



**The Federation of Historical Bottle Collectors
Board of Directors Meeting Notes | Baltimore
March 7, 2015, 8:00 am EST**

Ferdinand Meyer V, called the meeting of the FOHBC Board of Directors to order at 8:00 am EST.

Present: Ferdinand Meyer, V, President
Sheldon Baugh, 1st Vice President (via phone)
Robert Ferraro, Director at Large (via phone)
John Pastor, Director at Large
Elizabeth Meyer, Business Manager
James Berry, Secretary
James Bender, Membership Director/Historian
Valeri Berry, Merchandising Director
Matt Lacy, Midwest Region Director
Eric McGuire, Western Region Director
Ron Hands, Southern Region Director
Martin Van Zant, *Bottles and Extras* Editor (via phone)

Louis Fifer (guest)
Jack Hewitt, Chattanooga National Co-Chair (arrived to meeting at tail end)

Absent: Gene Bradberry, 2nd Vice President
Steve Ketcham, Director at Large
Rick DeMarsh, Public Relations Director
Andrew Vuono, Northeast Region Director
Gary Beatty, Treasurer

Agenda A: Call to Order - Ferdinand Meyer V

Attendance was taken.

A moment of silence was held in the memory of long-time FOHBC Life member and Historian, Dick Watson.

Special thanks was given to Jim Bender for the nice article on Dick for the March/April issue of *Bottles and Extras*.

Agenda B: FOHBC / Next Generation - Ferdinand Meyer V

Ferdinand reviewed the concerns regarding the future of the FOHBC. A hand-out, "FOHBC / Next Generation," which was originally distributed in March 2014, was re-distributed to board members via e-mail.

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Jim Bender, Membership Director, explained that the board has been talking about FOHBC memberships and membership rates for about three years now. After doing some research, it was determined that we are just about breaking even with a membership that includes our 72-page magazine, *Bottles and Extras* (76 pages with covers).

A general discussion ensued regarding current membership rates and the production and mailing costs (both nationally and internationally) of the magazine.

As a result, it was recommended that membership rates be increased as follows:

| | |
|--|-------|
| Regular standard membership | \$40 |
| 1 st Class membership | \$55 |
| Canada membership | \$60 |
| Other Countries | \$80 |
| Clubs | \$75 |
| Three-Year membership, 2 nd class | \$110 |
| Digital membership | \$25 |

(Associate membership will continue at \$5; Not available with Life or Digital Membership)

Re-Institution of Life Membership: Jim Bender reviewed the possibility of re-instituting FOHBC Life Memberships. The committee has been working on this for quite some time. This type of membership has to appeal to everyone. Three possible levels of Life Membership were recommended. These levels were reviewed and discussed by Board members.

Three levels of Life Membership for single members only:

Level 1: \$1000, Includes all benefits of a regular membership. No promise of a printed magazine for life.

Level 2: \$500, Includes all benefits of a regular membership but you will not receive a printed magazine, but rather a digital subscription. Note: In the future, a Level 1 could become a Level 2.

Level 3: Earned or Honoree. The Board would have the option of bestowing an honorary Life Membership. This person would continue to join the FOHBC at the regular membership rate. How this honor is earned will be determined by the Board.

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Based on the discussion noted above, Ferdinand Meyer made a motion to approve the membership rates recommended, as well as the re-institution of Life Memberships (Levels 1, 2 or 3) as noted above. Bob Ferraro seconded the motion. A vote was taken and all members present/via phone approved. Motion passed.

Per the Federation By-laws, this information must be made available to each member in advance either directly by mail or by timely notice in the Federation's official periodical (*Bottles and Extras*) or on the Federation website. Ferdinand Meyer and Jim Bender will ensure that this process is completed with a vote to be taken at the Membership Meeting in Chattanooga, TN on Friday, July 31, 2015. If approved, the FOHBC By-laws would then be amended as necessary.

Recognition of Life Membership: As a recognition of being an FOHBC Life Member, it was recommended that they receive a wallet-sized card as well as a wall certificate and this was approved by board members.

Member Portal:

Ferdinand Meyer briefly reported on the change in obtaining permission for access to the member portal on the FOHBC website. Due to spam/security issues, members are requested to contact Ferdinand when wishing to register for the member portal.

