

Federation of Historical Bottle Collectors

FOHBC Board Meeting Minutes

Board of Directors Conference Call / Zoom Meeting

4 October 2022, 7:00 pm CST

President Michael Seeliger called the video conference call to order at 7pm CST.

Present: Michael Seeliger, President
Elizabeth Meyer, Business Manager
Jim Berry, Treasurer
Richard Kramerich, Public Relations Director,
Ferdinand Meyer V, Director-at-Large
Eric McGuire, Western Region Director
Jake Smith, Southern Region Director
Craig Cassetta, Historian
Charlie Martin, Northeast Region Director
Henry Hecker, Midwest Region Director
John O'Neill, Director at Large
Alice J. Seeliger, Secretary

Absent: Richard Siri, Treasurer
Jeff Wichmann, First Vice President

Michael Seeliger welcomed those in attendance. Roll call was taken for board members. An Agenda had been distributed prior to the meeting and was displayed. There were no guests announced in the roll call.

Old Business:

1. Contact with National Bottle Museum regarding permanent exhibit. Jim Berry/Seeliger

Michael contacted Elie Dillon who is in charge of the NBM. She is receptive to including FOHBC displays, including Hall of Fame recipients, Virtual Museum, Web Site and FOHBC information including perhaps a loop video. It is not known at this time how much space they would allow for this. Elie Dillon indicated she would call Michael back when she has more information. Michael will continue corresponding with her. Jim Berry had not heard anything from the NBM.

2. Magazine rate increase suggestions. F. Meyer

Ferd is not ready to present rates increase schedule. He indicated the process would be that he would contact the large auction houses by letter and announce the rate increase. He mentioned a 20% increase but this was preliminary. Next, display ad rates would be increased. Only FOHBC member clubs get the 50% discount and Ferd suggested this be reduced to 25%. Ferd will be preparing a suggested rate schedule to present to the board. Michael requested that Ferd prepare a monthly report of ads sold/revenue for each issue. Elizabeth keeps a Google document recording all ads placed and payments received. She will send this to Alice since she has a Google account. Alice will share this with Michael. After he reviews it, Elizabeth will set up a spreadsheet. Ferd will prepare a statement for this issue for the next board meeting.

3. Audit report for June 2022. J. Berry

The accountant is working on the 990, tax refund of \$1700 filed with Tennessee. He needs some information from Elizabeth on Paypal transfers, deposits, and balances.

4. Merchandise Transfer. M. Seeliger, J. Berry



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Michael was supposed to have contacted Val Berry to determine what inventory she is storing in preparation for having that sent to Chi-Chi as approved by Jeff Wichmann. He did not do that, but Val Berry, who was with Jim Berry, indicated that she would inventory and send the merchandise. The inventory should be reported to the board. Michael asked that she consolidate it in appropriate boxes for sending by UPS and give him the sizes and weights of the boxes so that he can prepare UPS shipping labels and email those to the Berrys. Elizabeth will obtain the appropriate mailing address and provide that to Michael. This needs to be done as soon as possible. Richard Siri has the t-shirts from the Reno 2022 show and Elizabeth or Michael will ask that he get those to Chi-Chi also. Elizabeth will provide Siri with Chi-Chi's address.

5. Online seminars. F. Meyer, M. Seeliger

Several suggestions were presented for these seminars including Jeff Mahalik's "Digging" seminar information about which Ferd will send to Michael. Another suggestion was Mike and Kathie Craig's professionally produced video of the Warner display from the Sacramento National show in 2018. A video tour of the Virtual Museum is also a possibility.

6. Hall of Fame nominee request status. E. Meyer

According to the Bylaws, a committee needs to be set up to formalize this process. Jerry McCann's nomination was previously approved but the award has not yet been presented due to National Show cancellations as a result of Covid. Preparation time ran out to do this at the Reno 2022 show, but this should be presented as soon as possible. Bylaws limit the number of recipients to two per year.

Elizabeth noted that the email she received from a non-FOHBC member who wished to present a nomination was put on hold pending direction from the board. She questioned whether a non-member can make a nomination and explained that there is a formal process for making a nomination. There are specific forms to be completed but these have not been sent to the nominator. Referencing the Bylaws, the nominator must be a FOHBC member, but the award recipient does not need to be. Elizabeth will contact the nominator and ask if he would like to become a member or find a member who will present the nomination for him.

Michael appointed Elizabeth Meyer and himself to the Hall of Fame committee.

Unfinished Business:

1. Bonding. Decision on this needs to be made.

Elizabeth received a quotation of \$895 for bonding of all board members and show chairman and anyone who handles money for a national show. This would also include Virtual Museum directors who handle Federation money. John O'Neill made a motion to accept this proposal for bonding coverage, Charlie Martin seconded. No discussion. All directors present voted Yes and the motion passed unanimously. Elizabeth will work with the insurance company to institute the bonding policy.

2. Check signatures.

Current signers are Jim Berry, Elizabeth Meyer, and Val Berry. Since Val Berry is no longer on the board, she should be removed from the account. Jim and Val Berry will need to personally go to the bank and request this change. Michael, as President, will prepare a letter which will accompany a copy of these minutes requesting this change.

Jim will get the appropriate papers from the bank to send to Michael for signature and notarization. The bank will be instructed that only one signature is required on a check. Jim Berry will remain the owner of the account. The signers will be Jim Berry, Elizabeth Meyer and Michael Seeliger. The completed papers will be returned to the bank with a cover letter from Michael, as President, as well as a copy of these minutes. Motion by Michael Seeliger to add his signature, require only one signature on checks, and list Jim Berry as account owner with Jim Berry, Elizabeth Meyer, and Michael Seeliger as signers. Seconded by Alice Seeliger. Motion carried unanimously.

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New Business:

1. Bylaws Committee progress report

No meeting was held since the last board meeting.

2. PR Director Report. Kramerich

Richard has sent packets to Charlie Martin for shows he will be attending. Richard will be taking FOHBC info to a number of events he will be attending. Richard had sent a mockup of an announcement-type card that he will work on with Ferd which includes a QR code. These could be handed out at shows, distributed to libraries for bulletin boards, etc. He is looking for feedback from Michael, Elizabeth, Ferd, and Alice to whom he sent the mockup. The cards will be a great addition to FOHBC's marketing information.

Jake Smith will also be attending shows with the first one being this coming Saturday. Ideas for ribbons, stands, and name tags "ask me about FOHBC membership" were shared. Elizabeth noted we are out of ribbons and more need to be ordered. She will get a quote from the supplier and bring that back to the board.

3. Website update report.

Tabled.

4. Membership Meeting for 2023. M. Seeliger

Tabled.

5. Bottles 101. M.Seeliger

Tabled.

6. Gift Digital memberships. M.Seeliger

Tabled.

7. Website Loop project.

Michael wants to get Conner Rush, a new member, involved in this.

8. Budget.

Michael concluded the meeting with a statement that he has been working on putting together a budget and will share that with the board when he has received all the necessary information.

The conference call ended at approx. 8:20 pm CST. The next conference call date is undetermined.

The foregoing conveys our understanding of items discussed and decisions reached during this meeting. The FOHBC will assume these notes correct and as a matter of record unless notice to the contrary is brought to our attention within one (1) week of the issue date of these meeting notes.

Respectfully submitted,

Alice J. Seeliger, Secretary