



The Federation of Historical Bottle Collectors Board of Directors Meeting Minutes | Manchester, New Hampshire July 19, 2013, 8:00 am EST

President Ferdinand Meyer V, called the meeting of the Federation of Historical Bottle Collectors (FOHBC) to order at 8:00 am EST.

Present: Ferdinand Meyer V, President
Bob Ferraro, 1st Vice President
John Pastor, Director at Large
Gene Bradberry, Director at Large
Richard Watson, Historian
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
Randee Kaiser, Midwest Region Director

Absent: Jamie Houdeshell, 2nd Vice President
Martin Van Zant, *Bottles and Extras* Editor
Ed Kuskie, Northeast Region Director
Jack Hewitt, Southern Region Director
John Panek, Director at Large

There were no members on the conference phone line.

Agenda 1: Call to Order: Welcome / State of the FOHBC - Ferdinand Meyer V

Board Members were welcomed by Ferdinand Meyer V to the Board of Directors 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.

Agenda 2: Business: Overview / Old and New Business / Raising Dues / Business Cards / Life Members - Alan DeMaison

Alan reported on the growth of our membership numbers beginning with the changes in our organization a couple years ago. We have gained over 300 members along with profitable and

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well managed shows in Ohio, Memphis and Reno. These along with decreased expenses have allowed us to spend some extra money on recruitment of new members and grow.

Due to the financial stability of the Federation, it was recommended by Alan that dues should not increase at this time. All members present agreed.

Those members who wish to have business cards, have gotten them on their own.

The history of Life memberships as well as the current status was reviewed. Per the bylaws, FOHBC Life Memberships are no longer available.

Action taken:

A motion was made by Gene Bradberry to investigate and implement a change in the bylaws for the possibility of reinstating Life Memberships. A three-person committee will oversee this task. It will be discussed at the FOHBC General Membership Meeting to be held July 19, 2013 at 1:30 pm. Any recommended changes to the bylaws will be voted on at the General Membership Meeting in Lexington, Kentucky in August 2014. Motion was seconded by Bob Ferraro. All were in favor.

Update on 2013 Manchester show with Maureen Crawford and Michael George:

Mike and Maureen arrived at the board meeting at 9:00 am to give a pre-arranged special show report.

Scott Selenak, FOHBC Show Photographer, was present and was introduced. Scott will be taking many photographs of this weekend's show and events. Pictures will be used on the FOHBC website and in our next issue of *Bottles and Extras*.

Maureen and Mike presented a brief update regarding this weekend's show. They reviewed the security measures, signage is in place; souvenir program; banquet room is set and the adjacent room will be ready for the bottle battle immediately following the banquet; seminar rooms, displays, badges and name tags will be needed to enter the showroom, the auction, etc. There were some late changes to sales tables. A late afternoon meeting is set to make sure all preparations are ready and staff is on board. The procedure for the bottle raffles/gift certificates was reviewed.

A brief review was given by Tom Phillips regarding the show contract and the leave early clause. Tom stated one person has informed him that he will need to leave early. Tom also reviewed the auction to be held on Saturday night.

Maureen and Mike were given a round of applause for their time and efforts put into this show.

Agenda 3 - Financial: Treasurer's Report / Expenses / Projections / Budgets / Goals / Investments - Gary Beatty and Alan DeMaison

A financial report for 7/1/2012 to 6/30/13 was disturbed to all members present. Gary went over the report for members. The checking account is up-to-date and all bills are paid at this point. A couple questions were asked and addressed by Gary and Alan.

FOHBC Investments were explained by Alan. He noted that there was money cashed in last June 2012. It was suggested to put back that money after this show and this will be looked into.

Action taken:

No action taken.

Agenda 4: Membership: Updates and Initiatives / Procedure / Membership Directory / Digital Membership - Jim Bender, Alan DeMaison and Ferdinand Meyer V

Jim Bender talked about 'old memberships' and club memberships that ended due to one reason or another. He is finding that many things have changed (in the Northeast) and 'newer' people don't even know what happened. Previous members and club members are being encouraged to re-join. These obstacles must be overcome and Jim will be promoting the hobby through the National Bottle Museum in Ballston Spa, New York.

FOHBC member clubs is approximately 60. There are still many clubs who are not Federation members. The club application form was recently revised. One of the most important benefits of being a club member is the insurance coverage that is provided by the FOHBC for club events/shows.

Jim Bender explained that sooner or later, we will be digital - just when is undetermined at this time. In today's world, the younger generation is already there and Jim's goal is to get this younger generation involved in the bottle world. Jim further explained how other organizations are handling the change from "hard copy" to "digital" and some pros and cons regarding the change.

Digital memberships versus regular memberships was discussed. There won't be any incurred costs as we will still need a publisher, editor - the magazine will be put together the same way. One concern to think about is the fact that if the Federation is considering "going digital," the FOHBC website will need to be monitored and maintained constantly. Information must be current and up-to-date. Ferdinand maintains the site now, but he cannot continue to take on this responsibility. There would be a slight increase due to the fact that we would need to "hire" a webmaster who will be able to maintain the site. However, board members talked about a volunteer webmaster who could be compensated in other ways (i.e., free admission to Federation shows, banquet).

Action taken:

Further investigation for this transition will be explored.

