



**AMERICAN
ASSOCIATION OF WOODTURNERS**

**Board of Directors
Meeting April 21, 2026
via Zoom**

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Board President KC Kendall at 2:07 pm EDT.

ATTENDANCE: Board members present: Keith Baizer, Linda Britt, Jay Brown, Sally Burnett, Ron Day, KC Kendall, Chuck Lobaito and Reid Zimmerman. Kimberly Winkle was out of country. A quorum was present. Also present: Executive Director Gretchen Wilbrandt and Event Manager Melissa McGrath.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Ron Day, with second by Jay Brown, to approve March 26, 2026 minutes. The motion carried.

PRO COMPASS BONO INTERIM REPORT: David Whitman and his team from Pro Compass Bono attended to present their mid-point analysis of the Gallery of Wood Art. The project is ongoing, and the team will deliver their final findings remotely during the June Board meeting in Raleigh.

FINANCE REPORT Treasurer Chuck Lobaito delivered the finance committee report, stating that the AAW maintains a stable financial position with positive cash inflows from the symposium. Currently, cash and cash equivalents exceed year-end 2025 levels, and performance for the first quarter has aligned exactly with the budget. However, a decline in membership renewals was noted, alongside rising costs for the Journal, postage, and shipping. A motion to accept the financial report was made by the Finance Committee, with a second by Reid Zimmerman, and the motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Symposium Committee: Melissa McGrath reported plans for both live and virtual symposium were on track. She reported on several changes in the programming of the live event that will take place this year. Jay Brown asked for recommendations to someone present this year's Lifetime Honorary Member award. He will contact the suggested person to determine if they would be willing to make the presentation. Melissa McGrath was excused from the rest of the Board meeting.

Key Documents/Bylaws Committee: Linda Britt reported that the proposed revisions to the bylaws are nearing completion. She requested that all board members submit questions or feedback by May 15th to allow sufficient time for any final adjustments. The board then held a discussion regarding the most effective voting procedures, specifically distinguishing between the articles requiring a board-level vote and those requiring approval from the general membership. A plan for both voting processes is expected to be finalized during the upcoming May meeting.

Strategic Planning Committee: Ron Day reported his committee will resume working on strategic planning after the June symposium due to the involvement of his committee members in working on the symposium.

Nominating Committee: Ron Day, chair of the nominating committee, advised that he and his committee are in the process of scheduling interviews with prospective candidates, and the slate of candidates will be presented to the Board in May for their approval.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT: Gretchen Wilbrandt advised that Finance Director Tamecka Johnson resigned to assume another position. Recruitment is underway for both the Finance Director and a new Communications Associate, with plans to fill both positions soon. A review of iMIS is ongoing to determine if it best meets AAW needs. A Turners Without Borders (TWB) webinar regarding international “twinning” is being planned for August. AAW policies regarding lapsed memberships are being updated. The QuickBooks systems were reconciled and updated at the end of March. The 2025 audit is underway, with the results to be presented to the Board at the May meeting. The Compass Pro Bono project mentioned earlier will have their final report ready for the June meeting. Board members were requested to contact lapsed members via a phone call or email to determine why they did not renew.

At 4 pm, a motion was made by Linda Britt to go into executive session, with a second by Chuck Lobaito. The motion carried and the Board moved into executive session. Gretchen Wilbrandt was excused from the executive session and the rest of the Board meeting.

At 4:35 pm Jay Brown made a motion to come out of executive session, with a second by Linda Britt. The motion carried and the regular meeting resumed.

A motion to adjourn was made by Chuck Lobaito, with a second by Linda Britt. The motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 4:37 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Britt

AAW Board Secretary