



The Federation of Historical Bottle Collectors Board of Directors Conference Call June 09, 2016, 9:00 pm EST

Ferdinand Meyer V called the conference call of the Federation to order at 9:00 pm EST.

Present: Ferdinand Meyer V, President
John Pastor, Director at Large
Elizabeth Meyer, Business Manager
James Berry, Secretary
James Bender, Historian
Gary Beatty, Treasurer
Linda Sheppard, Membership Director
Valeri Berry, Merchandising Director
Louis Fifer, Conventions Director
Matt Lacy, Midwest Region Director
Eric McGuire, Western Region Director
Martin Van Zant, BOTTLES and EXTRAS Editor

Absent: Sheldon Baugh, First Vice President
Gene Bradberry, Second Vice President
Robert Ferraro, Director at Large
Steve Ketcham, Director at Large
Rick DeMarsh, Public Relations Director
Andrew Vuono, Northeast Region Director
Ron Hands, Southern Region Director

Agenda A: BOTTLES and EXTRAS - Ferdinand Meyer V

Ferdinand reported that the July/August 2016 issue has gone to print on June 7th. It should be ready for mailing within the next 7-10 days. Thanks were given to Eric McGuire and Steve Abbott who have contributed several "Western Region" articles in preparation for Sacramento. The following issue, Sept/October, will obviously include the Sacramento show information and will have to be done as soon as possible after the show.

Ferdinand is asking for attendee comments as soon as possible after the event as we traditionally do each year. Constructive comments welcome. He and Martin will design as much as possible in advance and leave 20 pages for the Sacramento articles/photographs. Thanks to those who have sent articles for the magazine - as a result, articles are able to be lined up for future issues.

Action taken: No action taken.

Agenda B: 2016 Sacramento National Antique Bottle Convention & Expo - Ferdinand Meyer V, Eric McGuire

The current status of the show was given. Ferdinand currently has the souvenir program at 136 pages, with several articles, western top 70, good advertising, etc. This program is expected to set a record. Show designs for posters, name tags, etc., and other preparations continue to be worked on. We have approximately 175 tables at this point.

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Ferdinand will schedule a conference call with staffing/layout of front tables (Membership, merchandise, sales, etc.) within the next couple weeks.

Action taken: No action taken.

Agenda C: 2017 Springfield National Antique Bottle Convention & Expo, Northeast Region - Jim Bender

Jim reported that they continue to work on the show and have quite a bit in place at this time. They have been finalizing the contracts with Ferdinand and will be ready one week before Sacramento. Another visit was made to the site and Bob Strickhart now has a working table layout for the showroom floor when contracts begin to come in. They are expecting to have 350 tables which will eliminate the need to 'squeeze' in vendors. Jim has about a dozen people (not counting Board Members) who are volunteering to help. Seminars are pretty much set and Jim explained that scheduling seminars are staggered so people may be able to attend more than one. Mike George is working on seminars and will have bios ready. All pieces will be in place by Sacramento so when questions are asked, they will have answers.

One change to the Springfield event schedule is having the auction on a Saturday morning instead of at night. Initially, it caused some thinking about what will we do on Saturday night. Ferdinand stated that as hosts of the convention, options should be available for people and they will work on this such as movies or room hopping events.

A table to promote the Springfield show will be set up at Sacramento and will be covered by Jim Bender and Jim Berry. Jim Bender also noted that he felt getting as much done in advance (at least two years) will help keep it organized and give the ability to promote it successfully.

Action taken: No action taken.

Agenda D: 2018 Cleveland National Antique Bottle Convention & Expo Update - Matt Lacy, Louis Fifer

Matt reported they continue to work on several pieces for the 2018 show, such as the auction process and consignments. He said that a new member was added to their 'core team' who is very interested in helping with the show - Todd Knisley. He is already beginning to work on setting up the seminars soliciting interest with collectors in various categories.

Action taken: No action taken.

Side Note: Ferdinand said that the 2019 FOHBC convention will be held in the Southern Region. This is the FOHBC's 50th Anniversary year. Louis Fifer, Conventions Director, will need to send RFPs to clubs in the southern region soon. Interest is already beginning to surface in several areas.

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Agenda E: Fraud - Ferdinand Meyer V

Ferdinand explained that an email had been sent to Gary Beatty, Treasurer, asking for money to be wired to an account claiming to be from Ferdinand. However, Gary was suspicious for several reasons (not Ferdinand's normal email address, a large amount of money with no reason, and no others were copied). Obviously, the FOHBC does not do business in this manner. Gary stated that he did report this incident to the FBI as they have a web page for reportable scams. He also called his local police department and they did take a report from Gary as required by the FBI.

Action taken: Members are reminded to be aware of instances such as these and to be careful when on the Internet.

Agenda F: FOHBC Semi-Annual Board Meeting – Ferdinand Meyer V

A brief discussion was held regarding the location for the semi-annual board meeting. It has been held in Baltimore in March for many years, however, it was suggested that we try meeting in a different location. The FOHBC holds conference calls almost monthly to keep up on business and other matters needing attention. One possibility was to meet in Mansfield, Ohio.

Action taken: Ferdinand asked members to give it some thought and provide any other options/suggestions they may have. This matter will be discussed further.

Agenda G: Financial Report - Gary Beatty

Gary reported on the finances of the FOHBC. He explained the change in which we do business. Financially, we are in good shape, however, with the FOHBC working on scheduling conventions a couple years in advance, it is necessary to make payments for venues, tables, seed money, etc. Additionally, the normal business transactions (i.e., insurance payments, editor/business manager, printing) continue to be made. Reimbursement from the conventions won't be until after the show has ended (within two months). Income during the year is minimal and not enough to cover all of the expenses. This leaves the checking account balance low. Gary is suggesting that \$10,000 transferred from two different funds.

Action taken: A motion was made by Val Berry to approve Gary Beatty to make the withdrawal of \$10,000 from two separate funds in order to maintain a checking account balance of \$25,000. Motion was seconded by Elizabeth Meyer. All present were in favor of the motion.

Agenda H: FOHBC Elections Update - Jim Bender

Jim reported that all ballots were mailed (about 1,100). The deadline for return is July 15th. He has received some back already. They will be brought to Sacramento for official counting at the General Membership meeting of the FOHBC

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Agenda I: Other Discussion

Ferdinand reported that due to poor health, Bob Ferraro, FOHBC Director at Large, was placed into a nursing home. Our thoughts and prayers are with the family.

The conference call was ended at 10:15 pm EST

Respectfully submitted,

James Berry, Secretary