

## Seattle Woodturners | Board Meeting Minutes

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**Tuesday, August 31, 2021**

Zoom Session

7–9 pm

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**Present:** Russ Prior, Jim Hogg, Robin Brown, Randi Aiken, Jim Steck, Elizabeth Weber, Barry Roitblat, Earl Bartell, Andy Firpo

**Absent:** Tim Tibbetts, Sylvia Wayne

**Others:** -

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### Key

Actions

Completed Actions [removed from subsequent Minutes]

### Document Archive

Documents presented or discussed during meetings are uploaded to Google Drive:

[Seattle Woodturners' Documents](#)

### Agenda

1. President calls meeting to order
  2. Secretary calls attendance; confirms quorum
  3. Minutes from August 3, 2021 – Review and Approve
  4. Minutes – Actions Arising
  5. Treasurer's Report (*Robin Brown*)
  6. 2022 Budget (*Robin Brown*)
  7. Programs (*Elizabeth Weber – Tim Tibbetts Away*)
    - i. Eric Lofstrom demo topic
    - ii. Fall Sawdust Session ideas
    - iii. Christmas plans
  8. Nominating committee report (*Elizabeth Weber*)
  9. WiT events and insurance (*Elizabeth Weber, Robin Brown*)
  10. Around the room
- 3. Minutes from August 3, 2021**  
Approved, as read.

**4. Minutes: Actions Arising**

**Active:**

- Earl Bartell to help with the Zoom session for Tom Nelson's Sawdust Session on Segmenting in August
- Randi Aiken to coordinate with Jim Steck regarding posting minutes to club website
- Barry Roitblat to coordinate with Jim Kief regarding Empty Bowls this fall
- Scholarship committee to contact Jim Steck and Robin Brown about developing the club's scholarship process

- The scholarship committee to announce membership scholarship opportunities
- Elizabeth Weber to email membership regarding interest in running for the board; to contact Gregg Johnson and Brian Flippin regarding joining nominating committee; to reach out to Andy Firpo regarding his future participation on the board
- Editing team to meet with Jim Steck regarding establishing website permissions for updating video content page links
- Randi Aiken to remind membership of members-only video webpage and password at upcoming meeting [Russ Prior gave reminder at last meeting]
- Earl Bartell to reach out to Bob Forgie regarding wood donation
- Venue committee to tour Beaver Lake Lodge facilities; to consider trial run of Brightwater facility – haven't heard back from BLL; Barry Roitblat to reach out again
- Russ Prior to investigate whether trailer can be stored on site at Brightwater – Barry Roitblat to ask if the board is serious about this venue
- Andy Firpo to be reimbursed for newest set of D-way tools – declined reimbursement; donation to the club!
- Robin Brown to transfer surplus funds from operating account to capital (reserve) account, maintaining \$6,000 in operating account – done
- Club account usage inventory: Jim Steck to investigate bank account permissions with Robin Brown, as well as the club's domain and YouTube accounts – will connect with Robin Brown re bank account; YouTube and domain permissions documented
- Russ Prior, Robin Brown, and Jim Hogg to work on updating the club's tools and equipment inventory with the recent sale of two chainsaws – not done yet; Earl Bartell has offered his help; the group will validate the club's entire inventory
- Robin Brown to investigate income from Seri Robinson event sales – not done yet [addressed during meeting: loss of approximately \$150]
- Jim Steck to seek guidance from Space Needle Foundation regarding use of Space Needle in logo designs – has reached out a second time, but no response yet; Andy Firpo has had prior contact with SNF and will reach out as well
- Elizabeth Weber to reach out to Mitch Reinitz regarding availability of shop space for WiT events – not done yet; will reach out after meeting tonight

**Pending/Upcoming:**

- Jim Steck and Randi Aiken to connect and establish a logo redesign plan [Randi unavailable in August (moving)]
- Randi Aiken to email membership with video content updates as new content is made available on club website [ongoing]
- Officers to prepare projected 2022 budgets by September or October board meeting for review
- The nominating committee to present slate of board candidates to the membership at October club meeting (particularly to find Director of Membership and Member at Large #3 – see item 8)

- Outreach and scholarship committees to present their plans for donated funds from auction at January's membership meeting to underscore value of continued fundraising
- Outreach committee to create 3-4 laminated infographic posters for display during community events [awaiting budget approval; awaiting new logo]
- Jim Steck to work with Tim Tibbetts on printing new club brochures [awaiting branding redesign and board approval]; Jim Steck to email membership regarding rebranding; also to share in newsletter
- Auction committee to survey membership regarding auction experience (participation levels, interest in future auctions, suggestions for improvement, clarity of mission) [awaiting budget approval at membership meeting]
- Editing team (*Randi Aiken, Elizabeth Weber, Zhenya Frolov*) to review Bonnie Klein's videos for potential uploading to club YouTube channel – [awaiting processing of demo and Sawdust Session backlog (ongoing)]

## 5. Treasurer's Report (*Robin Brown*)

Actuals through August 2021 were reviewed. The club received a donation from Benevity for \$1,215. Logo revision expenses designated to come from the discretionary fund. \$6,000 was transferred from operating account to capital account as recommended by finance subcommittee to establish funding for future major tool and equipment purchases.