Agenda C: FOHBC *Bottles and Extras* - Ferdinand Meyer, Martin Van Zant

Delivery of the magazine has been on time. Ferdinand reviewed the scheduled time frames in order to continue getting the magazine out in a timely manner. For instance, files goes to Ferdinand for initial design; then back to Martin for layout/finishing; now to the Editorial Committee for proofing; material is then uploaded to the printer for printing and binding. Mailing is ready by the 13th of the month (i.e., May-June ready for mailing by April 13th). Anything needing to be published in the magazine, needs to be sent to Ferdinand as soon as is possible in order to keep within the scheduled time frames.

Action taken:

No action taken.

Agenda D: FOHBC Website - Ferdinand Meyer V

After assuming responsibility for the website, Ferdinand reported that it is at the point where it is pretty much complete. Information is added almost daily to keep it up-to-date. Andrew Vuono has also begun to help with SEO (search engine operations).

Action taken: No action taken.

Agenda E: FOHBC Virtual Museum – Ferdinand Meyer

The virtual museum fund raising continues; however, we are at less than 50% of our goal at this time. A video for fund raising purposes is being done, but not complete yet. Alan DeMaison will have a display at Chattanooga for the virtual museum. The video will be shown as well as holding a raffle for three blankets (donated by Alan) to help raise funds for the virtual museum.

Action taken: No action taken.

Agenda F: 2015 National Antique Bottle Show, Chattanooga, TN - Ferdinand Meyer V (Jack Hewitt and John Joiner, Co-Chairs (not in attendance)

Ferdinand gave an updated report:

76 Dealers

127 tables

58 banquet tickets

6 one-year memberships

4 three-year memberships

4 displays

232 rooms reserved (out of 270). Rooms need to be reserved in order to get another group at the same rate of \$110 per night.

Updates:

Advertising is being worked on by Bill Johnson for the Souvenir Program.

The auction is being handled by Daniel Auction Company. Jim Daniel is in need of consignments and FOHBC board members are asked to help in any way they can with either offering bottle(s) for consignment and/or asking others for help.

The Battle of Chattanooga bottle competition logo has been designed and is on the website. Categories are: (1) Colored Sodas; (2) Sauces (peppersauce, ketchup, durkees, oyster, etc.); and (3) Best Bottle South of the Mason-Dixon Line.

Show Souvenir Program design is being worked on.

Official Show Photographer - Mallory Boyle.

Displays - only four committed at this time. Need a few more.

Board Meeting is scheduled for Friday, July 31st 8:00 am to noon.

General Membership meeting is scheduled for Friday, July 31st 2:00 to 3:00 pm.

The feature article for *Bottles and Extras* (for the Sept/Oct issue) will need to be done as soon as possible to meet the previously discussed scheduled time frames.

Action taken: No action taken.

Agenda G: 2016 National Antique Bottle Convention and Expo - Ferdinand Meyer V

It was agreed that starting in 2016, 'Expo' will be included in the name of our show.

Ferdinand reported that Richard Siri will be the Chair for this show. He has already started working on the Convention including meeting those at the hotel and convention center. He has point persons in place dealers, seminars, displays, etc.

Ferdinand discussed the regular events scheduled such as the board and membership meetings, dealer registration, banquet, shoot-out, etc. The group briefly talked about holding a "dealer and early buyer barbeque" on the first evening (Thursday). It will be a Federation event but would be sponsored privately.

Brief discussion was held regarding the addition of the word "Expo" to our show title. Expo was previously used but dropped recently.

Action taken:

Approval was given by the board for Ferdinand Meyer to continue directing, with Richard Siri, this Federation event.

Agenda H: 2017 Convention and Expo, Northeast Region - Ferdinand Meyer V

At this time, there have been no responses from member clubs showing interest in hosting the 2017 show. If no support is found for the Northeast, the region may have to forfeit and we would move on to the Midwest Region.

Several members showed interest in pursuing the Northeast, however, rather than pass it up.

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Action taken: Jim Bender, Jim Berry and Andrew Vuono will investigate options available in the Northeast. Note: Bob Strickhart was added to the team later in the day.

Agenda I: 2018 Convention and Expo, Midwest Region - Matt Lacy, Louis Fifer

Matt Lacy reported that they have looked at Cleveland and Columbus, Ohio, with the possibility of the Ohio Bottle Club hosting. Matt reported on convention centers as well as many tourist attractions in the area.

