

Federation of Historical Bottle Collectors

FOHBC Board Meeting Minutes

Board of Directors Conference Call / Zoom Meeting

January 5, 2022 8:00 pm EST

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

Present: John O'Neill, President
Jeff Wichmann, First Vice-President
Richard Siri, Director-at-Large
Ferdinand Meyer V, Director-at-Large
Jim Berry, Treasurer
Elizabeth Meyer, Business Manager
Val Berry, Secretary, Merchandise Director
Eric McGuire, Western Region Director
Steve Lang, Midwest Region Director
Fred DeCarlo, Northeast Region Director

Absent: Michael Seeliger, Second Vice-President
Jake Smith, Southern Region Director

Agenda 1: Opening Remarks, Roll Call (O'Neill)

John O'Neill welcomed those in attendance. Roll call was taken for board members. There were no guests present.

John extended everyone a Happy New Year. He reminded us that we are all serving in a volunteer capacity, and he appreciates everything that everyone is doing. John wants all to feel open and express any remarks they would like. Our efforts are for the organization and the ultimate goals of the Federation. Decisions are made as a board and not individually.

Agenda 2: Antique Bottle & Glass Collector Merger Status (F. Meyer)

Ferdinand reported that the final issue of *Bottles and Extras* (January–February 2022) magazine went out with a letter from John O'Neill to new members. Ferdinand did receive one email stating a disappointment that someone said how could six magazines a year be better than 18 (six *Bottles and Extras* and twelve *Antique Bottle & Glass Collector*). However, many compliments were received and Ferdinand noted that many people are still not aware of the merger.

The March–April 2022 *Antique Bottle & Glass Collector* magazine issue is on schedule; but work is needed in reference to advertisements, wanted ads, etc. The May–June 2022 issue is being worked on at this time.

The printer, Modern Litho, reports that they are still having to deal with 8-10 day working day turnaround because of work shortages and supply chain shortages. Elizabeth Meyer is working with the printer regarding Library rates.

The magazine schedule for the March–April issue has been sent and Ferdinand asked those who submit reports if they could please stick to the schedule.

Any subscription monies sent to John Pastor after January 1st will be forwarded to the FOHBC. Both subscription lists have been merged by Elizabeth plus new members received from Jeff Wichmann (auction people) will be added. Ferdinand noted that there were many *Antique Bottle & Glass*



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Collector subscribers who were not Federation members. Ferdinand is working on creating a “master, master list of antique bottle and glass collectors.” Ferdinand estimates that 85% of Facebook followers are not members of the FOHBC. He wants to combine all lists to send the newsletter to everyone estimating that it will reach well over 3,000 people.

Jeff Wichmann talked to someone who was not happy about receiving only six issues; but Jeff responded noting that those six issues will be way more entertaining plus all the additional benefits of being an FOHBC member.

John O’Neill asked Ferdinand if he had an estimate in terms of FOHBC membership that would be paying subscription dues. Ferdinand said we currently have around 700 or so and will increase to close to 2,000. Elizabeth will send the membership list to board members within 10 working days or so as she continues to work on it.

John O’Neill feels that the potential for advertising revenue is good, however, we need to have an advertising director in place. The goal is to make the magazine self-sufficient. Jeff Wichmann would like to be involved with advertisement sales. Ferdinand will send information to Jeff. He also noted that the committee should review the advertisement rates.

Agenda 3: Hall of Fame Nomination (E. Meyer)

Elizabeth Meyer reported that one Hall of Fame nomination packet has been received for Jerry McCann. She will prepare the information to send to board members via email. They will be asked to review the nomination. The person who submitted the nomination will present the application during a Zoom call. Elizabeth will then prepare a ballot form and email to every board member. Members will be asked to respond to her only with their vote by a deadline given. Votes will be tallied, and an email will be sent informing board members of the results.

Agenda 4: Reno 2022 Update (Siri)

Richard Siri reported that the show is on. They are working on trophies for the Shootout. Table sales are coming in, slowly at this time but it is expected this will increase with the new year. An additional deposit will be made in March to the venue. The souvenir program is being worked on and other components are needed, i.e., seminar information, bio on banquet speaker, etc. Eric McGuire will work on this and forward to Ferdinand for the souvenir program.

Elizabeth Meyer reported that the State of Nevada has denied tax exempt status. Information was sent to Richard Siri who will follow up.

The souvenir poker chips Richard was going to have made was initially approved by the convention, however, they were rejected by the casino.

Agenda 5: FOHBC Club Contests (E. Meyer)

Elizabeth reported she has been receiving submittals for the contest. Emails were sent to FOHBC clubs with the information on the contests and a follow-up email will be sent. Ferdinand will send a link regarding the club contest information to board members. Contests include writing articles, club websites, newsletters, social media and show poster/flyer. Articles from *Antique Bottle & Glass Collector* magazine will be included this year. Clubs, as well as individual FOHBC members, can submit their own entries.

Agenda 6: Virtual Museum Checking Account (F. & E. Meyer)

The Virtual Museum checking account is handled by Alan DeMaison. Although one person can sign checks, two additional signers are needed in case a back-up is required. At this time, the two signers on

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the account are no longer associated with the FOHBC. Therefore, it would be prudent to add two approved signers. The Virtual Museum committee would like to pursue two people, but they are not board members.

Agenda 7: John Pastor Invoices (F. Meyer Overview and Discussion)

Invoices from past FOHBC advertisements in John Pastor's magazine from 2015 to present were reviewed. John O'Neill feels that this is an accounting issue, but we have a commitment to pay these invoices. Ferdinand placed the ads, and he reviewed the process. Invoices will be paid.

Agenda 8: Board Positions (All) Full Slate this Month

Ferdinand reported that there still are open positions for board members. Elizabeth has gone through the membership list to see who indicated they would be interested in serving on the board. Ferdinand would like to send an email to Federation members asking if they would be interested in holding a position. He is hoping to have a 2022-2024 slate with every position filled. John O'Neill suggested having some of these people serve on a committee first, but it would be better if we had a full slate.

It was noted that board positions were going to be reviewed and possibly eliminate a couple. Ferdinand suggested putting this on the agenda in a month or two and he will present his findings. If approved by the board, it could be presented to the membership at the FOHBC membership breakfast meeting in Reno.

The conference call was ended at 9:00 pm EST

The next conference call/Zoom meeting be held on Tuesday, February 1, 2022.

Respectfully submitted,

Val Berry, Secretary