

Georgia Association of Woodturners Board Minutes

November 17, 2020

A virtual meeting of the Board of Directors of the Georgia Association of Woodturners was held on Zoom on November 17, 2020. A quorum was present. The meeting was called to order by President Kim Muthersbough. Attendees included:

Kim Muthersbough,	President
Andy Bennett	Treasurer
Tim Robertson	At Large
Charlie Levan	Past President
Steve Mellott	Program Chair
Frank Bowers	At Large
Elisabeth Ross	Symposium Chair
Harry Saunders	Scholarships

Absent:

Ed Perkerson	Secretary
Steve Pritchard	Webmaster
Open	Vice President

Secretary's Report

Steve Mellott moved that the minutes of the October meeting be approved following the clarification that the AAW grant would not cover all of the costs of a demonstration lathe but would still be a worthwhile pursuit for the club because it could cover 2/3 of a demo lathe or 1.5 mini lathes. The Motion was seconded by Tim Robertson. It was approved unanimously.

Treasurer's Report

A motion to accept the monthly Treasurer's Report for October, 2020 was made by Charlie Levan, and a second was made by Steve Mellott. The motion carried unanimously. Kim pointed out that we have less funds available this year than the last year but also have lower expenses. No actions were identified.

Scholarship

Harry Saunders attended the meeting to check in and let us know that the program is effectively inactive due to the pandemic, but he is monitoring any requests that may come in as things start to move.

Elections:

No additional names have been identified for the open board positions and no new names were identified during the meeting. However, some discussion about the program chair yielded some results as indicated below. The following is repeated from last month's report for clarity on the current state of board positions.

Andy Bennett (Treasurer), Elisabeth Ross (Symposium Chair) and Ed Perkerson (Secretary) have indicated that they are willing to continue to serve in their current positions. They will be listed on the ballot for the November election.

Hans Meier declined the Program Chair position but is willing to be VP. Kim has asked him to be VP with the focus on community development given his work with the Rotary. Kim will continue on the board as past president and will serve in the interim as president. The bylaws are unclear on this but Kim was clear on not being president of life.

Program Chair Discussion.

Elisabeth Ross indicated that the cancellation of the symposium opens up her time to help with the program chair position. She has a relationship with many of the national demonstrators and is able to handle organization and logistics. She would not be able to do the hosting and transportation that would be involved for on-site demos but could organize these from home. She is willing to lead this effort but requires a backup. Kim spoke up and volunteered to provide that backup. They agreed to work out the details of how this would work.

Steve Mellot suggested that it would make sense to break the work down by month. He suggested that Elisabeth could get Sheri Roberson for January and Kim could get Trent Bosh for February as an example. He has provided detail information for scheduling IRD's. This has been resent to the board after the meeting.

Frank Bowers indicated he would help with transportation. He suggested that a stipend of \$100 for the host might help get more people to help with the hosting, otherwise, we might need to host demonstrators in hotels. Andy Bennett also agreed to help with the transportation. Steve Mellott pointed out that this is a huge commitment, especially if we retain the 3 club arrangement. It can mean Monday to Friday from 6am- 11pm. It is unclear if other clubs will want or have the financial ability to keep this arrangement in the future.

Andy raised the question about when we expect to return to live demonstrations. Kim's opinion was late 2021. Frank observed that he has been demonstrating at clubs that have space to social distance and wear masks. Steve M offered the thought that some clubs are installing equipment to offer an option to see in person or remote. Steve pointed out that there are many IRD's available on line including some for free. So the value of the clubs are diminished unless they can fill the socialization benefit with an in person option.

Kim also pointed out that cancelling the symposium venue does not rule out the possibility of some other kind of symposium like event, there was no further discussion of this topic. Kim requested feedback on the list of potential IRD demonstrators that he had sent out.

Dues:

It is time to send out notices, Kim would like to increase them but is concerned that the timing might not be right. Here are some of the points made during the discussion

Frank: The dues have been too low for too long. That was ok because of the symposium but we don't have that now and we have to position ourselves to the future. He suggested \$50.

Steve M: Gwinett woodworkers is suspending dues for 2021 for members that paid for 2020. This is an apple/orange comparison since they don't have professional demonstrators and have struggled with their remote program. The AAW leadership emails show a mixed bag of concern about losing members to arguing that they are still offering IRD's and other things. No body is talking about raising dues.

Several people pointed out that smaller increases are more palatable and may not even be noticed. We are in this position because we have not increased from \$25 for years.

Charlie Levan pointed to the math, 10 IRD's x \$300 divided by 100 members = \$30. Simple, but it could be better if we share with other clubs or worse if we have fewer members.

Charlie Levan motioned and Andy Bennett seconded: Raise to dues to \$35 individual and \$40 family for 2021. The motion passed unanimously.

Other ways to make money:

T-shirts, Free for a donation of \$x or sell for \$y

Ask for tax deductible donations.

Open IRD's to non members for a fee. Elisabeth pointed out that many turners are not club members and are an untapped source of revenue.

Constant contact provides the infrastructure to make these things possible, but it is difficult and time consuming to use. Any of these programs would require a person dedicated to make them work.

Holiday Party

Kim Muthersbough presented a Wheel of Names tool to facilitate use for the gift exchange. There were some real time debugging of the idea among the board meeting and it will be fully defined and implemented for the Holiday party.

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by Andy Bennett, and seconded by Charlie Levan. The Motion carried unanimously. Respectfully Submitted,

Charlie Levan for Ed Perkerson

Past President