Agenda 5: Regional Directors: Report / Tasks / Goals / Clubs - Dave Maryo, Jack Hewitt, Randee Kaiser, Ed Kuskie (absent: Jack Hewitt and Ed Kuskie)

Ferdinand noted that regional news is not being published in the magazine; there seems to be a disconnect between members clubs and the Federation. Regional news articles are not being received by Ferdinand as he has expected. Dave Maryo suggested holding a bi-monthly conference call between the regional directors and President, Ferdinand Meyer V. We need to engage member clubs and make them feel like they are members and important to the Federation in addition to helping promote their club. It was suggested to have a “point person” from the member club converse with the region director to keep communication lines open and active between clubs and the Federation.

Action Taken:

It was recommended that each regional director contact his or her member clubs to initiate communication for participation in a FOHBC conference call to start. Having a contact person from each club would be helpful to each region director and it was suggested to send a letter to clubs with this information. It was decided to hold a conference call first. Any information, i.e., shows, events, etc., from the region director should go to Ferdinand. Promotions of clubs can be published in the magazine and/or put on the website.

Agenda 6: FOHBC Bylaws - Gene Bradberry

A copy of the revised bylaws was distributed to members. Gene explained the revisions that have been reviewed by board members for the past several months. The revisions included:

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.”)

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

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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 is 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”)

A brief review of the Director-at-Large position was held. This matter will be reviewed further.

Action Taken:

A motion was made by Bob Ferraro to accept the recommended revisions of the Bylaws of the Federation of Historical Bottle Collectors to be presented at the general membership meeting. Motion was seconded by Sheldon Baugh. All members present were in favor. Motion passed.

The approved bylaws will be presented to the membership at the general membership meeting to be held at 1:30p.m. A final vote for approval will be taken at that time.

Agenda 7: 2013 National Antique Bottle Show, Manchester, New Hampshire: Update / Security / Banquet / Awards / Auction / Bottle Battle / Advertising / Show Program / Photography / Displays / Feature Article.

Special Topic: Should annual shows be longer? Held every two years or so?

Ferdinand Meyer V explained his thoughts regarding the possibility of expanding annual shows; changing formats; or possibly scheduling shows every other year; etc. The group participated in a general discussion with pros and cons noted.

This weekend's events, security, etc., was discussed with Maureen Crawford and Mike George earlier in the meeting.

Action Taken:

No action taken.

Agenda 8: 2014 National Antique Bottle Show, Lexington Kentucky: Update / Contract / Information - Tom Phillips, Sheldon Baugh and Randee Kaiser

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The 2014 show contract for Lexington was distributed to board members. Tom explained that all rules and regulations are now included: sales contract/terms; display application/terms; bottle competition/terms; all other general information is included, i.e., exhibit hall, host hotel, meetings, banquet, seminars (limited to 6), auction, advertising in souvenir program, schedule of events and security measures.

The contract is now ready for distribution to all and will be available at the Federation table. Promoting the show will now begin in full force. Tom, Sheldon Baugh and Randee Kaiser will continue to work on refining different aspects of the show. The souvenir program will be one of the items that they will be working on with Ferdinand Meyer's help.

Pam Selenak can include the Lexington contract with her membership packets she sends out.

Hall of Fame/Honor Roll nominations/qualifications were reviewed. As per the application, nominations must be submitted by January 1st. This information will be included in show promotions.

It was noted that in the past years of Federation shows, specialty groups, i.e., milk collectors, insulator collectors, perfume, etc., held meetings for their clubs. This hasn't occurred in a while and will be explored for future shows.

Action Taken:

No action taken.

Agenda 9: 2015 National Antique Bottle Show, Chattanooga, Tennessee: Update - Tom Phillips

Tom stated that preparation/plans for this show will begin this fall after the Manchester Show.

Action Taken:

No action taken.

Agenda 10: 2016 Expo: Update - Tom Phillips

As Ferdinand discussed earlier, the group talked about changing the format of Federation national shows/expo. Suggestions were given 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.'

Action Taken:

Further discussion will be held at the membership meeting today.

Agenda 11: Merchandise: Inventory / Plan of Action / Tasks / Budget - Sheldon Baugh

Sheldon distributed the list of merchandise inventory. He reviewed the items available for this weekend and include shirts, hats, mugs. We hope to use good marketing strategy to result in good sales.

Action Taken:

No action taken.

Agenda 12: FOHBC Archives: Inventory / Goals / Plan of Action / Tasks / Budget / Timeline / Manchester Display / Slide Program / Bottles and Extras Update - Dick Watson

Dick reported on what inventory he has, i.e., newsletters, posters, etc. There is really not much to put on a display. The Hall of Fame information is now on video and will be displayed.

Action taken:

No action taken

The Board Meeting was adjourned at 12:06 pm EST

Respectfully submitted,

James Berry, Secretary

Due to time constraints, the following agenda items were not discussed. They will be addressed at the next conference call of the Board of Directors:

Agenda 13: Bottles and Extras: Latest / Committee / Future / Expenses / Options / Manchester Feature - Martin Van Zant, Alan DeMaison and Ferdinand Meyer V

Agenda 14: Internet and Digital Media: Website, Facebook, Newsletter - Ferdinand Meyer V (FOHBC and PRG Spam Problem, Newsletters, Smithsonian National Postal Museum, Architect Films, Ebay - The Sheik)

Agenda 15: Virtual Museum: Update / Financial / Schedule - Ferdinand Meyer V

Agenda 16: Elections: Update / Elections Committee / Schedule / New Opportunities
Ferdinand Meyer V

Agenda 17: Procedure Outlines: How we do things - Ferdinand Meyer V

Agenda 18: Scams, Frauds and Reproductions: Open discussion

Agenda 19: Digging for Historical Objects: Open discussion with FOHBC Position

Agenda 20: Conclusion: What's Next?