

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF WOODTURNERS

Meeting of the Board of Directors

Thursday, January 20, 2022

CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the AAW Board of Directors convened at 3:03 p.m. Central Time on Thursday, January 20, 2022, online via Zoom, with President Mike Summerer presiding.

The following Board members were present: Rick Baker, John Beechwood, Linda Britt, Jay Brown, Sally Burnett, KC Kendall, Chuck Lobaito, Mike Summerer, and Kimberly Winkle. Also, in attendance were Managing Editor Josh Friend, and staff members Phil McDonald, Jennifer Newberg, and Kim Rymer.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mike Summerer called for corrections and/or changes to the minutes of the regular Board meeting held on December 16, 2021. There were no corrections or changes. Linda Britt made a motion to approve the minutes. John Beechwood seconded the motion, and the minutes of the meeting were unanimously approved.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Phil McDonald indicated the financial statements for December 2021 are not final but by the end of January 2022, the Finance Committee will have a good idea of AAW's 2021 financial results.

Income Statement

The year-end income statement is expected to be approximately \$150k, plus or minus \$25k, which is about \$75k higher than the December 2021 target. In addition to unearned investment gains and various expense favorability, the increase reflects year-end fundraising campaign results to date.

Cash on Hand

Year-end cash on hand is expected to be approximately \$1.5m, plus or minus \$25k, which is \$100k higher than the conservative target and due to a well-performing membership campaign and some multi-year payments.

ENDOWMENT TRUST

On behalf of the Endowment Committee, Phil McDonald asked the Board for motions to approve the following resolutions:

- 1. Approve the AAW Endowment Trustee's January 4, 2022, annual report to the AAW Board of Directors.***

- 2. Accept the resignation of Joel Rakower from the Endowment Trust, and to appoint Kean Werner to replace Joel and fill the remainder of his term ending July 25, 2023. Furthermore, to appoint Charles J. Lobaito to replace Joseph Dickey upon expiration of his term, effective July 25, 2022.**
- 3. Authorize John R. Hill and Kean A. Werner effective immediately, and to authorize Charles J. Lobaito effective on July 25, 2022, as the sole parties authorized to conduct all transactions on the accounts of the American Association of Woodturners at Vanguard. This includes all mutual fund accounts and brokerage services accounts at Vanguard.**

Board discussion followed.

Linda Britt made a motion to approve the AAW Endowment Trustee's January 4, 2022, annual report to the AAW Board of Directors. Rick Baker seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

Linda Britt made a motion to accept the resignation of Joel Rakower from the Endowment Trust, and to appoint Kean Werner to replace Joel and fill the remainder of his term ending July 25, 2023. Furthermore, to appoint Charles J. Lobaito to replace Joseph Dickey upon expiration of his term, effective July 25, 2022. Rick Baker seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

Linda Britt made a motion to authorize John R. Hill and Kean A. Werner effective immediately, and to authorize Charles J. Lobaito effective on July 25, 2022, as the sole parties authorized to conduct all transactions on the accounts of the American Association of Woodturners at Vanguard. This includes all mutual fund accounts and brokerage services accounts at Vanguard. Rick Baker seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

Membership

Jennifer Newberg indicated that renewals are good and that AAW is receiving a lot of multi-year renewals. She noted the Tips & Tricks book (digital download) continues to be an effective incentive.

Jennifer reported a Google Drive has been set up for the Board to share, add, edit, and archive documents. She advised Board members that they will each receive an invitation to the Google Drive.

LONG-TERM PLANNING STRATEGIC ISSUES DISCUSSION

Phil McDonald provided a brief background of "Vision 2020," a past long-term plan and shared a chart documenting framework for past strategic thrusts. He indicated specific initiatives were tied to strategic thrusts.

SYMPOSIUM COMMITTEE

2024 Symposium – Portland

Phil McDonald explained Patty Keeley of Conference Direct is working on the contract with the Portland Convention Center and hotels. While the first hotel may meet AAW's needs, we hope to get a second hotel with a smaller block. AAW should be close to an executed contract in a few weeks. The Contracts Committee needs to be ready to review the contracts in the next 2-3 weeks.

