

The Federation of Historical Bottle Collectors Board of Directors Meeting Minutes - Baltimore, Maryland March 02, 2013, 8:00 am EST

Ferdinand Meyer V, called the meeting to order at 8:00 pm EST.

Present: Ferdinand Meyer V, President

Bob Ferraro, 1st Vice President Jamie Houdeshell, 2nd Vice President

John Pastor, Director at Large John Panek, Director at Large

Gene Bradberry, Director at Large (via phone)

James Berry, Secretary

Sheldon Baugh, Merchandising Director

Richard Watson, Historian

Tom Phillips, Convention Director James Bender, Membership Director Pam Selenak, Public Relations Director

Martin Van Zant, Bottles and Extras Editor (via phone)

Alan DeMaison, Business Manager Dave Maryo, Western Region Director Ed Kuskie, Northeast Region Director Jack Hewitt, Southern Region Director

Absent: Gary Beatty, Treasurer

Randee Kaiser, Midwest Region Director

Agenda 1: State of the FOHBC - Ferdinand Meyer V

Ferdinand explained his vision for the future of the Federation – increasing its membership to 2,000 members, publishing a great magazine, putting on the best shows, reaching out to different bottle groups (diggers, milks, etc.), and expansion within our regions. Goals such as these will help the organization financially as well. All comments and suggestions from the Board members are welcome. Conference calls will continue as communication with all board members is important. Ferdinand thanked everyone for all the help and volunteer work they do for the Federation.

Action taken:

No action taken.

Agenda 2: Business Report - Old and New Business, Overview, Raising Dues, Business Cards - Alan DeMaison

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A prepared packet, which includes reports on the budget and investment, was distributed to members present and those not able to attend were e-mailed the information.

Alan explained several items in the budget including the membership and its impact on the cost of publishing *Bottles and Extras*. Currently, we have a contract with a publishing company to print 1,300 magazines. Alan did report that he is in the process of negotiating with several publishing companies for the best cost in printing the magazine.

Alan stated that he is responsible for pursuing advertisements sold for inclusion in *Bottles and Extras*. Having one person in charge will help eliminate any confusion, discrepancies or duplications. Remember - the more memberships we have, the more advertisements we would get, decreasing the cost of the magazine.

Alan reported on the status of the Federation's investments. Further information will be given in the Financial report.

The group talked about Life Memberships and the history of how they came about. At this point, life members do not contribute monetarily to the Federation. They continue to receive the magazine, which impacts our cost. A suggestion was given to write a letter to life members informing them of the high cost of publishing the magazine and to offer if they wish to continue receiving *Bottles and Extras*, we would ask for an annual donation. They would remain life members. According to Article III, B 6 of the Bylaws, 'Life Members shall be encouraged to financially support the Federation, as deemed appropriate by the Board of Directors."

Action taken:

Jim Bender will draft the letter suggested and forward to Ferdinand Meyer for review.

Pam Selenak had her business cards and showed to members. Any other members interested in getting them should use the same design. Pam can provide the website information.

Increasing membership dues was not approved. We would rather get more members than raise the dues. Jim Bender is interested in getting information from different types of clubs to see what their membership dues cost is and the benefits of being a member of that club. He will prepare a graph for comparison when he gets enough information.

Agenda 3: Financial Report - Alan DeMaison

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Financial expense reports for 2012-2013 were distributed. The Federation's fiscal year is July 1 through June 30. Alan reviewed the breakdown of payments made, to whom they were made and what they were made for and he also categorized the payments. Alan will continue to maintain the expense report. It was suggested to create a report on income as well.

Investments: Reports on the Federation's investments are received quarterly and Board members will receive the information at that time. Jim Bender did follow up on his offer to have the investments reviewed by an investment company and reported on his findings.

Action taken:

No action taken.

Agenda 4: Membership Report - Jim Bender

Jim explained that when he took over the position of Membership Director, there was no set procedure to do things - so he made his own. Initially, some steps were being duplicated by himself and Alan DeMaison. They now have their procedure sorted out and Jim explained it to members.

