

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF WOODTURNERS
Board of Directors Meeting
Thursday, March 21, 2024

CALL TO ORDER

The March 21, 2024 Board meeting was called to order by President Mike Summerer at 2:30 pm EST. All Board members were present, with the exception of Sally Burnett. Also present were Executive Director Jen Newberg and Josh Friend.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Jay Brown, with second by Ron Day, to accept February 22, 2024 minutes. Motion passed and minutes approved.

Board entered executive session at 2:35 pm and included Jennifer and Josh.
Board exited executive session at 2:45 pm.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT: Finalization of symposium handout book, along with exhibit and auction planning. Virtual programming will be announced after April 5. Field work for the annual audit is underway. Jen reported the AAW has two new chapters - Bruin Country Woodturners and Southern Alleghenies Woodturners. Jen talked about the marketing strategy being used for symposium and other outreach. AAW's reach is now approaching 1 million people. The AAW Gallery outreach continues with a "touch" tour conducted for a group from the Minnesota Woodturners Association. There will be a dues increase effective April 15 and a mailing to members who are expiring before the end of July being done to provide opportunity to renew before dues increase.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance Report:

Jen and Chuck Lobaito: January, 2024 report shows 321K in income and 196K in expenses. Two big technology expenses will be paid in first quarter of 2024 and reflected in February report. Symposium income and expenses will be reflected in reports through June. Changes still being made in reporting categories.

Ethics Committee:

An ethics complaint was sent to the Ethics Committee related to the AAW Forum. The complaint was reviewed by the Ethics Committee and they found there was not an ethics violation and recommended the Board accept their decision. Motion to accept the Ethics Committee's report was made by Reid Zimmerman, with a second by KC Kendall. Motion passed.

Fundraising:

Reid Zimmerman advised 13 people had helped with the matching fundraising campaign and they were thanked and advised of the results of their contributions. A plan is in place to do a similar match campaign in the Fall of 2024. Committee will meet week after this meeting. Reid advised KC's planning and work effort last year set benchmark goals for the committee. There is a Star grant deadline right before the symposium committee working on. Jay advised there will be a fundraiser at the symposium.

Nominating:

Linda Britt reported that Chuck Lobaito and Kimberly Winkle will run for a second term on the Board. Three potential board candidates have advised they are running for the Board. They will be interviewed prior to the April Board meeting and candidate information will be shared with the entire Board.

Grants:

Kimberly Winkle advised the Grants Committee met and did a final review of proposed grants. The Committee will meet to come up with a plan for future years. Proposed list will be reviewed to ensure compliance. Maxwell-Hanrahan Foundation grants has some restrictions and grant proposals will be reviewed to ensure compliance with their restrictions. Grant recipients have not been notified to date. To be revisited at a future Board meeting.

Symposium:

Jay Brown reported that to date 934 people have registered for the Portland symposium. Chapter Bulk Registration had 686 codes requested and 291 have been used. 1856 hotel nights have been reserved. Negotiations are continuing with additional rooms in nearby hotels. 36% of volunteer slots have been filed. Early Bird registration ends April 5, 2024 and marketing for the virtual symposium will begin after that date.

POP:

Kimberly Winkle advised the POP Committee will begin working soon for the exhibition themes for 2025 and plan to announce the themes at the Portland Symposium.

WIT:

Kimberly Winkle advised there was a WIT Presents on March 3, about Joyce Anderson. WIT has partnered with the Youth Committee to work with Girls Build, an organization that works with young women in Portland who will be doing two rotations in the Youth Room in Portland.

Youth:

Ron Day advised all is set for the youth program in Portland. The committee will have a meeting on Thursday night in the youth area to work with youth room mentors and assistants to talk

about the best methods to teach youth. Dale Larson and his group will provide wood for Thursday night. Girls Build is a Portland based organization that works with girls aged 8 to 15. The group is planning to send 30 girls to the Portland Symposium. Along with turning in the youth room during one rotation, they will be given a guided tour of the Instant Gallery and the Trade Show. The committee hopes to make a lasting connection between Girls Build and local AAW chapters.

Turners Without Borders (TWB):

Sally Burnett was unable to attend this meeting. A report from AAW Staff on how to implement discounted memberships for other countries is due at the April Board meeting.

Strategic Planning:

KC Kendall advised a contract had been signed with Vista Cova to work with the AAW to prepare a strategic planning report. The Board will hold an in-person meeting for two days in August to work on this plan. Vista Cova will conduct interviews with Board and various stakeholders. Interviews will also be conducted at the Symposium.

2024 Board meeting schedule:

April 18 (2:30pm)

May 20-21 - in person at Portland Symposium

July 18 (4pm)

August 25-26 - in person in Waco, TX

September 5

October 17

November 15-16 -in person St. Paul, MN

December 19

Meeting adjourned at 3:45pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Britt, Board Secretary