



The Federation of Historical Bottle Collectors General Membership Meeting Minutes | Manchester, New Hampshire | July 19, 2013, 1:30 pm EST

President Ferdinand Meyer V, called the General Membership meeting of the Federation of Historical Bottle Collectors to order at 1:35 pm EST.

Board	Ferdinand Meyer V, President
Members	Bob Ferraro, 1 st Vice President
Present:	John Pastor, Director at Large Gene Bradberry, Director at Large James Bender, Membership Director Gary Beatty, Treasurer James Berry, Secretary Sheldon Baugh, Merchandising Director Tom Phillips, Convention Director Pam Selenak, Public Relations Director Alan DeMaison, Business Manager Dave Maryo, Western Region Director Rande Kaiser, Midwest Region Director

Welcome: President Ferdinand Meyer V

Members were welcomed by Ferdinand Meyer V to the General Membership meeting.

Ferdinand reviewed the current statistics of the FOHBC noting approximately 1,262 members (plus some). He stated there has been tremendous growth on the internet including the FOHBC Facebook site. There are 20 or so different types of facebook bottle groups that he monitors on the internet (insulator, diggers, collectors, early American glass, soda, etc.). The FOHBC facebook page has 1,805 members with the Peachridge Glass facebook page having 999 members. Thousands of people are getting information quickly through the internet and we need to find a way to unify their interests and to guide them to becoming a FOHBC member.

Ferdinand explained that many clubs/organizations no longer have “hard copies” of periodicals and have changed entirely to putting information on the internet. Sooner or later, we will also go digital - just when and to what extent is undetermined at this time; but will be something the board will be investigating.

Ferdinand reported that in today’s Board of Directors meeting, questions were raised regarding FOHBC Life Memberships and Digital Memberships. These are two considerations that will be up for discussion with the Board on whether to reinstitute life time memberships and/or offering digital memberships.

Business: Overview

At this point in time, the Financial status of the Federation is good. With the growth in the number of memberships along with profitable and well managed shows in the past three years, has given the Federation financial stability. It was recommended that dues should not increase at this time.

Update: Federation Shows

Ferdinand said the board talked about reformatting the Federation's national and expo shows. It was suggestions to hold a 3-day National Convention where the public would be admitted to the show on both Saturday and Sunday. Early admission would be held on Friday. The auction/bottle battle/banquet/seminars would also be included, however, with less time constraints. A possible name of the show would be '2016 National Antique Bottle Convention.' This type of format would begin in 2016.

Comment:

A member commented giving appreciation to the Board Members for their work with the Federation and appropriately representing "bottle people." The board communicates regularly using monthly conference calls to keep in touch and up-to-date. Other members look forward to becoming a Life Member of the Federation.

Regional Report:

Ferdinand states that he is aware of a disconnect with the Federation's member club. Ways to improve this has been discussed. Conference calls between region directors and member clubs will occur as well as communicating more often with a spokesperson from each club to keep in touch and up-to-date.

Bylaws: Gene Bradberry

Gene explained that based on changes with the Federation's means of communication, specifically the internet, minor revisions were needed to bring the bylaws up-to-date.

Therefore, Gene presented the revisions to the membership as follows:

Page 5 - Article IV Governing Body - Secretary #1 (adding "or on the Federation website") - Treasurer #1 (adding "with the exception of other Board of Directors designated funds")

Page 6 - Article IV Governing Body - Treasurer #5 (adding "or the Federation website")

Page 8 - Article IV Governing Body - Director-at-Large #2 ("Only past officers")

Page 10 - Article V Committees and Contracted Activities - L (added "In lieu of publishing the Federation business and/or Regional reports, these may be submitted to the membership via the Federation website.")

Page 10 - Article V Committees and Contracted Activities - O (added "These reports may be disseminated via the Federation website in lieu of published form.")

Page 13 - Article VII Meetings and Conduct - B #2 (added "as will the secretary") - B #7 (addition: "Any Board actions and any other business items may be disseminated to the membership via posting on the Federation website in lieu of publishing in the Federation periodical.")

The Federation of Historical Bottle Collectors
General Membership Meeting Minutes | Manchester, New Hampshire
July 19, 2013, 1:30 pm EST

Page 14 - Article VII Meetings and Conduct - C #7 (addition: "In the event of misconduct by any member or member club, the above procedure shall be followed in the same manner as a charge against an officer of the Federation. If a charge of conduct unbecoming a member of the Federation is sustained by the Federation Board, the member or member club's membership will be cancelled along with their rights and privileges. After a two (2) year period, the removed member or member club may request a reinstatement of membership. After applying to the Board for the reinstatement, the Board will discuss the reinstatement and the member or member club may be reinstated if a majority vote if for reinstatement.")

Page 15 - Article VII Meetings and Conduct - E #5 (added "and/or on the Federation website")

Page 17 - Article IX Amendments - A (added "or on the Federation website") B #1 (added "and/or conduct said business by a conference call") B #3 (added "or the vote may be conducted by a conference call")

Action Taken:

There were no questions/comments from the general membership. A motion was made by Gene Bradberry to approve the proposed bylaws. Motion was seconded by Bob Ferraro. All members present were in favor. Motion passed.

A copy of the revised bylaws will be placed on the Federation website. Hard copies will be made available to those who request them.

Ferdinand said that the next issue of *Bottles and Extras* will feature articles/photographs on the Manchester show. He asks that if anyone has any comments, pros and/or consonants, please let him know. We want to make every show better and can only learn from our mistakes.

2014 Lexington, Kentucky Show and 2015 Chattanooga, Tennessee Show

Tom Phillips gave a brief report on next year's show as well as the 2015 show. He reported on locations, events, etc. Seminars have been decreased to 6 to help with scheduling and attendance. We will also be promoting specialty clubs/groups to hold meetings. Contracts for Lexington's show will be available today.

Volunteers are always needed and if anyone is interested in helping, please step up. We all appreciate the help.

Merchandise:

Sheldon reported on Federation merchandise available. Items will be for sale at the Federation table this weekend.

History:

The Federation of Historical Bottle Collectors
General Membership Meeting Minutes | Manchester, New Hampshire
July 19, 2013, 1:30 pm EST

We continue to work on archiving the history of the Federation. Ferdinand noted that he was not aware that Former President Jimmy Carter was a Life Member.

Other Information Discussed:

Reproductions: Ferdinand said there are companies producing very well made reproductions. The Federation is aware and constantly monitoring this concern. All information will be put on the website as it is found.

Elections: The election of Federation officers will be done in 2014. A committee for nominations will be appointed soon.

Newsletter: A digital newsletter has been produced for information on the different regions and other information.

Digging: Stricter laws are being passed in different areas. Diggers must be aware of local laws in their areas.

Virtual Museum: Ferdinand talked about where we are at this point in time. Donations continue to be solicited to help fund the museum. A bottle raffle today will held with income going to the virtual museum fund.

Finances: Treasurer Gary Beatty reviewed the Federation's investments. He explained that we need to keep these investments in place for the future and not be used to fund the virtual museum.

Ferdinand thanked everyone for attending. He hopes that everyone has a nice show and an enjoyable weekend.

The General Membership Meeting was adjourned at 2:50pm EST

Respectfully submitted,

James Berry, Secretary