Jim Bender announced that as an incentive, he has donated a flask (½ pint, pontiled, Eagle/ Cornucopia) to award as a prize to any new member and renewal from 3 years back or more. Their name will go into the drawing for the flask. The contest will run from January 1, 2013 to December 31, 2013.

Other suggestions for promoting and encouraging memberships is advertising (auction houses, websites, club newsletters) posters, fill a bottle to reach our goal on the website, (like the one for the Virtual Museum).

Pam Selenak clarified the benefits of being an FOHBC individual member and the benefits of being a member club.

Action taken:

Promotional ads will be developed to help in the FOHBC membership drive. Board members are also encouraged to sell memberships.

Agenda 5: Region Directors - Report, Tasks, Goals, Clubs - Dave Maryo (Western), Jack Hewitt (Southern), Randee Kaiser (Midwest), Ed Kuskie (Northeast)

Ferdinand Meyer talked about the advantages of having region directors. Region directors act as liaisons with member clubs and individuals in their region and should promote the hobby. Talk with them to see if there is anything the Federation can do to help, get local news from the area, and more show information – both before and after, participate in your region's bottle-related activities. Contact the individuals whose memberships are expiring and encourage them to renew. Annual regional meetings should be held where discussions and support can be given. Ferdinand needs information from the Region Directors regarding club/individual news for the newsletter. Keeping in close communication within the regions is important.

Jim Bender has information and guidelines for new clubs to start and Pam Selenak can help as well.

Action taken:

No action taken.

Agenda 6: FOHBC Bylaws - Gene Bradberry

Gene Bradberry has made revisions to the bylaws and copies were sent to members previously for their review.

Gene explained that due to the change in dissemination of Federation information (such as putting information on the FOHBC website), revisions were made to the following bylaws:

Article IV Governing Body - Secretary #1

Article IV Governing Body - Treasurer #5

Article V Committees and Contracted Activities - L, O

Article VII Meetings and Conduct - B #7 (addition), E #5

Article IX Amendments - A, B #1, C #3

Other revisions:

Article III Membership - A and C are contradictory and will be reviewed

Article VII Meetings and Conduct - B #2 (adding the secretary will keep a record of all votes)

Article VII Meetings and Conduct - C #7 (addition).

Action taken:

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Members are asked to review, make any comments or suggestions to Gene Bradberry as soon as possible. The Board of Directors will review at the next conference call.

When and if approved, the proposed amendments will be placed on the website with a notice placed in *Bottles and Extras* giving notification to the general membership for their review before the final ratification at the Board Meeting in July.

Agenda 7: 2013 National Antique Bottle Show - Manchester, New Hampshire Update, Security, Banquet, Contest and Awards, Auction, Bottle Battle, Advertising, Show Program, Photography, Displays, Feature Article - Tom Phillips, Mike George

Tom and Mike updated the board on the status of the Manchester show. At this time:

202 tables sold; 52 remain

64 banquet tickets sold

9 early buyers

247 room count (goal is 300)

16 displays (the Federation will also have a display)

5 seminars - (New Hampshire glass/local, Connecticut glass, Mount Vernon glass, Local milks, New Jersey glass

We would like to get one more seminar.

Totals listed above should increase as the date of the show draws near.

To help with our expenditures, the food amount to incur is \$3,000 and this includes box lunches that will be available for vendors. We should be able to reach this goal. Advertisements will be done locally in newspapers, radio, etc. Ferdinand will also begin marketing show events, such as the displays, seminars and bottle battle on the website.

Martin Van Zant is working on the program and will include advertisements, articles, show schedule, map of floor, and list of dealers. We will be extremely careful with being accurate with schedule dates, times, places, etc.

Security measures in place for the show are outlined in the contract/show information. A brief report was given noting that there will be security guards as well as volunteers to help.

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The auction, to be held on Saturday, July 20th, will be conducted by Jim Hagenbuch, Glass Works Auctions. He is currently advertising for consignments. The Bottle Battle, Friday, July 19th, is being sponsored by Heckler Auctioneers.

Sheldon Baugh reviewed the liability insurance coverage. A release of liability form is available for those participating in the Bottle Battle and displays.

