

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF WOODTURNERS

Meeting of the Board of Directors

Thursday, August 20, 2020

CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the AAW Board of Directors convened via Zoom teleconference, at 3:00 p.m. Central Time on Thursday, August 20, 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 Mike Summerer. Also, in attendance were staff members Phil McDonald and Kim Rymer. Managing Editor Josh Friend was absent. Several AAW members were also in attendance and monitored the meeting.

Greg Schramek asked the Board whether an Executive Session was necessary. No Executive Session was indicated, and the Board proceeded with the regular meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Greg Schramek called for corrections to the minutes of the regular Board meeting held on July 23, 2020. Mike Summerer made a motion to approve the minutes of the July 23 Board meeting. Kathleen Duncan seconded the motion and the minutes were unanimously approved.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Financial Reports

Joe Dickey summarized the financial reports for July 2020 and noted the following points:

- Income Statement, unadjusted year-to-date: \$172.4k (\$10.5k unfavorable to budget)
- Income Statement, 2020 year-end forecast: \$319.0k (\$174.0k favorable to budget)
- July 31 "Cash-on-Hand": \$1,003.0k
- Year-end Forecast "Cash-on-Hand": \$1,264.0k

Joe noted the following details:

- AAW is approaching stability and can predict year-end numbers more effectively.
 - The event cancellation insurance claim is expected to add income of \$160k.
 - Income from the Virtual Symposium is about \$70k.
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- Forgivability of the payback protection loan is anticipated. Phil is receiving guidance on this topic.
- AAW is doing well financially this year, but 2021 is expected to a more difficult year from a financial perspective.

Preliminary Audited Financial Statements

Joe reported that AAW's independent auditor delivered the preliminary audit reports for the 2019 fiscal year. The Finance Committee performed its initial review of the reports and generated a short list of minor revisions. As Treasurer, Joe entered a motion for full Board acceptance of the audit documentation, as follows:

RESOLVED, upon recommendation of the Treasurer and with the consent of the Finance Committee, the AAW Board of Directors accepts the Preliminary 2019 audited financial statements with revisions noted by the Finance Committee and directs the independent auditor to finalize the reports.

Jeff Brockett seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the Board.

ED REPORT

Membership

Phil McDonald explained that while membership acquisitions are lower than planned, there has not been a significant up or down tick throughout the year. Immediate priority is being given to a renewal campaign for late August.

AAW has a new accrual method in place and Phil is beginning to gain insight on future accruals. Over the next few weeks, he will develop a revised dues model and year end forecast.

Phil indicated the primary membership concern is renewals, which is increasing likely a result of the COVID-19 disruption to chapter meetings. He said that part of the plan will be to see how AAW can support chapter leaders and how chapter leaders can help AAW. AAW hopes to reach people ahead of time and educate them with campaigns based on the value propositions of membership.

Chapter Leadership Communities

Phil reported the Chapter Leadership Community is an important feedback loop and Board members should be monitoring it to know what is happening. There is a clear need among chapters to shift to virtual engagement and some are moving more quickly than others. Chapter meetings are the place for fellowship, physical hands on activities, and where new people are introduced and get started. Additionally, chapters are concerned about their ability to finance activities, as well as the long-

term viability of their meeting places. Leases are currently at risk and facilities are being shut down.

Phil noted that AAW can add additional Community groups online, where there are groups with like interests.

Budget Proposal Timeline

Phil explained there will be enhanced attention this year on developing scenarios into the preliminary budget proposals that address uncertainties of COVID-related disruptions, including decision contingencies to address whether a physical symposium will be feasible in 2021. A chart of the 2021 budget development deadlines is in the Board packet with the final budget approval scheduled for the December 2020 Board meeting.

Greg Schramek indicated that it is unlikely there will be a face-to-face Board meeting in November and the Board should expect the possibility of engaging in lengthy online meetings as a substitute.

2020 VIRTUAL SYMPOSIUM SURVEY RESULTS

Rick Baker reported that the survey results for the Virtual Symposium were extremely positive. 92% of the respondents rated the event “Excellent” to “Very Good.” Additionally, feedback from demonstrators was favorable. Respondents provided lots of comments and suggestions. If AAW does a Virtual Symposium again, it will have a good framework from which to work.

SYMPOSIUM COMMITTEE

Janet Collins stated the Symposium Committee is meeting every week and is moving forward on a predetermined schedule for a live 2021 AAW Symposium in Omaha. The site visit will be happening near the end of September. With uncertainty due to COVID-19, all options are being evaluated (live vs. virtual vs. hybrid).

Joe Dickey emphasized the need to fit AAW Symposium options into the budget and asked if a hybrid symposium was in the budget. Phil McDonald stated that AAW will need to develop a project proforma addressing both live and virtual symposia scenarios.

WOMEN IN TURNING COMMITTEE

Kathleen Duncan reported that the WIT Committee developed “WIT presents,” because of COVID-19. (WIT Presents is a monthly online event that features conversations with woodturning artists, teachers, demonstrators, and/or people of interest to WIT members.) WIT Presents has been successful. The event is now open to all AAW members.

Kathleen stated that the WIT Committee recognizes and appreciates Greg Schramek’s support in attending all WIT Presents sessions. Additionally, the WIT Committee appreciates the contributions of Janet Collins as a WIT Committee member and as the voice behind the WIT Presents Q&A, in addition the other committees she serves on.

Kathleen indicated the next WIT presents event will be on September 12 and will feature Donna Zils Banfield.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Kathleen Duncan reported that there have been 777 votes cast in the current election for the 2021 Board. The number of votes cast is lower than last year.

Phil McDonald stated the number of ballots cast is influenced by AAW messaging. AAW will encourage member voting participation and he will ask auditors for an update on votes cast next week.

On the topic of the Board’s option to appoint a member to the Board, Kathleen made a motion that the Board NOT appoint a Board member for 2021. For 2021, the top three vote-getters on the ballot will be elected. John Beechwood III seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Greg Schramek offered kudos to Josh Friend for Betty Scarpino’s article on Interactive Remote Demonstrations (IRD). The topic is extremely relevant, and Betty reported to him she had received more feedback on that article than on anything else she has written.

NEW BUISINESS

None

UPCOMING BOARD MEETINGS

- All remote sessions will be held at 4:00 p.m. Eastern Time except where noted.
- September 17, remote
- **Tuesday**, October 20, remote, 3:00 p.m. Eastern
- November 14 and 15, remote (**Subject to change**)
- December 17, remote

ADJOURNMENT

Jeff Brockett made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Andy Cole seconded the motion and the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 3:39 p.m. Central Time, on Thursday, August 20, 2020.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathleen Duncan, Secretary