



AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF WOODTURNERS

**Board of Directors
Meeting November 14,
2025 via Zoom**

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order via Zoom by Board President KC Kendall at 10:01 EST. The in-person meeting planned in St. Paul was changed to Zoom due to air transportation issues during the government shutdown.

ATTENDANCE

Board members present: Keith Baizer, Linda Britt, Jay Brown, Sally Burnett, Ron Day, KC Kendall, Chuck Lobaito, Kimberly Winkle and Reid Zimmerman were present, along with AAW Executive Director Gretchen Wilbrandt.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Chuck Lobaito, with a second by Sally Burnett, to approve the October 2, 2025 Board minutes. Motion passed.

ELECTION OF BOARD OFFICERS

KC Kendall advised that the current Board officers were willing to serve in their current positions in 2026. These positions are: President KC Kendall; Vice President Ron Day; Treasurer Chuck Lobaito; and Secretary Linda Britt. KC called for nominations from the floor. As there were none, Reid Zimmerman made a motion to accept the slate as presented, with a second by Jay Brown. Motion passed.

CODE OF ETHICS/CODE OF CONDUCT

A motion was made by Jay Brown, with second by Chuck Lobaito, to approve a Code of Conduct for AAW members, and the revisions to the Code of Ethics Manual made by the AAW Attorney. The Code of Conduct will be added to the AAW's Ethics Policies and added to the responsibilities of the AAW Ethics Committee. After a brief discussion the motion passed. The Code of Conduct will be added to the AAW website.

HONORARY LIFETIME MEMBER FOR 2026

The Board has the option each year to select an Honorary Lifetime Member. Sally Burnett made a motion, with second by Ron Day, to give the award this year to (name redacted). Following a discussion, the motion passed with a unanimous vote as required. Note: The name will remain confidential until announced at the Raleigh Symposium in 2026.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

Gretchen Wilbrandt advised that three staffing positions have been filled: Sarah Marriage as Journal Editor, Tamecka Johnson for Finance and Operations, and Glen Hansen for Marketing and Communications. She plans to hire a web developer by the end of 2025. Membership remains a priority. Work continues on the 2026 Raleigh symposium and site visits for 2027 are scheduled.

DEMONSTRATOR COMMITTEE

Ron Day, Chair of the Demonstrator Committee, resubmitted the name of a 2027 demonstrator invitee that had been questioned at the October Board meeting. The Demonstrator Committee had discussed the Board's comments and felt the invitee was qualified to be a demonstrator. Jay made a motion to accept this individual as a 2027 demonstrator, with a second by Linda Britt. Following a discussion, the motion passed.

KC called a recess at 12 pm, with the meeting to resume at 1pm.

KC resumed the Board meeting at 1 pm. In addition to all Board members, the following staff members joined the meeting: Gretchen Wilbrandt, Josh Friend, Melissa McGrath, Tib Shaw, Glenn Hansen, Tamecka Johnson and Sarah Marriage.

Introductions were made by Board members and staff. KC thanked staff who worked the past year with reduced staffing. KC recognized Josh Friend for his work as Editor of the American Woodturner since 2014. Josh has published over 700 articles in 72 issues as Journal editor. KC presented Josh with a collector's copy of the June 1986 newsletter of the AAW. This was the first and only newsletter of the AAW published prior to the introduction of the Journal.

STRATEGIC PLANNING OVERVIEW

Discussion continued by the Board and Staff on work needed to finalize the Strategic Plan for the AAW. Work will continue with the goal of completing the plan at the in-person meeting in June, 2026.

FINANCE REPORT

Treasurer Chuck Lobaito advised that cash and accounts receivable have declined since last December, but that due to AAW auctions bringing in more money than anticipated and staff positions not filled, our finances are better than were budgeted. Research is being done for a new type of financial software that would be an improvement over QuickBooks. The IRS 990 is being reviewed and will be signed by Chuck as treasurer. The 990 also lists all donors who gave more than \$5,000. A motion to approve the finance report pending audit, was made by Reid Zimmerman, with second by Linda Britt. Motion passed.

2026 BUDGET

Gretchen presented the proposed 2026 budget, which included symposium costs and revenue. The final budget will be presented for approval by the Board at the December 18th Board meeting.

Questions about the budget should be sent to Gretchen by December 1.

A motion was made by Reid Zimmerman, with second by Jay Brown, to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed, and meeting was adjourned at 4:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Britt
AAW Board Secretary