2022 Symposium – Chattanooga

Jay Brown stated there is much happening, but not many new developments to report. He noted one demonstrator withdrew because he was not comfortable with the contract terms. The Committee is waiting to identify a replacement until it can determine whether there will be others who withdraw.

Jay indicated later in January Jim Dvorak, Ana Lappegard, Linda Britt, and Jennifer Newberg will be in Chattanooga. (Jay will not attend due to illness.)

Mike Summerer suggested that Linda Britt and Jennifer Newberg should be the ambassadors to welcome volunteers on January 22.

2023 Symposium – Louisville

Jay Brown noted the following:

- Invited demonstrators list has been finalized and Jay will make the invitation calls soon.
- Jerry Robertson is very engaged as the local lead.

The Board accepted the Youth Demonstrators as part of the Symposium Committee report.

STANDING ITEM FOR STRATEGIC DISCUSSIONS

Mike Summerer indicated the four initiatives listed in the Long-Term Planning Exercise document from the Long-Term Planning Committee, dated October 26, 2021, have been accepted. The document outlines issues, questions, possible sources of information, and possible tactics/action steps for AAW long-term planning.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Size of the AAW Board

Mike Summerer revisited discussion held by the Board in November regarding concern about workload and whether a total of nine AAW Board members was adequate. He shared this topic with the AAW Board of Advisors.

Discussion ensued and included the following points:

- The Board needs to better manage committees or increase the number of Board members to manage its committees more effectively.
- Some committees could be consolidated.
- Thoughts on broadening diversity/demographics are supported by the Board.

Mike explained there are currently 17 defined committees, and the Board could review the committee structures. He noted each year the AAW membership elects two Board members, and one Board member is appointed by the Board. Mike said the membership tends to elect known woodturners, not necessarily the ones that have the skills needed by the Board i.e.: financial expertise, fundraising experience, etc.

Phil McDonald explained Committee chairs are not required to be Board members and their responsibilities could be delegated to others.

KC added that non-Board Committee Chairs could be a pipeline for future Board members.

Mike stated the topic will continue to be discussed in the future.

Fundraising

Mike asked whether AAW should be more aggressive and deliberate with a fundraising development model and asked how AAW should pursue fundraising activities. He noted KC asked about the story AAW is telling the prospective donor.

Discussion continued and included the following points:

- What is AAW selling? Is there a clear reason why people should donate?
- Is AAW looking for grants?
- Money to fund AAW general operations is not a compelling reason to donate.

Discussion ensued and it was agreed this subject will continue to be discussed in the future.

ETHICS COMMITTEE

On behalf of the Ethics Committee, Mike Summerer made a motion to appoint Marie Anderson Chair of the Ethics Committee, replacing Dale Larson who will remain on the Committee.

Sally Burnett seconded the motion to appoint Marie Anderson as Chair of the Ethics Committee, and the motion was unanimously approved although Board approval was not necessary in this case.

BYLAWS

Mike Summerer reported there are several versions of the Bylaws circulating and they need to be consolidated and stored in one place.

POP MEMBER ON SYMPOSIUM COMMITTEE

Mike Summerer stated he wants to make certain Kimberly Winkle and Jay Brown see the email former POP Committee chair Andy Cole sent.

FACE-TO-FACE BOARD MEETINGS

Mike Summerer asked the Board whether they believe the Board should meet in-person in March.

Instead, Mike proposed scheduling an extended Zoom virtual event instead on March 17, from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time.

UPCOMING BOARD MEETINGS

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

2022 Tentative Board Calendar

- February 17, remote
- March 17, remote (extended session: 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time)
- 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

Linda Britt made a motion to adjourn the meeting. John Beechwood seconded the motion, and the Board meeting was unanimously adjourned at 4:42 p.m. Central Time, on Thursday, January 20, 2022.

Respectfully submitted,
Jay Brown, Secretary