

# **AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF WOODTURNERS**

Meeting of the Board of Directors  
Thursday, February 17, 2022

## **CALL TO ORDER**

A regular meeting of the AAW Board of Directors convened at 3:03 p.m. Central Time on Thursday, February 17, 2022, online via Zoom, with President Mike Summerer presiding.

The following Board members were present: Rick Baker, John Beechwood, Linda Britt, Sally Burnett, KC Kendall, Chuck Lobaito, Mike Summerer, and Kimberly Winkle. Jay Brown was absent. 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 Thursday, January 20, 2022. One correction was noted. 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**

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

Chuck Lobaito summarized the financial reports for January 31, 2022, and noted the following:

- Income Statement, unadjusted year-to-date: \$37.3k (gain, \$41.7k favorable to budget)
- Income Statement, 2022 year-end forecast: \$33.3k (gain, \$33.3k favorable to budget)
- January 31 "Cash-on-Hand": \$1,767.0k
- Year-end Forecast "Cash-on-Hand": \$1,436.0k

Phil McDonald stated a membership system irregularity has been encountered resulting in a \$11k dues revenue discrepancy. The matter is being actively investigated.

Chuck reported a soft close for 2021 and noted AAW has exceeded the \$450k reserves benchmark by \$91k.

## **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT**

### **AAW Symposium 2024 – Portland**

Phil McDonald indicated Conference Direct connected with Portland regarding the status of contracts which are currently under review. There will likely be a third hotel contract. He noted that AAW is now seeing improved force majeure terms in contracts.

### **Supplemental Budget Investment**

Phil provided an update on the 2022 investment to increase capacity. He explained AAW has retained an IT partner as an independent consultant. The consultant has significant expertise in iMIS (AAW's membership administration system and website platform). Phil feels good about the relationship and plans to lay out the spending plan.

### **January Membership**

Jennifer Newberg reported renewals and acquisitions are on par with last year. For January, there were 1,691 renewals and acquisitions. January ended with 14,632 members which is 242 over January 2021.

## **BYLAWS COMMITTEE/ETHICS POLICY**

Rick Baker presented an edited version of the Ethics Policy to the Board.

Linda Britt explained the policy could be edited further to make it shorter and more concise.

Mike Summerer suggested the Ethics Committee should review the policy, make recommendations, and present it to the Board for review and approval. He asked Linda and Rick to draft a shorter more concise policy for approval.

## **SYMPOSIUM COMMITTEE**

### **AAW Symposium 2022 – Chattanooga**

Jennifer Newberg reported Glenn Lucas cannot be a demonstrator due to other obligations and he will be replaced by Stuart Batty. She said the Symposium Committee is exploring creative programming and is considering offering "Two Ways to Turn a Bowl," featuring Mike Mahoney and Stuart Batty. Details are currently being worked out.

Phil McDonald indicated the Marriott block of hotel rooms has filled (for most nights). Two additional hotels will be available soon and AAW may need to setup courtesy blocks at other hotels.

Jennifer stated there are more than 100 rooms for peak nights and AAW should have plenty of rooms.

## **GRANTS COMMITTEE**

John Beechwood reported WIT approved three grants. Additionally, he noted there has been only one application for AAW Symposium registration. John stated the webpage was not up to date. He recommended the page be revised and allow applications. He said the Board should agree on an extended deadline.

Kimberly Winkle agreed the date should be extended. She also explained the grant webpage and application does not include grant selection criteria, which is extremely valuable information for applicants. She explained it is easier to be objective when there is specific criteria.

John made motion to extend the AAW Symposium grant deadline to March 15. Kimberly seconded motion which was unanimously approved.

Mike Summerer recommended grant selection criteria be made available so the grant selection process can be more transparent.

John stated the current grant selection process includes seven key points.

Phil McDonald offered to work with the Grants Committee on developing specific grant selection criteria.

## **STRATEGIC DISCUSSION**

Mike Summerer stated plans for the March meeting to address governance issues, long-term planning, and the size and function of the AAW Board.

## **FUNDRAISING**

KC Kendall presented a discussion outline for the Board. He stated there has been considerable fundraising work completed and asked how the Board would like to proceed and build on what is already underway. He would like to know the Board's thoughts on a fundraising goal and tactics. KC explained he believes AAW should develop a powerful committee of credible, well-known people then determine the goal and tactics. Discussion ensued regarding interest in a more robust fundraising program.

Mike Summerer explained in March, the Board will spend a significant amount of time on strategic planning matters. He values comments from the Advisory Committee because they bring a unique perspective and different point of view.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Mike Summerer explained he has activated a Board of Consultants. Like the Board of Advisors, there is no limit of time frame for appointing others.

## **UPCOMING BOARD MEETINGS**

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

### **2022 Tentative Board Calendar**

- 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**

John Beechwood made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Linda Britt seconded the motion, and the Board meeting was unanimously adjourned at 4:23 p.m. Central Time, on Thursday, February 17, 2022.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jay Brown, Secretary