

**Hunt County Woodturners
Board Meeting Minutes
January 4, 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 members in advance.

Club members Attending in Person: Brian Livingston*, Alain Schwarz*, Mark Spencer*, Howard Wellspring*, Rod Brumlow*, Lee Craft, Burt Andrew*.

Club members Attending through Zoom: Brian Schrader

Board Member(s) absent: Tom Nehl*

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

The Meeting was called to order at 5:47pm by HCW President, Brian Livingston.

Items of Business

- **Board Meeting minutes from December 7, 2023:**

Alain Schwarz made a motion to accept the minutes, with no changes, from the December 7, 2023, board meeting. The motion was seconded by Rod Brumlow. Motion passed.

- **Club Meetings**

- As an incentive for membership and to promote the Club, Brian proposed giving new members a t-shirt, cap, or coffee mug with the Club's logo.
 - One free per family membership. May sell items to others with markup.
 - Burt will research sources and costs for further discussion at next Board meeting.
 - Lee will check out t-shirts from Greenville Trophy.
 - Mark added \$360 to the 2024 budget (24 new members X \$15 per item).
- Will provide individual bottles of water at Club meetings, using excess water from the Christmas party to see to see if utilized.
- At the start of Club meetings, Howard will display a welcome message with demonstration topic/presenter, and Open Shop location along with mini-class presenter and subject.
- Brian suggested expanding the use of YouTube to broadcast club meetings in place of Zoom. Howard will explore the pros and cons, and will discuss findings with the Board in coming months. Brian Schrader stated that David Walker and/or Randy Steven from North Texas Woodturners may be willing to share their experiences and knowledge (Vmix, YouTube, editing, etc.).

- **Financials (Mark Spencer)** [Mark sent financials to the Board members one day in advance.]

- For purposes of updating the Club's records at Alliance Bank, the Board confirmed the roster of HCW elected officers for 2024 (approved by a general membership vote during the November meeting per HCW Bylaws):
 - President: Brian Livingston
 - Vice-President: Alain Schwarz
 - Treasurer: Mark Spencer
 - Secretary: Burt Andrew
 - Technology Officer: Howard Wellspring
 - Training Coordinator: Rod Brumlow
 - Event Coordinator: Tom Nehl

- Burt, Mark, and Alain have been volunteered/assigned by the Board to do the 2023 internal financial audit as outlined in the Bylaws, Article XV.
- Club membership now stands at 106, with relatively few that have paid 2024 dues. Mark will continue to send out Paypal invoices as requested. He anticipates many payments during the January meeting.
- Two Alliance Bank CD's auto-renewed for another three years. Mark will check out closing and renewing at possibly better rates.
- 2024 Budget Discussion
 - Mark presented his work on the 2024 budget utilizing a comparison spreadsheet (2023 Budget vs 2023 YTD Actuals), and a calculation spreadsheet. Several small adjustments were made to the proposed budget during the meeting.
 - Mark noted that for better tracking and visibility he will break out certain events, e.g. training, as they occur throughout the year.
- *Burt Andrew made a motion to approve the 2024 budget as presented. The motion was seconded by Alain Schwarz. Motion passed.*
 - Mark presented a 2023 Financial Statement, January through December, and the Check Register up through December 31, 2023 (starting Sept 2022).
 - Overall reserves, including deposits and petty cash, come to \$33.4K.
 - December expenses were greater than income by \$710; year-to-date income shows greater than expenses by \$3,370.
 - The only income item in December was the Christmas action. The primary expenses in December included event expenses, the Christmas party, costs for our meeting location.
 - December's ending check register balance, \$6,684.41.
- **HCW Website Development**
 - Howard showed his partially developed preliminary site, outlining the planned features and drop-downs.
 - Noted current 500MB space limitations in his WIX developmental site. He will now begin transitioning to the HCW site, which has much more space. He has stored, off-line, the Club's current website files for safekeeping and future use.
 - The new site will soon be substantially released, though with incremental developments and improvements to follow. Some sections will be noted "in work."
 - The new site will feature a new "Community" section to facilitate the Club's charitable donations (Beads of Courage, Veteran's pens, Empty Bowls, Freedom pens, others). Alain suggested that during Club meeting we should query members about local charities who might welcome items we can contribute.
- **Training**
 - Rod suggests having another beginner class around April, followed by another segmenting class later in the year.
 - He is also looking for someone to teach feature rings.
- **Upcoming Club Demonstrations and Open Shops**
 - Upcoming planned club meeting demos:
 - January: Sharpening with Oneway's Wolverine Vari-grind system (Club standard); Alain Schwarz and Tim White.
 - February: Embellishing with Wood Carving; Brian Schrader
 - Alain will ask at next Club meeting for demo volunteers
 - Discussed possible demo candidates: Cory White, Stacy Nehl, Kevin Bassett, Tom Nehl, Johnny Hayre, Gary Sanders, Sammy Long.
 - Open Shop

- George Freeman will host January's Open Shop. 8am – noon; mini-class at 9. Address: 7151 Sandy Lake Road, Quinlan.
 - The Open Shop mini-class topic will be hands-on Sharpening, primarily Oneway's Vari-grind, but will briefly cover other systems (Elsworth, Michelsen). Members may bring tools for sharpening and practice.
- **Other Items of Business**
- Discussed the need for review and several updates to the Bylaws. Will be addressed by the Board in a few months.
 - The Board discussed members we haven't seen for months. For purposes of togetherness and retention Alain suggested we call all members at least one time per quarter.

*Brian Livingston made a motion to **adjourn at 7:25pm**. The motion was seconded by Rod Brumlow. Motion passed.*