

**AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF WOODTURNERS
Board of Directors Meeting
Thursday, April 18, 2024**

CALL TO ORDER

The April 18, 2024 Board meeting was called to order at 2:37 pm. All Board members were present, with the exception of Jay Brown and Chuck Lobaito, who later joined the meeting prior to the symposium committee report. Jen Newberg and Josh Friend were also present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

KC Kendall moved to accept the Board minutes from March 20, 2024, with a second from Ron Day. There was discussion and the minutes were approved..

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT:

Jen Newberg reported all that staff are focused on the symposium. The Audit will be ready for Board approval at the May meeting. Membership dues will increase on April 15, 2025. The AAW has a new Community Impact Award which is taking the place of the newsletter and website awards. To date 13 chapters have submitted their entries.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Finance: Chuck Lobaito stated we are ahead financially by 161K for the first two months. He is still working to automate the reporting process. The Symposium has a large impact on budget. There is lots of incoming revenue, but symposium bills will come due in May and June.

Fundraising: Reid Zimmerman stated the Fundraising Committee planned to connect with the major donors at the symposium. Thank you letters were sent to the 200 individuals who donated to the Challenge Grant. The Committee is now working on a mid-summer solicitation. Reid also reported there were more donors last year than any year in history.

Nominating Committee: Linda Britt reported two candidates had been selected to run in this year's Board election. Kimberly Winkle and Chuck Lobaito are both running for a second term on the Board. Two Board members will be elected during the August election, and the Board will appoint a candidate to the third vacant position. The Board will meet in early to mid-September to appoint the third Board member and then report the results to the membership.

Symposium Committee: As of April 18th there were 1,216 registered attendees and 151 virtual attendees. The Committee has a goal of 1,000 registered attendees for the virtual event. There is an early bird deadline of May 3 for the \$99 price and there will also be chapter discount codes for the virtual. The chapter discount codes are working well for both the in-person and virtual registrations in 2024. The Committee made the following assignments:

Mike Summerer	Overall responsibilities
Jay Brown	Overall responsibilities
Rick Baker	AV support
Linda Britt	Instant Gallery/Special Programs
Sally Burnett	International Guest Relations
Ron Day	Safety and Youth
KC Kendall	Tool room
Chuck Lobaito	Registration/Money/Merchandise
Kimberly Winkle	Exhibitions
Reid Zimmerman	Trade show and vendors

POP Committee:

Kimberly Winkle advised the Intimate Critique schedule is complete. Sign up will be in the Instant Gallery. Six professional woodturners will be doing the Intimate Critiques.

WIT:

Kimberly advised that WIT members will be working with Girls Build group in the youth room in Portland. WIT Presents are being scheduled for the future.

Safety and Tech:

Ron Day suggested that in Portland a five minute safety talk be given to Board, staff and volunteers, and added to demonstrator's orientation meeting, so everyone is aware where the first aid kits, EMTs, etc. are located.

Youth:

Ron advised we now have 16 youth registered and more usually sign up during the symposium. A Girls Build group will attend the symposium and participate in two rotations in the youth room on Saturday morning. They will also be given tours of the Instant Gallery and Trade Show. WIT volunteers will be helping as mentors for Girls Build.

Strategic Planning:

KC Kendall advised they are finalizing interview candidates, such as chapter leaders, etc. There will be six slots at the symposium and four focus groups for interviews. The process to interview subjects being handled so people will recognize communications coming from AAW. Staff is working with registered attendees to determine candidates for focus groups and issue invitations.

Grants: Kimberly is the Board liaison to the Grants Committee with Al Miotke as Chair. The Committee feels the grants program needs to be more defined with written goals and expectations. Their plan is to wait until after strategic planning meeting in August to begin work on defining future goals.

Turners Without Borders (TWB): Sally reported that Jen had completed a report on the sliding scale membership dues for other countries. The Committee is continuing to work on ways to suggest implementing the program.

Old Business:

At the February 20, 2024, Board meeting the Board approved the motion: "The AAW staff will develop a graded scale for membership with parameters spelled out for international membership, which includes an evaluation of budget and cost and present it to the Board within the next two months." Jen provided the information requested by that motion. The TWB Committee made a motion that "The AAW proceed with implementing the plan to develop a graded scale for membership for international membership, which was approved on February 20, 2024." After a second, there was more discussion on this plan. All Board members voted in favor of the motion, with the exception of Jay Brown who voted no and Reid Zimmerman who abstained. Plans for implementation will be worked on after Symposium.

New Business:

The next Board meeting will be in person in Portland on Monday and Tuesday prior to the symposium, and the Monday morning following the symposium. There will not be a Board meeting in July and the Board will meet in person in August Waco, TX, following SWAT. This meeting will be dedicated to strategic planning. The September Board meeting will be to discuss the election, appoint a third Board member, and handle any other business. Zoom Board meetings will begin at 4 pm (EDT) after the Symposium.

2024 Board meeting schedule:

May 20-21 - and May 27 in person at Portland Symposium

August 25-26 - in person, Waco, TX

September 5

October 17

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

December 19

Meeting adjourned at 3:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Britt, Board Secretary