

May 19, 2007 - NEWC Executive Board Meeting Minutes

Middlesex Community College – Building 5 (Trustees House), Conference Room

MEMBERS PRESENT: Roger Melanson, M. Paul Ward, Yvette Holladay, Leo Lambert, Maria LaGoy, Karen Seo

MEMBERS ABSENT: Joe Olsen

OTHERS PRESENT: Floyd Truitt, Lorne LaGoy, Robert Landry

CALL TO ORDER: President Roger Melanson called the meeting to order at 9:10am.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Minutes were presented by Yvette Holladay, read by the board members and approved.

BOARD DECISIONS:

** The Board voted to support a “Tree of Life” project, i.e., collect donated ornaments, sell them, and donate proceeds to the Bedford VA Hospital. . Lorne and Maria will be contacts for the VA project in Bedford as well as collecting donated Ornaments and selling them for the benefit of Veterans.

ACTION ITEMS:

5-19-1 All to submit any bills for the past year before 6/30/07.

5-19-2 Roger to bring in an example from another club of a way of recognizing people who bring in a new member, e.g., a certificate, points toward membership, etc.

5-19-3 Yvette to draft a notice describing the policy for fees for the Spirit of Wood Show for members and non-members. This should include a description of the policy for application of the difference in fees for non-members vs members towards a membership in NEWC, should the person choose to join NEWC. For example, this would apply ONLY during the show.

5-19-4 Yvette to ask RIP what the database field “Member Since” means and how he determined number of years of membership (counting from when the person initially joined even if there were gaps in the person’s membership? Or counting just years of continuous uninterrupted membership? Or ???) and thus when to award a certificate for 25 and 30 year members.

5-19-5 Yvette to verify that mailing raffle tickets for the Spirit of Wood raffle into the next newsletter mailing would be feasible and would result in savings.

5-19-6 Roger to give NEWC background material and contact information for Maria, Floyd, and Leo to Nashoba Publications reporter, Mary Ellen Jones.

5-19-7 Floyd to poll the membership at the June meeting to find out how many would be interested in participating in the Eagle Cane project.

5-19-8 Yvette to send a confirmation letter back to Davenport Iowa Show people to ensure that NEWC would receive mail notice of their show.

5-19-9 All board members to email Roger with their recommendations for criteria to use in selecting a life member. Roger to consolidate input from board members into a recommendation.

5-19-10 Yvette to compile a list of who has received a 25 or 30 year certificate.

5-19-11 All board members to email Roger with their nominations for the Volunteer Excellence Award.

5-19-12 Yvette to ask Todd to update the competition information for the Spirit of Wood Show.

5-19-13 Roger to ask Amy to send Yvette and Todd an electronic version of the competition guidelines for the Spirit of Wood show.

REPORTS:

Vice President (Paul Ward)

June guest speaker is all set. After that there is no one in the works. There is a schedule conflict between our October membership meeting and the Mystic Carver's 4-day Columbus weekend retreat. As a result the speaker, Claire Rush, who will be teaching at the Mystic Carver's meeting is not expected to be able to speak at our October NEWC meeting.

Paul is not planning a trip to Shelburne Museum in Vt. – there does not seem to be any real interest in this from club members. The board discussed some other trip possibilities – Mystic Seaport Connecticut and Ocean City Maryland (World Championship for Bird Carving & Waterfowl, Museum of Bird Carving)

Treasurer (Leo Lambert)

Balance Sheet as of 5/18/07 -- \$29,354.09 in equity; club gained slightly when storage company that NEWC uses was bought by another company which does not require a set-up/cleaning deposit and refunded our \$20 deposit by subtracting it from the June rent.

Billing for NEWC closes on 6/30 – please submit any bills for the past year before this deadline.

5-19-1 All to submit any bills for the past year before 6/30/07.

Profit & Loss Statement (7/1/06 through 5/18/07) which showed Total income = \$20,524.66, Total expenses = \$18,049.82, Net = \$2,474.84. He also distributed bar charts comparing monthly income and expense from July 06 to May 07; and 2 pie charts showing “Net Savings and Expenses Comparison as a percentage of Total Income” from July 06 to May 07.

Membership Secretary (Yvette Holladay)

For 3/24/07 to 5/18/07

- collected 23 checks for a total of \$630
- went from 149 email addresses to 157
- email (only) newsletters went from 8 to 14 (3 complimentary)

It seems as if a few members drop out each month, but we add 5-10 new members each month. Board discussed if the club should offer a reward of some kind (to the person who did the referring) when we gain a member via a referral.

5-19-2 Roger to bring in an example from another club of a way of recognizing people who bring in a new member, e.g., a certificate, points toward membership, etc.

Yvette sends several renewal notices to members whose memberships have lapsed. She noted that sending a “LAST NOTICE” works!

Board discussed a policy wherein a person cannot be in the Spirit of Wood show if he/she owes dues. This only makes sense if we restrict the show to members. Otherwise a lapsed member could simply pay non-member rates to participate in the show. This new policy would have to be put in the newsletter.

5-19-3 Yvette to draft a notice describing the policy for fees for the Spirit of Wood Show for members and non-members. This should include a description of the policy for application of the difference in fees for non-members vs members towards a membership in NEWC, should the person choose to join NEWC. For example, this would apply ONLY during the show.

There is a grace period of 6 months for renewal of membership during which a person is kept on the club’s membership list. For the last 4 months of this period, no newsletters are sent.

