



AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF WOODTURNERS

**Board of Directors Meeting
March 20, 2025 via Zoom**

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by President KC Kendall at 4:04 pm. All Board members, with the exception of Kimberly Winkle and Reid Zimmerman, were present. ED Jen Newberg and Journal Editor Josh Friend, were also present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by David Fellows, with second by Jay Brown, to approve the February 19, 2025 minutes. Motion was approved.

FINANCE REPORT

Treasurer Chuck Lobaito advised that total revenue for January was \$24K lower than in 2024. This is due in part to journal ad revenue which came in under 2024 amounts. Journal ad revenue has been trending down since the pandemic. Some smaller vendors have closed. Operating expenses in January were \$33K higher than the prior year, due to increased costs for accounting and the accounting software transition. Printing expenses shown are higher than in 2024, computer expenses are lower in 2025, both due to database charges being booked into a single month in 2024, as opposed to being shown as expenses over life of agreement in current year.

Motion made to approve the finance report by Ron Day, with second by David Fellows. Motion carried and finance report approved.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

A survey of the 10 year membership trend shows an approximate 9% decrease in membership, with current membership of 13,533. The Irish Woodturners Guild 40th Anniversary Exhibition in the Gallery of Wood Art will be June 1-30, 2025. Three IWG members, including Emmett Kane, will host a reception and talk to symposium attendees and the Twin Cities community. The plans for implementation of the funds from the Cultural Star Grant are being finalized to support the IWG exhibition and the symposium. The "Beyond the Bevel" e-newsletter was launched. This is a transition from two weekly emails to one and integration of the bi-monthly Keep Turning. Nalini Nadkarni visited the Gallery of Wood Art and is interested in partnering with the AAW, possibly featuring woodturners on an upcoming podcast. We are continuing implementation of QuickBooks online and Bill.com functionality and integrating Jotform workflow automation. Employee medical plans are finalized and set to begin April 1.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Development Committee - Jen Newberg advised that the Collectors of Wood Art are disbanding and are donating money to various organizations, including the AAW. They have donated \$20K to the Ellsworth book projects, and also money for POP to expand the work of POP. Their donations are restricted funds and cannot be used for other projects.

Nominating Committee - Linda Britt advised she currently has two candidates interested in running for the Board. There will also be three current Board members running for re-election. Board members are requested to make suggestions for potential candidates to run for 2026 and 2027 positions.

Symposium Committee - Jay Brown advised there are 570 paid registration to date. Early bird pricing ends on April 11, and virtual registration begins April 12. Tom & Kate Silva will be special guests at the symposium and will be there Thursday night and Friday. The Demonstrator rotation schedule has been put on the website.

Turners Without Borders - Sally Burnett said she had been receiving feedback about the TWB's twinning proposal, which her committee is reviewing, and she will report on it at the April board meeting.

Grants - Al Miotke sent the committee's proposed grants to the Board for approval. Jen stated she had reviewed all the grants and that the committee had done a great job and were very organized and thoughtful in their decisions. Motion made by Ron Day, with second by David Fellows, to approve all grants. Motion passed.

ED Replacement

KC Kendall advised the search firm had generated a slate of 32 candidates, 24 of whom were interviewed. Packages on 13 candidates were sent to the AAW search committee. Of the 13 candidates, 9 are scheduled to be interviewed by the search committee. Three to four candidates will be selected for a second interview.

Strategic Plan Update

KC Kendall reported Reid Zimmerman is still doing research on the AAW office space and the future needs of the AAW.

New Business

A discussion was held about the possibility that Canadian members might not attend the 2025 symposium in St. Paul, MN, as they do not wish to travel to the US. There are 28 Canadian

chapters, and approximately 800 members. A plan was developed and agreed for Board members to call Canadian Chapter Leaders.

There being no other business, a motion was made by Ron Day, with second by Chuck Lobaito, to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed and the meeting was adjourned at 5:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Britt
AAW Board Secretary