

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF WOODTURNERS

Meeting of the Board of Directors

Thursday, September 17, 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, September 17, 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 Managing Editor Josh Friend and staff members Phil McDonald and Kim Rymer. 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 August 20, 2020. Mike Summerer made a motion to approve the minutes of the August 20 Board meeting. Jeff Brockett seconded the motion and the minutes were unanimously approved.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Financial Reports

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

- Income Statement, unadjusted year-to-date: \$176.9k (\$31.7k favorable to budget)
- Income Statement, 2020 year-end forecast: \$264.0k (\$120.0k favorable to budget)
- August 31 "Cash-on-Hand": \$982.0k
- Year-end Forecast "Cash-on-Hand": \$1,190.0k

Additionally, Joe make the following points:

- The income forecast could potentially increase based on the event cancellation insurance settlement.
- The possibility of PPP loan forgiveness looks favorable.

ETHICS COMMITTEE REPORT

Greg Schramek and Janet Collins recused themselves from discussion and voting on the Ethics Committee report.

Joe Dickey made the following motion: "The Board accepts the Ethics Committee report and adopts the recommendations within." Rick Baker seconded the motion.

Jeff Brockett read a summary of the Ethics Committee report as follows:

"The Ethics Committee received an ethics complaint from Jimmy Clewes naming Gregory Schramek as the subject of the complaint. The complaint was provided to both the AAW Board, Gregory Schramek, and Executive Director Phil McDonald for review. The Ethics Committee finalized their review of the complaint and provided recommendations for the AAW Board to consider. A review of the complaint and the recommendations were provided to the AAW Board, Gregory Schramek, Phil McDonald, and appropriate AAW staff members. The ethics policy requires the Board to make a decision regarding the review and recommendations provided by the Ethics Committee."

Jeff thanked the Ethics Committee for their hard work and efforts to provide a thorough report.

Joe Dickey read the Ethics Committee recommendations as follows:

1. After thorough review of the complaint and supporting documentation submitted by Mr. Clewes, and analysis of it as it pertains to the AAW Ethics Policy, the Ethics Committee concludes that Greg Schramek violated no code of ethics. It is recommended Mr. Clewes' ethics complaint be dismissed.
2. The Ethics Committee recommends that the demonstrator contract language be changed to the effect of: 'AAW recommends that a faceshield be worn at all times while turning at the Symposium. If a demonstrator would like an exception to the faceshield rule, the Symposium Chair is free to work out an accommodation that works for all parties.' The AAW has made accommodations to other Symposium demonstrators in the past. AAW cannot write rules to cover every possible situation. Judgment must be used at times.
3. Due to the procedural problem that was raised in Complaint #6, we recommend that Board members be required to read the AAW Policies, and Bylaws, and be familiar with Roberts Rules of Order. This is necessary for the orderly operation of Board meetings.

Joe called for a vote on the motion to accept the Ethics Committee report and adopts its recommendations. The motion was passed unanimously.

A full Ethics Committee report will be available on the website in the Board Leadership section under the "Board Meeting Minutes" tab.

ED REPORT

Phil McDonald reported that membership levels are being closely monitored. The dues revenue variance-to-budget remains at about 3%, however overall acquisitions for the year are at roughly 10% below plan, and 7% lower than the same period one year ago. He stated an updated dues forecasting model has been developed and dues accruals, together with estimated dues from renewals and joins through December, have been projected through the remainder of the year.

Phil said the good news is AAW can accurately anticipate the trend and put together mitigation plans. It appears the COVID-19 disruption to chapters is having a significant impact on membership levels. He said mitigation measures will cover for this year. AAW will need to chart a new course with membership acquisitions and will lay out a narrative of program priorities. Consultation with Finance Committee has already taken place and the budget is less about numbers than it is about programmatic priorities. Phil noted the variables will be apparent and AAW should plan to deliver more remote events.

Greg Schramek stated that over the next two months, the Board and staff can anticipate working sessions on budget and planning.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Kathleen Duncan reported the following results of the 2021 Board candidate election:

- 3,690 votes were cast
- 1,800 members voted
- The candidates elected are Rick Baker, Linda Britt, and Jay Brown.

She reported that the Committee will soon reconvene to determine the 2021 Executive Committee.

WIT COMMITTEE

Kathleen Duncan explained that WIT Presents features women woodturning artists. The online program consists of a 20-minute slide presentation followed by a tour of the artist's studio or shop. If there is time, a Q & A wraps up the talk. WIT Presents is now open to all AAW members regardless of gender.

MIKE SUMMERER COMMITTEE (TO BE NAMED)

Mike Summerer explained a new committee has been formed due to the new need for enhanced services and unique online programs throughout the year. These unique programs will be different from regular interactive remote demonstrations (IRDs). The events will cost \$10 for members and \$30 for nonmembers. He said the plan is to employ multiple cameras, high-quality video, and two-way communications. The first event will be David Ellsworth, Natural-Edge Bowl on October 24 at 3 p.m. Eastern Time. The next event will feature John Jordan. The Committee may consider offering programs in other languages and other factors that make the programs unique.

SYMPOSIUM COMMITTEE

Janet Collins reported that the Symposium Committee continues to plan for a live AAW Symposium in Omaha. The Committee is discussing the possibility of additional elements, such as simultaneous Virtual Symposium.

LONG-TERM PLANNING COMMITTEE (FORMERLY VISION 2020 COMMITTEE)

Greg Schramek brought up AAW's Online Communities and stated he hopes the Board is looking at the Chapter Leadership community, where chapters and AAW discuss topics and share relevant, useful information. He noted that there are additional communities being discussed including a foreign language community.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Kathleen Duncan reported that there is more work that needs to be done on AAW's computer system. The issue of "Family Memberships" needs to be resolved so that so that all family members are listed, especially when they have different last names. She recommended this needs to be made a higher priority and Phil McDonald acknowledged the need.

NEW BUSINESS

Phil McDonald stated that a new administrative staff member has been hired, Alexa Calliguri, who is also a practicing woodturner. Alexa will be a supporter to everyone in the office. He explained that she will be "distance learning" until the office is open. There were more than 180 applications for the position.

Greg Schramek stated that staff should get recognition for keeping things going during the staff shortage.

UPCOMING BOARD MEETINGS

All remote Board meeting sessions will be held at 4:00 p.m. Eastern Time except where noted.

- 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 and Andy Cole seconded the motion. The meeting was unanimously adjourned at 3:33 p.m. Central Time, on Thursday, September 17, 2020.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathleen Duncan, Secretary