

# **AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF WOODTURNERS**

Meeting of the Board of Directors

Thursday, December 16, 2021

## **CALL TO ORDER**

A regular meeting of the AAW Board of Directors convened at 3:00 p.m. Central Time on Thursday, December 16, 2021, online via Zoom, with President Mike Summerer presiding.

The following Board members were present: Rick Baker, John Beechwood, Linda Britt, Jay Brown, Sally Burnett, Andy Cole, Joe Dickey, Mike Summerer, KC Kendall, and Molly Winton. Also in attendance were staff members Phil McDonald, Jennifer Newberg, and Kim Rymer. Newly elected Board members for 2022, Chuck Lobaito and Kimberly Winkle, monitored the meeting. Managing Editor Josh Friend was absent.

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mike Summerer called for corrections and/or changes to the minutes of the regular Board meeting held on November 13-14, 2021. One change was indicated. Andy Cole made a motion to approve the minutes of the meeting with the change. Rick Baker seconded the motion, and the minutes of the meeting, and the minutes were unanimously approved.

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Linda Britt made a motion for the Board to enter Executive Session. John Beechwood seconded the motion which was unanimously approved. The Board entered Executive Session and returned to the regular meeting at 3:32 p.m.

## **FINANCE COMMITTEE**

### **Treasurer's Report - Financial Reports**

Joe Dickey summarized the financial reports for November 30, 2021, and noted the following:

- Income Statement, unadjusted year-to-date: \$173.4k (gain, \$93.8k favorable to budget)
  - Income Statement, 2021 year-end forecast: \$75.0k (gain, \$39.6k favorable to budget)
  - November 30 "Cash-on-Hand": \$1,393.0k
  - Year-end Forecast "Cash-on-Hand": \$1,409.0k
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### **2022 Budget Approval**

On behalf of the Finance Committee, Joe Dickey made a motion to accept 2022 Budget as presented at the November Board meeting. Jay Brown seconded the motion and the 2022 Budget was unanimously approved.

### **2022 Supplemental Budget: Strategic Investments**

Phil McDonald summarized the proposed Supplemental Budget, beyond the operating budget, to fund targeted investments in services and service infrastructure in order to increase capacity and grow the membership base. The Supplemental Budget request is up to a limit of \$80k. Controls and project management systems will allow progress monitoring separately from the operating budget. The funds will enable AAW to add capacity and contract for areas where AAW does not currently have competencies.

On behalf of the Finance Committee, Joe Dickey made a motion to approve the 2022 Supplemental Strategic Investment Budget as documented on page 32 of the ED December 2021 Board Meeting Report. Jay Brown seconded the motion, and the Supplemental Budget was unanimously approved.

### **Omaha Convention Center**

Phil McDonald reported The Omaha Convention Center recently offered a counter to our settlement proposal which will bring closure to the event cancellation contract dispute.

### **Dues Increase**

Phil McDonald reported on concerns voiced on the Chapter Leadership online community about the announcement of the \$8 membership dues increase, which is effective March 15, 2022. Other Chapter Leaders were supportive. Phil indicated that since the formal AAW reply was posted with additional details on the dues increase, discussion on the topic has been relatively quiet. He noted the increase information will be repeated multiple times leading up to March 15.

## **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT**

### **Membership**

Jen Newberg explained the new "Tips & Tricks for Woodturners" digital download has been well-received and is an effective incentive. As a result, there have been about 300 more new and renewed members in November 2021 as compared with November 2020.

The recently announced dues increase has boosted multi-year membership renewals. However, most renewals continue to be for one year.

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### **January Board Meeting**

Phil McDonald asked the Board if there were questions or concerns about preparation for the January Board meeting which will be held in Chattanooga. He noted Sally Burnett will not be present but will join via Zoom, and the Saturday schedule will include an engagement with key volunteers. Phil asked Board members to make their travel arrangements and provide itineraries to Jane Charbonneau in the AAW office.

## **SYMPOSIUM COMMITTEE**

Jay Brown stated the Symposium Committee members are Jay Brown, Chair; Linda Britt, Rick Baker, Ana Lappegard, KC Kendall, Jim Dvorak, Jerry Robertson, and Jennifer Newberg. He noted Jerry Robertson was added to the Committee as the 2023 Louisville lead. Leads for Chattanooga and Louisville have never previously attended an AAW Symposium.