The board discussed the lack of a policy as to when/how certificates are issued for 25 and 30 year members and the lack of a policy on whether a member who leaves and later rejoins should receive back his/her original membership number. Yvette agreed to ask

Rip how he did these things, i.e., how he determined years of membership (counting from when the person initially joined even if there were gaps in the person's membership? Or counting just years of continuous uninterrupted membership? Or ???).

5-19-4 Yvette to ask RIP what the database field "Member Since" means and how he determined number of years of membership (counting from when the person initially joined even if there were gaps in the person's membership? Or counting just years of continuous uninterrupted membership? Or ???) and thus when to award a certificate for 25 and 30 year members.

Newsletter Editor (Yvette Holladay)

May-June – Changes submitted by Monday morning (5/21) can be included in the newsletter (May/June). Minuteman Press is handling the printing.

Spirit of Wood Show (10/21/07) (Roger Melanson)

Roger distributed to each board member raffle tickets flyers, brochures, and competition guides. Raffle prizes are (1) \$500, (2) carving by Floyd Truitt, (3) carving by Michael McCarthy. Leo Lambert noted that:

- If the prizes are of "nominal value", there is no need to file paperwork with the government. He deems the raffle prizes to be of "nominal value."
- If we sell raffle tickets ONLY to members, then no permit is needed.
- At the door we must collect a "donation" not "admission". Again, this avoids paperwork.

There was discussion of inserting some raffle tickets in each newsletter mailing. This would require some extra work and postage but would result in considerable savings over mailing the tickets separately.

5-19-5 Yvette to verify that mailing raffle tickets for the Spirit of Wood raffle into the next newsletter mailing would be feasible and would result in savings.

Helli Mayr Workshop (Maria LaGoy)

So far 7 registrations received. Minimum is 10. Maximum is 14.

COMMUNICATIONS

Nashoba Publications (Floyd Truitt)

A while back, Floyd Truitt initiated an exchange with Nashoba Publications via Kate Walsh and has been contacted by Mary Ellen Jones (reporter). Board members (Maria, Floyd, Leo) agreed to be contacted by her for phone interviews.

5-19-6 Roger to give NEWC background material and contact information for Maria, Floyd, and Leo to Nashoba Publications reporter, Mary Ellen Jones.

Eagle Cane Project for Veterans (Roger Melanson)

Jack Nitz (Eastern Oklahoma Woodcarvers Association (EOWCA) and John Freels (Smokey Mountain Woodcarvers) are supporting the Eagle Cane project for veterans. They are looking for a contact in NEWC to whom they could give names of veterans and who would then relay the request(s) for a cane(s) to a woodcarver(s). See <http://www.eowca.com/cane.html> for more information.

5-19-7 Floyd to poll the membership at the June meeting to find out how many would be interested in participating in the Eagle Cane project.

Bedfore VA Hospital (Lorne and Maria LaGoy)

Lorne LaGoy has a list of items needed by patients (sweatshirts, t-shirts, games, etc.). Also, the hospital is looking for someone to teach a class. This would require someone willing to contact the VA Hospital in advance to coordinate on schedule. The Board discussed whether the club is willing to take on the project of a "Tree of Life" to raise money for the veterans/patients at the Bedford VA Hospital. In the past, this has been done very successfully (by NEWC) and members donated a *lot* of ornaments

** The Board voted to support a "Tree of Life" project, i.e., collect donated ornaments, sell them, and donate proceeds to the Bedford VA Hospital. Lorne and Maria will be contacts for the VA project in Bedford as well as collecting donated Ornaments and selling them for the benefit of Veterans.

Yvette Holladay

Board agreed that Yvette should renew annual mail notification of the Davenport Iowa Show.

5-19-8 Yvette to send a confirmation letter back to Davenport Iowa Show people to ensure that NEWC will continue to receive mail notice of their show.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

New Club Brochure

All agreed the new club brochure looked good.

NEW BUSINESS

Miscellaneous membership issues (Yvette Holladay)

Life membership status – There are 18 life members, but no policy for selecting them. What should we do about people who are 35 year members? We hand out certificates for 25 and 30 years and list these folks in the newsletter. Board recommended tabling the 35-year member issue for now.

5-19-9 All board members to email Roger with their recommendations for criteria to use in selecting a life member. Roger to consolidate input from board members into a recommendation.

5-19-10 Yvette to compile a list of who has received a 25 or 30 year certificate.

6/3/07 Membership Meeting (Roger Melanson)

REMINDER: Board members to bring dessert to the next membership meeting. (6/3/07)

New NEWC Awards (Roger Melanson)

Roger recommended 2 new awards in addition to the Carver of the Year award.

- President's Award – selected by the President in recognition for contributions to the club
- Chet Card and Gene Mattheson (founders of NEWC) Volunteer Excellence Award

Each award could be won by a given individual only once. Board agreed to table the discussion for now on the policy/criteria for selecting the winners of these awards.

5-19-11 All board members to email Roger with their nominations for the Volunteer Excellence Award.

Website (Yvette Holladay)

Updates sent to Todd have been handled.

5-19-12 Yvette to ask Todd to update the competition information for the Spirit of Wood Show.

5-19-13 Roger to ask Amy to send Yvette and Todd an electronic version of the competition guidelines for the Spirit of Wood show.

Table Sign Holders (Lorne LaGoy)

Lorne showed a table sign holder that will enable one to display a sign (on one of the show tables) that can be easily seen by attendees at the Spirit of Wood Show, e.g., "Registration", "Class". Roger requested a dozen of these.

ADJOURNMENT: Meeting adjourned at 12:16pm.