

NWW Board Meeting Minutes
February 22, 2022
Location: Zoom Meeting

Call to Order: President Rod Parker called the meeting to order at 7:08 p.m. He announced that the correct e-mail address for him is Rodney48@wavecable.com.

Members Present: Rod Parker, Tal Birdsong, Brad Burdick, Sherry Greenleaf, Philip Kezele, Norman Lanford, Giovanni Monteferrante, Brannon Mucke, David Pettenski, Brad Thompson, Ray Shields, and Tom Thornton.

Approval of Board Minutes: Ray Shields moved to approve the minutes of the January 29, 2022 board meeting. Philip Kezele seconded the motion, which was then unanimously approved.

Committee Reports:

Treasurer: Treasurer Philip Kezele's written report, a copy of which is attached to these minutes, showed that the Savings Account balance was \$6,100.63, the Checking Account balance was \$3,183.55, the PayPal account balance was \$2,598.86, Petty Cash was \$200.00, and Petty Cash/Store balance was \$200.00, for a total of \$12,368.04.

Philip then reported that a little over 50 persons had signed up for the all-day Agar demonstration. He is holding the funds from those reservations until the Board decision on whether to proceed with the event.

He advised that he had paid to renew the club's post office box.

Philip reported that he did not have an update on funds due to the Mount Vernon Christian School. Brannon Mucke volunteered to help communicate our concerns to the school. President Parker then reiterated the agreement he had with Cody at the school. He has also talked with the school bookkeeper who is currently attempting to get the company that installed the 220V line to actually invoice the \$2,522.45 cost of installation. President Parker noted that the church that rents the auditorium pays monthly and suggested we do the same. Philip said that he would prepare a report itemizing the monthly rent and electrical installation starting in July, 2021 and ending in January, 2022 and submit it to the Board for approval.

Membership: Membership Chairman Brad Burdick reported that 96 cub members had renewed their membership for the year 2022, a 73% renewal rate. He reported another 35 members that he expected to renew. He has sent one email to those who haven't renewed and those that were previously dropped from the active club roster. He reported that some members did not feel comfortable attending club meeting because of Covid. David Pettenski suggested that including instructions on how to log into a Zoom meeting in the newsletter might ease some of that concern.

Library: Librarian Tal Birdsong reported that he spends a lot of time recording and reconciling library usage. He suggested trying to find way to keep track of the library via computer. He is looking into open-source programs that might be suitable. Brannon Mucke noted that the NCWA does handle their library online and he will talk with them about their process. Tal will talk with Will Alexander to determine his interest and level of expertise that he might lend to such a process.

Brad Burdick suggested that the library, membership, and other items could be made accessible through the club web page. Ray Shields noted that he had previously looked into an add-on, relatively inexpensive membership management program to add to the web page and will offer to help set up an acceptable program. Tal reported that he had found one that runs on Windows that may be suitable and will share the information with Ray. Sherri Greenleaf will explore possible acceptable programs.

Club Store: Brannon Mucke noted the store needs to place a large order for sandpaper and holders. He proposed to buy about \$400.00 worth of paper and holders from Woodturners Wonders, separate the paper into grit sizes and have a full display of the system for the store. Ray Shields moved to approve the \$400.00 funds for the purchase, seconded by Tom Thornton. There was some discussion, raised by Philip Kezele as to how long that supply would last, as we want to meet club members' needs but avoid excess inventory. After further comments, the motion was approved.

Tom Thornton noted that the club had received a number of tool rests as a gift, but the tool posts were too short for most club members to be able to use them. He sent the rests to club member Kris Ketchum who replaced the posts with longer, more suitable ones. The consensus of the Board was to put the tool rests into the tool raffle.

Club Meeting Presentations: Presentations Director David Pettenski reported that he had scheduled presentations for all of 2022 except for August, September, and November. John Schrader will do an in-person demonstration on metal inlays for the April meeting. John Beaver, who is scheduled for June is willing to come up in person from California and also teach classes.

Sawdust Saturdays: Sawdust Saturday director Giovanni Monteferrante suggested doing a survey of club membership to determine subjects wanted by club members. Brad Thompson suggested advertising that anyone could come and work on whatever interested them. Brad Burdick suggested having a topic every month to keep up the interest of new turners. The consensus of the Board was to advertise an open session first and get better information to the membership on Sawdust Saturday topics. As a start, it was agreed to send the membership an email and include a notice in the newsletter for the March Sawdust Saturday.

Old Business: The financial situation with the Mount Vernon Christian School was previously covered as part of the Treasurer's report.

Upcoming Events:

All-Day Event: Presentations Director David Pettenski reported that 57 people had signed up for the Nick Agar all-day event in March, 51 via PayPal and 6 by check. Six persons had indicated an interest in classes at the February club meeting and six had responded to the survey as interested. He did not know, however, if there was overlap between the two numbers. David advised that Agar had not provided a description of the proposed classes.

David noted that he had talked with Nick Agar today and Agar had suggested that the club have him do an IRD for the regular March meeting which might set him up better for next year.

Agar noted that while things were “back to normal” Covid-wise in Georgia, he had observed other regional clubs, like ours, that showed light in person attendance.

The Board then discussed the proposed all day event, noting that the breakeven point would be 126 paid attendees, and that our current numbers were not close to that figure. Brad Thompson then moves, with Sherri Greenleaf seconding, that the Board cancel the all-day event and convert it to an IRD for the regularly scheduled monthly meeting. As of this meeting, the club's only sunken costs would be the approximately \$100.00 spent for advertising. The motion passed unanimously. The all-day event would be postponed and the club will try again in 2023. Tom Thornton will advise the church of the cancellation. Ray Shields will ask Rick Anderson to contact the AAW about the cancellation.

Membership: Membership Chairman Brad Burdick presented his written suggestions for changes to membership, a copy of which is attached to these minutes. There was discussion of the lack of involvement of club members in the planning and presentation of club activities and programs.

The board decided to designate a sustaining membership level of \$80.00 per year for those members interested. Tom Thornton suggested that the sustaining members' names be kept be anonymous, but Philip Kezele observed that those persons would be looked on as mentors by other club members.

Brad Thompson suggested that the club could recognize continuing membership by adding five- and ten-year pins to membership badges.

Tal Birdsong suggested that the mentorship category be beefed up and be available once the club regularly returns to in-person meetings.

The board recognized the need to define in writing the distinction of Educator and Honorary Life Members.

The board decided not to discuss the sponsorship categories in the presentation at this meeting and reserved it for a future board meeting.

Brad Burdick will draft proposed changes to the Bylaws to reflect the various membership levels and present it to the Board at the next meeting.

New Business:

There will be a club store and tool sale at the MVCS parking lot on March 5, 2022 from 10:30 a.m. until 12:30 a.m.

President Parker asked if anyone knew someone who could put on a chainsaw safety class.

Tom Thornton reported that Lea Pressentin, the person who had donated the cherry tree to the club, stated that she had tried every email address on the club web page and none of them worked. Ray Shields will double check but observed that the ones for the President, Treasurer, and Library are working.

Adjournment: Brad Thompson, with Ray Shields seconding, moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:48 p.m., and the meeting was duly adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Norman Lanford
Secretary

