

**AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF WOODTURNERS**

Board of Directors Meeting  
May 29, 2023 & June 5, 2023

**CALL TO ORDER**

A regular meeting of the AAW Board of Directors convened at 8:00am ET on Monday May 29, 2023, in person. President Mike Summerer presided.

The following Board members were present: Ron Day, Linda Britt, Jay Brown, Sally Burnett, KC Kendall, Chuck Lobaito, Mike Summerer, and Kimberly Winkle. Also in attendance were staff members Jen Newberg and Matt Brubaker and contractor, Josh Friend.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mike Summerer called for corrections and/or changes to the minutes from 4/20/2023. *With no changes indicated, Rick Baker moved to approve minutes, seconded by Linda Britt. Motion passed.*

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

No executive session was called.

**CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**

No consent agenda items were raised.

**TREASURER REPORT**

Chuck Lobaito summarized the financial reports for April 30, 2023.

- Income Statement (P/L), year-to-date: \$175.4k
- Income Statement, 2023 year-end forecast: (\$237.3k)
- April 30 'Cash-on-Hand': \$1,423k
- Year-end Forecast 'Cash-on-Hand': \$1,088k
- Projected Lowest Cash Balance: \$993k (Nov)
- April Membership Income: \$64k (\$3.1k unfavorable to budget)
- Year-to-Date Membership Income: \$252.4k (\$11k unfavorable to budget)

Chuck shared that the Finance Committee meeting the first week of July to working on changing the formatting and automate some of the financial reporting.

**2022 AUDIT**

Chuck indicated the preliminary 2022 audited financial statements have been delivered by the independent auditor and reviewed by the Finance Committee. He said there were no significant findings, and the audit was clean overall.

*On behalf of the Finance Committee, Chuck recommended acceptance of the audit and financial statements, seconded by Ron Day. The audit and financial statements were accepted unanimously.*

### **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT**

The Annual Member Meeting & WIT EXchange presentations were held online April 29, 2023. Feedback from the virtual Annual Member meeting was both constructive and positive. 129 members registered and 27 have viewed the replay so far. There was an operational issue when two last-minute registrations were directed to the wrong Zoom link. Two WIT EXchange Project Presentations were held online the same day as the Annual Meeting and were free to attend.

WIT Presents with Jay Heryet was held May 5, 2023. This free virtual event had 100 registrations.

AAW Gallery of Wood Art attendance continues to grow. The Landmark Building cultural programing on Sundays draws higher attendance. Gallery hosts live woodturning demos every third Sunday. Mother's Day had high attendance due to a special concert in Landmark. Recent tours included 80 middle schoolers (tour of the building and the gallery) and a local arts group.

Alexa Calliguri has moved to the Marketing/Communication teams working primarily with digital communications. Increased marketing efforts for the Symposium continued to get high responses. Staff continue to set up and track analytics. Challenges have included Symposium website blacklisting and bounced and/or undelivered emails. Staff changed spam filter and firewall process and continue to monitor the issues.

Workplan progress is moving slowly due to Staff focus on Symposium planning.

### **PROGRAM COMMITTEE UPDATES**

Informal Committee updates were solicited.

**Turners Without Borders** – Sally reported updates on the Irish Woodturners Guild affiliation and committee plans for additional affiliation and international membership dues costs. Discussion about sliding fees based on each country.

**Women in Turning** – Kimberly Winkle thanked Marie Anderson & Linda Ferber for their work on another successful WIT Exchange. The Committee has discussed budget implications for hosting an in-person EXchange and the program will continue virtual in 2024. WIT continues to give one year membership grants to new women turners.

**Professional Outreach Program** - Kimberly explained the Artist Showcase selection process. The timeline will be adjusted so that decisions are made before demonstrators are finalized for the Symposium. Kimberly explained other areas of POP programing in the Symposium including Brass Tacks workshop presented by a staff member of American Craft Council. Andy Cole will

continue as POP Liaison to Symposium committee. Unrelated to symposium, the POP Committee is working on a multi-part virtual program related to business components.

**Youth & Special Programs** - Ron Day reported on plans for Youth at Symposium. Updated board on Skills USA program, effort led by Kip Christensen. Next year the Committee will implement an application for Symposium youth instructors similar to demonstrator applications. Discussion followed of potential AAW program for sponsored production.

**Grants** – \$11,300 was granted this year. Rick Baker recommends changing the grants timeline to January so that schools have funds well before the end of the school year and implementing two grant cycles per year.

*Chuck moved to implement two grant cycles per year, seconded by Linda. Motion carried.*

**Technology** - Ron Day reported that in July the committee is changing its focus from hardware to software. Mentors are now available for new chapter members. The committee is documenting what they are sharing and recording Zoom meetings for later viewing.

**Demonstrator Selection and Program Committee** - KC Kendall reported on YTD non-symposium virtual programs. Staff will implement a survey about virtual programming interest after the Symposium. The application for Portland demonstrators is open.

Discussion continued about how volunteers with leadership roles can participate in specific AAW programs – as demonstrators and exhibitions. Kimberly suggested consideration of a motion to allow Board members to participate in externally juried AAW exhibitions with opportunity to choose to receive 50% of sale (or same amount as non-board members are allowed). Decision was tabled for further consideration.

**Ethics** – No Report

**Fundraising** – KC reported that the fundraising committee is focused on establishing contacts with donors in-person and via phone. KC explained the importance of Board responsibility for philanthropy in making connections and personal giving. KC asked board members to help AAW reach 100% of board participation.

## **MISSION, VISION, DEI**

Board participated in visioning activity.

Board adjourned at 3:30pm for tour of Kentucky Convention Center.

Meeting resumed Tuesday, May 30, 2023 at 8:30 am with same attendance as previous day.

**Symposium Committee** - Jay reported on the over status of Symposium, board schedules and

responsibilities, detail about the virtual symposium and then answered board programmatic questions.

- 981 current in person registered and is expected to grow over 1,000 with walk in and one day registrations.
- 555 virtual registrations have registrations, growing to expected 800.

Jay explained demonstrator updates to the schedule. Volunteers have filled 60% of shifts, more than last year at this time. The Maddens and Lawsons have both done a great job getting volunteers and videographers.

**Future Symposium:** Brief discussion of 2024 Portland Symposium. 2025 symposium location is in contract review stage.

Board Meeting resumed Monday, June 5, 2023 at 8:03am.

In addition to board members the following staff, volunteers and contractors joined the meeting: Staff Jennifer Newberg, Matt Brubaker, Alexa Caligiuri, Tib Shaw; Volunteers Vernita Brown, David & Susan Madden, Jack Parsons, Tom & Darcy Lawson, Jeff Brockett, Matt Deighton; Contractors Josh Friend and Noelle Grinley

Mike thanked all those present for all their work creating a very successful symposium. Special thanks to Conference Direct.

Board and guests participated in a roundtable discussion of symposium lessons learned and future Symposium planning.

Next board meeting was confirmed for Tuesday, September 5, 2023 via Zoom.

### **Meeting was Adjorned**

Respectfully submitted,  
Jay Brown, Secretary