

**Hunt County Woodturners
Board Meeting Minutes
October 3, 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*, Tom Nehl*, Burt Andrew*, Lee Craft, Bill Belitz, Julie Livingston, Gene Wellspring, Vicki Andrew.

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 5:36pm by HCW President, Brian Livingston.

Items of Business

- **Board Meeting minutes from September 5, 2024:**

Alain Schwarz made a motion to accept the revised minutes from the September 5, 2024, board meeting (as published on the website after initial board-member review and changes) with no further changes. The motion was seconded by Brian Livingston. Motion passed.

- **Christmas Party (Christmas Party Organizers/Committee: Julie Livingston, Gene Wellspring, Vicki Andrew)**

- Julie distributed copies of various in-work planning documents for discussion:
 - Agenda for Christmas party discussion with the Board.
 - Christmas party program.
 - Checklist of materials/supplies needed for set-up, clean up, and food.
 - Specific duty details for set-up, servers, and clean-up.
 - Proposed Christmas Party flyer.
- Plans are ongoing and subject to change. Miscellaneous discussion highlights:
 - Next Quarterly Challenge:
 - Will be due November meeting and will feature Christmas decorations (not restricted to ornaments).
 - The top entries, as determined by membership vote at the November meeting, will be used as table decorations at the Christmas party, to be won by party attendees. The other entries will be placed in the silent auction.
 - Food and Volunteers:
 - Will plan for 80 to 100 people.
 - Lee will purchase and distribute the meats to member volunteers for cooking: Lee, brisket and poultry. *George, ham.* Burt, sausage.
 - Club will supply rolls or bread. Coffee TBD.
 - Attendees will supply all other non-meat items. Howard will create sign-up pages on the website, for food and volunteers. Gene will consolidate website signups with the paper signups.
 - Family Drawing and Silent Auction:
 - Mark will host a drawing for prizes supplied by the Club (one chance per family), and will coordinate the Silent Auction (bid sheets, oversight during the process, money collection, etc.). Burt will announce Silent Auction winners and will facilitate distribution of items to the winning bidders.

- Unwrapped Toy Donations for Women-in-Need:
 - Sheryl will be asked to make a few brief statements regarding donations to Women-in-Need.
 - Gary and Sheryl will be asked to make the delivery to Women-in-Need.
- **Financial (Mark Spencer)** [Mark sent financials to the Board members early 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 September 30, 2024; the Check Register for 2024, through September 30, 2024; and September Paypal transfers through September 26, 2024.
 - Overall club reserves, including deposits and petty cash, come to \$35,671.
 - September income was greater than expenses by \$1,099.54.
 - Primary income in September came from SWAT, from payments for Pyrography class and the Basic Woodturning Class.
 - Primary expenses in September came from storage building costs, SWAT expenses, and open shop hosting.
 - The September 24, 2024, ending check register balance was \$8,327.88.
 - The pyrography class had 5 students, resulting in \$625 income. Tom offered to accept a total of \$550 to cover hosting, blanks, and Stacy's instruction.
 - Since the Christmas party's \$500 budget will likely run short this year, the remaining Monthly Raffle budget will be reallocated to the Christmas party as needed.
 - The Church offered a contract to HCW for use of their facilities for our Christmas party at a cost of \$410. Brian successfully negotiated to \$360 (equivalent to last year's charge) and presented the invoice to Mark for payment.
 - Alain Schwarz purchased photography lighting diffusers for \$30 total, to be charged to the A/V budget, making repair of the old diffusers unnecessary.
 - Lee informed that the trailer previously used for SWAT is no longer available (sold). Future rentals may be necessary.
- **Website/Technology (Howard Wellspring)**
 - Recent website metrics:
 - 50 members are now signed up for Members Only access to the website.
 - Website: 135 visits last 30 days (122 from US).
 - Determined that the Bluetooth transmitter proposed last month will not address our needs.
 - Howard will look for other answers to speaker problems (echo was evident at SWAT), first to include adjustments to the VMIX software and then to include a request from others for assistance.
 - Howard will attempt to provide improved audio for the Christmas party with existing equipment. Last year's audio was marginally adequate.
 - All Christmas party sign-ups (food and volunteers) have been created pending approval by the Christmas Committee before posting links to the website.
 - A draft pilot Christmas video presentation was made. The Committee approved the concept, as well as the use of digital instrumental music to replace the music offered by Adobe Premiere.
- **Upcoming Club Demonstrations and Open Shops (tentative):**
 - Upcoming planned and proposed club meeting demos:
 - Oct: Turning Efficiently, Shot barrels (Tim White)
 - Nov: *Inside/out turning, Christmas ornaments (Sammy Thomason)*
 - Dec: Christmas Party
 - Open Shop location /class topics (8am – noon, with mini-class at 9)
 - Oct: Tom and Stacy Nehl / Mini-class: Fixing Cracks (Brian Schrader)
 - November: Lee Craft / Mini-class: Offset Turning Chucks (Bill Belitz, Brian Schrader, Tom Nehl).

- **Training Coordinator / Brian Schrader**
 - Upcoming Basic Woodturning Class (Oct. 5-6)
 - Will be held in Brian Schrader's shop. Six students are currently enrolled, all paid.
 - Lead instructor will be Joe Grimes. Secondary instructor will be Brian Schrader.
- **Miscellaneous Other Items of Business**
 - Elected Officer Positions for 2025:
 - Discussed VP replacement. During the October meeting Brian will remind the membership that a replacement will be needed and will outline associated duties for any interested parties.
 - Except for VP, all current Board members have expressed willingness to continue in current positions. Nominations will be considered, however, for any member interested in any position.
 - Nominees will be presented to the membership during the November meeting. Any final nominations will be accepted from the floor at that time, after which membership will vote to approve.
 - HCW member George Freeman has requested that he be allowed to place ads in Club publications for his wood services. Considering his significant and ongoing contributions to HCW, the Board approved this request, to include the website, at no charge to George.
 - HCW "Wood Box":
 - The blanks that George provides to attendees during Open Shop will be free if used during Open Shop.
 - Blanks not used will then be available for sale to the members at discounted prices offered by George.
 - Brian S. will prepare a notification to accompany the box.
 - This information will also be communicated through the newsletter.

The meeting adjourned at 7:45pm.