

**Hunt County Woodturners
Board Meeting Minutes
December 5, 2024**

The meeting was held at Wesley United Methodist Church. A Zoom session was conducted by Howard Wellspring. A Zoom link was provided by Howard to all HCW members in advance.

Club members Attending in Person: Brian Livingston*, Alain Schwarz*, Mark Spencer*, Howard Wellspring*, Burt Andrew*, Bill Belitz, Lee Craft, Ed Mastin.

Club members Attending through Zoom: Brian Schrader*.

[Voting board members indicated *. A quorum of board members was in attendance.]

The Meeting was called to order at 5:34pm by HCW President, Brian Livingston.

Items of Business

- **Board Meeting minutes from November 7, 2024:**

Alain Schwarz made a motion to accept the revised minutes from the November 7, 2024, board meeting (as published on the website after initial board-member review and changes) with no further changes. The motion was seconded by Mark Spencer. Motion passed.

- **Website/Technology (Howard Wellspring)**

- November website traffic:
 - 155 visits, 88 unique (6% drop from October). Most were U.S., with 4 from China, 1 Australia, 1 Costa Rica, 1 Pakistan.
- Howard has located and tested audio equipment for the Christmas party and has developed a looped video presentation featuring the Club's 2024 activities to be displayed on one of the Club's monitors.
- Christmas party sign-ups (food and volunteers) remain open on the website. So far, 37 members representing 82 attendees have signed up.
- Christmas music will be from CD's supplied by Howard and others. Alain volunteered to bring his large-capacity CD player for use.
- The ad requested by George (Specialty Lumber and Logging) is located under the website's Resources drop-down. The drop-down features an abbreviated writeup which includes a link to further information. This information will similarly be displayed on a monthly basis in the newsletter starting next month.
- Board meetings, club meetings, and open shops have been added to the 2025 website calendar. After discussion the decision was made to move the 2025 Board meeting from July 3 to June 26.
- Howard brought a cartful of old/unused AV items to the Board meeting for advice regarding disposition. After review, some items will go to the Christmas Party silent auction, and some will be discarded.

- **Financial (Mark Spencer)** [Mark sent financials to the Board members on the day before the meeting.]

- Mark presented: 1) a Financial Statement for 2024 which included the 2024 budget and actuals for the months of January through November 30, 2024; 2) the Check Register through November 30, 2024; and 3) November 2024 Paypal transfers/deposits to the checking account.
 - Overall club reserves, including deposits and petty cash, come to \$35,157.88.

- November expenses were greater than income by \$1,360.92.
 - The only significant income posted in November came from the Club's monthly raffle.
 - Significant expenses posted in November consisted of storage building costs, church space payment, pyrography class, beginning turning class, and gift cards.
 - The November 2024 ending check register balance was \$7,814.01.
 - 2025 Budget: After sending preliminary proposed budget information to the board members on 11/17, during the meeting Mark presented budget spreadsheets that were discussed and adjusted. Based on history and board member inputs, Mark will continue to refine the 2025 budget for review and probable acceptance by the Board during the January meeting.
 - Dues are now being collected for 2025. 18 members have paid so far.
 - A Penny Raffle will be conducted in 2025 (typically occurs every other year). Increasing the number of tickets sold will be considered to increase revenue.
- **Upcoming Club Demonstrations and Open Shops (*tentative*):**
 - Upcoming planned and proposed club meeting demos:
 - Dec: Christmas Party (no regular meeting)
 - Jan: Tool Sharpening (Tim White and Alain Schwarz)
 - *Feb: Easy Tools Demo (James Carter from Easy Tools)*
 - Open Shop location /class topics (8am – noon, with mini-class at 9)
 - Dec: Christmas Party (no Open Shop)
 - Jan: George Freeman / Tool sharpening, Brian Schrader
 - Feb: Joe Grimes
 - *Mar: Tom and Stacy Nehl*
 - *Apr: Howard Wellspring*
 - *May: Brian Livingston*
 - *June: Bill Belitz*
 - *July: Donna Frazier*
 - *Aug: Brian Schrader*
- **Training Coordinator / Brian Schrader**
 - Brian S. and Bill Belitz are working out arrangements with James Carter (Easy Tools) for the demo in February and possible subsequent training on the Friday/Saturday following the Club meeting.
 - Brian S. will work with Chris Cohen (representing DAW) on a cooperative program and training plan featuring woodturner Kirk DeHeer. Depending on costs and logistics, Brian S. will make recommendations to the Board.
- **Miscellaneous Other Items of Business**
 - Christmas Party
 - Reviewed the HCW Christmas Party 2024 Program, which outlines the program schedule and key member responsibilities for the event.
 - Howard and Tom will provide the coffee makers.
 - Lee has the items for the drawing, purchased mostly from Rockler.
 - Lee will pick up meat (ham, brisket, sausage, turkey) from Costco for cooking by himself, George, and Burt.
 - Lee has invited several Rockler employees. Alain will invite Craig from Woodworld. Paul Demars from Woodcraft has already signed up.

- 2024 Internal Financial Audit
 - Burt suggested naming the three-member Audit Team for Y/E 2024. The audit, per the bylaws, is to be completed by January 31 of the new year for presentation to the Board during the February meeting.
 - Audit members, as selected by the Board, will consist of: Burt Andrew, Mark Spencer, and Alain Schwarz.
- Reflections on 2024 and Plans for 2025
 - Several board members expressed the importance of community/volunteer focus and outreach. An effort will be made to better promote and communicate associated membership activities.
 - Brian L. made a special request to the Board for any ideas and suggestions to make 2025 better.
- Elected Officer Positions for 2025:
 - Nominees were presented to the membership during the November meeting by HCW VP Alain Schwarz. At that time, per bylaws, the floor was opened for any final nominations (there were none), after which a simple majority of the membership present voted to approve the list of individuals presented.
 - The following Officers will assume full duties on January 1, 2025:
 - President: Brian Livingston
 - Vice-President: Bill Belitz
 - Secretary: Burt Andrew
 - Treasurer: Mark Spencer
 - Technology Officer: Howard Wellspring
 - Training Coordinator: Brian Schrader
 - Event Coordinator: Tom Nehl

The meeting adjourned at 7:09pm.