### **2022 Chattanooga**

Jay stated Invited Demonstrators have been approved and contracting is underway. Accepted applicants have been notified. Rick Baker and KC Kendall have developed an initial rotation schedule.

### **2023 Louisville**

Jay explained the Committee has finalized the list of Invited Demonstrators and identified Jerry Robertson as the Local Lead.

### **2024 Site Selection**

Jay indicated the Committee made a successful visit to Portland.

Jay made the following motion to approve Portland, OR, as the host city for the 2024 AAW Symposium.

*"On recommendation of the Symposium Committee, I move that the Board of Directors approve Portland, OR, to host the 2024 AAW International Symposium, conditional on Contracts Committee review and endorsement of execution-ready venue and hotel contracts. I further move the Board of Directors authorizes the Executive Director to assign the resources necessary to negotiate with the city of Portland toward successful execution of the associated host city contractual agreements."*

Molly Winton seconded the motion, and Portland was unanimously approved as the host city for the 2024 AAW Symposium.

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### **POP Committee Member Participation on Committee**

Andy Cole stated a POP Committee member should be on the Symposium Committee according to AAW Board Handbook. He noted this has not happened yet and asked whether there is a value in having a POP member on the Symposium Committee.

Jay Brown, Kimberly Winkle, and Andy Cole will discuss the topic outside of the Board meeting and make a recommendation on how to proceed at a future Board meeting.

## **TURNERS WITHOUT BORDERS**

John Beechwood noted the following Terms of Reference for the TWB Committee which are included in the December Board meeting packet. He asked the Board to endorse the Terms so the Committee can move forward.

### **VISION**

*To expand the reach of the AAW by undertaking planning and through international project initiatives that will:*

- 1) Establish mutually beneficial collaborations and partnerships with other NGO and National and Regional Woodturning Associations across the world.*
- 2) Plan IRD programs and identify woodturning demonstrators for presentations targeted to international audiences.*
- 3) Research translation services, software applications, and processes to assess viability of business models for offering AAW's curated digital content to multilingual audiences.*

The objective of the TWB vision is to make AAW the primary "hub" of woodturning information in the world. By engaging woodturners worldwide with a structure and library of valuable information (video's, articles, organizational lists, and demonstrator lists) woodturners from around the world will be drawn to AAW to seek woodturning knowledge. The goal is to have AAW be a virtual place to connect all the woodturners in the world.

The Terms of Reference for the TWB Committee were unanimously endorsed as presented by the Board.

## **BOARD OF ADVISORS**

On behalf of the Nominating Committee, Linda Britt made a motion for the Board to appoint the following individuals to the AAW Board of Advisors: John Hill, Jean LeGwin, Dale Larson, David Wahl, Margaret Lospinuso, and Louis Vadeboncoeur. Andy Cole seconded the motion, and all individuals were unanimously approved to the AAW Board of Advisors.

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## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Outgoing Board Members**

Mike Summerer thanked outgoing Board members Molly Winton, Andy Cole, and Joe Dickey for their dedication, challenging work, and service to AAW. Each will receive a signature gouge as a small token of appreciation.

### **Sharing Files**

Kimberly Winkle suggested the Board have a place to share files and other documents because email can be unwieldy. She noted it would be ideal to have all Board documents in one place and easy to access. Phil McDonald indicated AAW staff will investigate this topic and make recommendations on how to proceed at a future Board meeting.

## **UPCOMING BOARD MEETINGS**

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

### **2022 Tentative Board Calendar**

- January 22 & 23 (Chattanooga, January 21 arrival date)
- February 17, remote
- March 17, remote
- April 21, remote
- May 19, remote
- June 20, 21 & 27 (Chattanooga, June 19 arrival date)
- July 21, remote
- August 18, remote
- September 15, remote
- October 20, remote
- November 19, 20 (St. Paul face-to-face, November 18 arrival date)
- December 15, remote

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Joe Dickey made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Molly Winton seconded the motion, and the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 4:37 p.m. Central Time, on Thursday, December 16, 2021.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jay Brown, Secretary

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