaha were retracted. She sent demonstrators a letter stating that AAW is starting the selection process over because invited demonstrators for the 2020 symposium did not demonstrate due to the cancellation. She will have a list of invited demonstrators for Omaha ready for the next Board meeting. Selected demonstrators were told that schedules would not be carried over and they need to apply again. Janet also sent a letter to panelists to let them know that the schedule of panels will not carry over to Omaha. She will hold one last volunteer lead meeting to let volunteer leads know about the arrangements and thank them for their help for the 2020 AAW Symposium.

NEW BUSINESS

Offerings In Lieu Of Symposium

Phi McDonald shared a list of prospective ideas for events in lieu of the 2020 AAW Symposium. He said the Board will need to weight in, endorse specific ideas, and make sure AAW has all the right people involved to make alternative events happen. Phil stated that he would like to report on this at the next Board meeting. He said the live auctions can still happen and that AAW has done them remotely in the past.

Honorary Lifetime Membership Award

Greg Schramek recommended that AAW he discuss accommodations with this year's Honorary Lifetime Membership including offering to her to the 2021 AAW Symposium in Omaha. The June 2020 *American Woodturner* article would note any final arrangement if the formal presentation of the award is moved to 2021. In 2021, AAW would also present another individual with Honorary Lifetime Membership for 2021.

Board Schedule

Greg Schramek recommended that the Board meeting calendar be back to normal schedule in April.

2020 Demonstrator Travel Expenses

Janet Collins raised discussion about a policy for travel expense refunds for Louisville demonstrators.

Greg Schramek indicated if the demonstrator can document a clear loss, AAW will consider the travel expenses for reimbursement.

Linda Ferber said that, in most cases, domestic travelers will get a voucher for a like amount from the airlines, but international travel must be refunded.

Joe Dickey stated that affected demonstrators need to get documentation in as soon as possible to be included as part of the insurance claim.

OLD BUSINESS

Bylaws Amendment Vote

Phil McDonald explained he had received a complaint about the Bylaws Amendment vote and expects he may receive other complaints. Phil will respond to member Bylaws correspondence and will keep the Board apprised if issues surface.

Remote Demos

The Board discussed how chapters may need to resort to remote demonstrations for the foreseeable future. Included in this discussion were Zoom meeting software security vulnerabilities, how it takes time for a demonstrator to learn how to do a remote demo due to the many moving pieces, and how chapters should hire demonstrators with a remote demo skill set.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

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

- 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

Rick Baker made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Andy Cole seconded the motion and the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 3:53 p.m. Central Time, on Thursday, April 2, 2020.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathleen Duncan, Secretary