Action taken: No action taken.

Agenda J: Financial Report - Gary Beatty, Elizabeth Meyer

A Financial Report was distributed to members present. Elizabeth briefly reviewed. There were no concerns or questions at this time.

Action Taken: No action taken.

Agenda K: FOHBC Hall of Fame

Three submissions for the FOHBC Hall of Fame have been received. Elizabeth Meyer distributed copies to each board member present. Digital copies had been previously distributed. There were no nominations for Honor Roll.

Ferdinand recapped the criteria required for Hall of Fame nominees. Per Hall of Fame Guidelines and Regulations, “no more than 2 persons may be inducted into the Hall of Fame per year.” It is also noted that approval must be by a 2/3 majority vote of the entire Board.

Hall of Fame Nominations submitted -

Nomination 1: Ralph Finch submitted by John Pastor

Nomination 2: Adam Koch submitted by Gene Bradberry

Nomination 3: Tommy Mitchiner submitted by Bill Baab

Action taken:

Discussion regarding each Hall of Fame submission was held among board members. It was then determined that we do not have a quorum to hold a vote. A recommendation was made that a silent vote be held. Therefore, Elizabeth Meyer will

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prepare a ballot form and e-mail to every board member. Members will be asked to respond to her only with their vote by a deadline date given. Elizabeth will then tally the vote and follow up by e-mail informing board members of the results.

Agenda L: FOHBC Merchandise - Val Berry

Val talked about the merchandise on hand at this time which includes, t-shirts; denim shirts (long and short sleeved), embroidered short-sleeve collared shirts, hats, mugs. It was suggested that the website “Shop” page should be updated to include the mugs (both Virtual Museum and FOHBC), hat color (khaki and navy-and we previously had denim). Also, a shipping charge is currently being looked into for web order items.

Ferdinand will work with Jack Hewitt to design and order Chattanooga T-shirts. The cost of these shirts will be considered a show expenditure. Income from the sale will also be considered show revenue. Jack also has other items (our train logo magnet) which will be available at the show.

Other items for FOHBC merchandise was briefly looked at. Possible items suggested was a small “ultra-violet” flashlight, a gift pen, letter opener, window sticker.

Action taken:

Val will prepare to order merchandise (particularly polo shirts/embroidered shirts/hats/t-shirts) to ensure a good amount will be available for Chattanooga. Other items for possible inclusion of FOHBC merchandise will be investigated and reviewed with Ferdinand.

Agenda M: Slide Programs - Ferdinand Meyer V

It remains a goal to convert our slide programs to DVDs. Alan DeMaison has agreed to help with this. Slide programs could be offered as slides and text to be narrated or a completed program with narrative (start the computer, sit back and enjoy).

Action taken:

No action taken at this time.

Agenda N: FOHBC History - Ferdinand Meyer V, Jim Bender

Due to the passing of long-time FOHBC Historian Dick Watson, Jim Bender has been approved to assume the Historian position. Jim has been working on the history of the

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Federation with Dick for the past few years. A 'History's Corner' was developed for *Bottles and Extras* and contains bits of information ("Did you know . . .") of FOHBC history. Jim and Dick also arranged a wonderful display of FOHBC information at the 2015 Lexington National show.

As a result of Jim's move to Historian, the position of Membership Director is open. We continue to search for a Convention Director as well.

Action taken:

No action taken.

Agenda O: General Discussion, Conclusion

A printed membership directory was discussed. It is available on-line on the FOHBC website.

The next year for FOHBC election of officers will be held in 2016. Members are asked to think ahead to be prepared for nominations, ballot mailing, etc.

At this time, Jack Hewitt, one of the co-chairs for the Chattanooga show, arrived. Jack gave a quick update on advertising commitments for the souvenir program, show t-shirts, auction consignments, etc. He also commented on the many vacation tourist sites to visit including museums – aviation, civil war, Coca-Cola - aquariums, etc.

Any and all help with auction consignments is appreciated. If there are any questions regarding the Chattanooga show, please contact Jack or John Jointer.

The Meeting of the FOHBC Board of Directors was adjourned at 11:32 am EST.

Respectfully submitted,

James Berry, Secretary