



Federation of Historical Bottle Collectors

FOHBC Board Meeting Minutes

Board of Directors Conference Call / Zoom #4 Meeting November 10, 2021 8:00pm EST

President John O'Neill called the conference call/Zoom meeting of the Federation to order at 8pm EST.

Present: John O'Neill, President
Michael Seeliger, Second Vice-President
Jim Berry, Treasurer
Elizabeth Meyer, Business Manager
Ferdinand Meyer V, Director-at-Large
Eric McGuire, Western Region Director
Val Berry, Secretary, Merchandise Director

Guests: Bill Taylor
Bill Mitchell

Absent: Jeff Wichmann, First Vice-President
Richard Siri, Director-at-Large
Steve Lang, Midwest Region Director
Jake Smith, Southern Region Director
Fred DeCarlo, Northeast Region Director

AGENDA A: Call to Order (O'Neill) Welcome, Attendance, Roll Call, Guest Recognition

John O'Neill welcomed those in attendance for the conference/zoom meeting. Roll call was taken for board members. There were two guests present.

This Zoom meeting #4 is a continuation of the FOHBCs conference calls.

AGENDA U: Display Awards (Meyer)

A brief discussion was held in reference to the 2019 Augusta National Show display awards. It was reported that several complaints were received regarding the fact that one person won all three awards. It was noted that there are two awards given by the Federation – Best in Show and Most Educational. The third award, People's Favorite, is given by John Pastor. Discussion expanded into the ballot process and security. It was agreed that ballots and ballot box will be supervised better; i.e., not having a lot of blank ballots lying around. Ballots are per person and should be placed in the packets that are given to vendors, early buyers, etc. Each paid admission will be given one ballot per person for display voting. It was also agreed that the ballot box will be placed at the front FOHBC desk.

AGENDA V: Revisit Item F Board Elections (V. Berry, E. Meyer)

Elections should be following the bylaws, however, with the Covid-19 pandemic, no election has been held since 2018. In election year 2020, Board members were questioned as to whether they would remain on the board; several who fulfilled their 2016-2018 term declined. The President, per bylaws, appointed several new board members to fill these positions. Several remain open. The next election year is 2022. Ferdinand reviewed the election process. Anyone wishing to fill or run for a position must complete a nomination form and submit to the Election Committee by April 1st of 2022. A new two-year slate (2022-2024) needs to be completed. The election process is challenging, but the bylaws were revised to read that if there is no competition for positions, paper ballots will not have to be mailed to every member.

Elizabeth Meyer will review membership information to see who checked that they may be interested in being an officer. Information regarding positions available will be published in the magazine and John O'Neill will also address the issue in his President's Message. Board members are asked to help solicit members who may be willing to serve on the board.

AGENDA W: Revisit Board Realignment, Fill Vacancies, Distribute Workload (Meyer)

Ferdinand questioned the need to have 19 board members - should there be more or less? He is studying the relevancy of what is happening now regarding collecting and the world; there is nothing we can do now on our own to change positions before Reno. Ferdinand has agreed to study and resurrect his 12-step presentation regarding realignment of board positions and regions. He will give options to consider.

Regarding realignment of regions, John O'Neill said the U.S. is such a big place, he feels some areas do not have access to Federation officers. He has heard some complaints that there is no Federation person to talk to. Having more regional representatives reiterates and confirms the importance of the Federation and the things we actually do. More regional representation gives us a better footprint.

Regarding the distribution of the workload, Ferdinand briefly discussed what has to be done daily, weekly, monthly, etc., - certain things that have to be done to keep the website, PR, social media going and up-to-date. Right now, one person is doing this and the workload should be distributed. He has received emails from some board members saying they want to help but don't know where or how. Ferdinand will help work on this.

AGENDA X: Update on Magazine Merger (Meyer)

Ferdinand reported the merger is on schedule. The January/February issue is being prepared to streamline into the new magazine (March/April). Ferdinand is working on designs to show the board on what the new transitional magazine will look like. The name is *Antique Bottle & Glass Collector*.

The goal is to try and retain the best of both magazines. Ferdinand has received positive comments regarding the merger. All FOHBC members will receive notification by December 1st. John Pastor's subscribers will receive notification by January 1st.

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Ferdinand reviewed the duties of the Business Manager, Elizabeth Meyer. The workload of the Business Manager has increased and with the magazine merger, it is expected to increase further. With regard to the staff of John Pastor's magazine, it was anticipated that the FOHBC could hire one staff member to assist Elizabeth. This, however, will not work out. Ferdinand and John will follow up with finding someone to assist.

AGENDA Y: Conclusion of Bi-Annual Meeting; Any Other Business? Path Forward (O'Neill)
Having zoom conference calls more often and keeping time limits to a minimum, has worked out well.

Reminder: Due to the Thanksgiving holiday, the next conference call will be in three weeks rather than two weeks.

Have a great Thanksgiving Holiday.

The conference call was ended at 8:52pm EST
The next Zoom meeting #5 will be held on Wednesday, December 1, 2021 8pm EST

Respectfully submitted,
Val Berry, Secretary