## 6. 2022 Budget (*Robin Brown*)

2022 budget proposal preparation is underway in anticipation of approval by the board in November and by the membership in January. **Robin Brown to forward 2022 budget proposal spreadsheet to board.** The same fee schedule for membership dues will apply for 2022. The budget assumes 150 members paying dues at \$35 and 40 members paying dues at \$40. Projected donation income was increased from \$600 to \$1,000. **Scholarship and Outreach committees to present plans for 2021 auction proceeds at January membership meeting.** At this time, no facility rental costs have been budgeted. **Elizabeth Weber to confirm projected 2022 programming expenses and income.** There was some discussion surrounding the logistics of offering directed donations and the implications this might have for committee budgeting. **Treasurer to propose procedure for earmarking donations for specific donation funds (e.g. scholarships or community outreach) and for tracking same monies at next month's board meeting.** Outreach and scholarship committees to present projected 2022 budgets for board review at next month's meeting.

## 7. Programs (*Elizabeth Weber; Tim Tibbetts away*)

### i. Eric Lofstrom demo topic

The board expressed interest in proceeding with Eric Lofstrom's triple-axis demo for October's membership meeting. It was noted that Eric remains open to offering two in-person workshops in addition to his October demonstration. The sharpening workshop on

October 16<sup>th</sup> is currently full, and the embellishing workshop on October 17<sup>th</sup> has three remaining seats. There is a hold on one seat in each workshop for prospective scholarship applicants. Payments for Eric's workshops will be accepted starting at the beginning of October to limit any refund complications due to changes in COVID guidelines. **Robin Brown to email prospective workshop participants with information regarding payment schedule and reassurance regarding seat reservations.**

## ii. **Fall Sawdust Session ideas**

Tim Tibbetts has reached out to multimedia artist (and new Seattle Woodturners member) Denis Cutter regarding his interest in holding a Sawdust Session this fall. The session, scheduled for November 20<sup>th</sup>, will center on Denis's interest in integrating forging/welding with his budding woodturning practice. Due to recent COVID developments, John Moe's prospective in-person ornaments workshops will not be going forward as anticipated. The board offered several suggestions for other potential Sawdust Session topics: peppermills with Jim Kief; multi-axis turning with Bob Sievers; hollowing with David Lutrick or Steve Gary or Perry Shaw; pyrography with Sylvia Wayne; spoon carving with Elizabeth Weber or Tom Hensheid; non-wood turning with Bonnie Klein; laser cutting with Barry Roitblat; or casting with resin/epoxy with Chris Jacobsen. It was noted there will be no Sawdust Session in December due to the holidays.

## iii. **Christmas plans**

In keeping with the club's conservative approach to COVID, there will be no Christmas party this year. In lieu of a party, however, the board has expressed interest in moving forward with a weekend demonstration from a European demonstrator (to be determined).

## 8. **Nominating committee (*Elizabeth Weber*)**

Chris Jacobsen has been interviewed by the nominating committee (*Elizabeth Weber, David Lutrick, Gregg Johnson*) for the Director of Membership board position, and the committee feels he would be a good fit. Elizabeth Weber has emailed Chris in this regard, and he is currently weighing the pros and cons. The Member-at-Large #3 position remains open. Elizabeth Weber has reached out to Perry Shaw and Elyssa Cichy about filling this position, but both candidates have limited availability. The board offered several more candidates for consideration: Jim Kief, Tom Street, Louis Frantz, and Tom Wage. **Elizabeth Weber to reach out to these candidates.** The board feels it is not imperative to fill the Member-at-Large position in the event that there is no interest.

## 9. **Women in Turning (WiT) events and insurance (*Elizabeth Weber, Robin Brown*)**

Elizabeth Weber has been in touch with the AAW's Women in Turning committee regarding insurance protocols for WiT-specific events. National WiT events are typically held as AAW-sponsored events. A motion was made to designate internal WiT events as club-sponsored events to ensure adequate insurance coverage is in place for the club and

any WiT event participants. Such events will be organized by WiT members within the Seattle Woodturners organization and will be open to any interested individuals within or outside of the club. The motion carried. **Robin Brown to approve this with the club's insurance carrier and to notify the board if any concerns are raised. Elizabeth Weber to contact Mitch Reinitz about hosting events at his shop.**

**10. Around the room**

Andy Firpo has offered to donate his 18" Jet bandsaw to the club. Some concern was expressed about finding a space to store it. Russ Prior to discuss the logistics of moving the bandsaw with Andy directly.