Action taken:

No action taken.

Agenda 8: 2014 National Antique bottle Show, Lexington, Kentucky - Tom Phillips

Progress is being made with getting this show in order. A bank account has been secured and deposit has been made for the convention center. Tom, Sheldon Baugh and Randee Kaiser are currently promoting this show so people/clubs are aware. It is on our web site as well. Tom noted that there is no host club so Federation members will need to 'step up to the plate' to make this show a success.

Action taken:

No action taken.

Agenda 9: 2015 National Antique Bottle Show, Southern Region - Tom Phillips

A report on the Southern Region Show was distributed. As noted previously, the original venue in Charlotte, North Carolina has been withdrawn. Tom now has seven proposed locations and each one was reviewed.

Action Taken:

A motion was made by Sheldon Baugh to accept the proposal for Chattanooga, Tennessee. Motion was seconded by Bob Ferraro. There was no further discussion and all members were in favor of the motion. Tom will now begin to work on getting the specifics in place.

Agenda 10: Merchandise - Inventory, Plan of Action, Tasks, Budget - Sheldon Baugh

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Sheldon distributed a list of the inventory on hand and went over the merchandise we do have including hats, t-shirts (which needs to be changed), button down shirts, denim shirts. The new mugs with the Virtual Museum were ordered and received and Sheldon had 72 here. They cost \$10 apiece. The Federation mugs were not yet ready. Sheldon stated that very little merchandise is sold on the internet. He reviewed other types of merchandise including key chains, pens, magnets, which would probably be used as giveaways.

Members felt that the shirts and hats are good items that sell. The smaller items may not sell and could be used as giveaways. We will try to sell as mugs as we can at Baltimore. Sheldon reported on a new item, totes. He said that with every new item, there is a set-up fee, shipping costs and usually require a minimum amount to order. The transport of these items is also an issue.

In that respect, Jim Bender has recently begun making totes (as well as other merchandise) with different pictures/designs on them and had a few samples. The advantage of Jim making these items is that we would not have a minimum - when ordered, he can make it, then ship it.

Action taken:

Sheldon noted that at this time, there is no budget in place for merchandise. Before we purchase too much merchandise, we will begin with the sale of items at Manchester to see how things sell. Jim Bender's totes will be included for the Manchester show. Sheldon was asked to look into other clubs to see what their strategy may be

Agenda 11: FOHBC Archives - Inventory, Goals, Plan of Action, Tasks, Budget, Timeline, Manchester Display - Dick Watson, Ferdinand Meyer V

Ferdinand would like to get a list of all inventories that is held elsewhere, including magazines. He would like to get a couple of complete sets of *Bottles and Extras*. Jim Berry volunteered to help with this. For the material acquired, we need a plan of action, budget, timeline, and plan a Manchester display - probably for the magazines only at this time.

Action taken:

Dick Watson and Ferdinand Meyer will discuss further.

Agenda 12: Bottles and Extras - Latest, Committee, Future, Expenses, Options - Martin Van Zant, Alan DeMaison, Ferdinand Meyer V

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Members briefly reviewed articles that are published in the magazine.

Action taken:

Sheldon made a motion to accept future articles for *Bottles and Extras* recommended by the Editorial Board. Motion was seconded by John Panek and all were in favor.

Agenda 13: Internet - Website, Facebook, Newsletter - Ferdinand Meyer V

Many new things are happing and the website is updated almost daily. Due to time constraints, this agenda item was briefly noted only.

Action taken:

No action taken.

Agenda 14: Virtual Museum - Update, Finance, Schedule - Ferdinand Meyer V

The Virtual Museum bottle (shown on the FOHBC web site) is filling up as we continue to receive donations. Although it does state that donations can be made online, it is not available and this is currently being worked on. Due to time constraints, this agenda item was briefly noted only.

Action taken:

No action taken.

As time has run out for today's meeting, the remaining agenda items will be addressed at the next conference call to be scheduled.

The Meeting of the Board of Directors was adjourned at 1:05 pm EST

Respectfully submitted,

James Berry, Secretary