

CBA Board Meeting Agenda and Minutes

Thursday, 4/16/20 teleconference, 7-9pm Conducted by Zoom Meeting

Officers and Board members:

- Miguel de Los Rios: President
- Paul Boulay: Vice President
- Victoria Ritter: Treasurer
- Craig Litwin: Secretary

Board Members

- Beth Holmberg *
- Celeste Flores
- Dan Perkins
- Gary Standke
- Jeff Hunter

***Indicates absent**

Guests: Mike Mumford

AGENDA

1. Attendance and Agenda

- Attendance – Craig Litwin, interim Secretary
 - Roll: Board Members See above
- Additions to the Agenda – Miguel de Los Rios
- Approval of Agenda – Miguel de Los Rios
 - Approved

2. Approval of Minutes – Craig Litwin

- Approved of PROPOSED CBA Board Meeting Minutes, 3/12/20
Emergency email vote of the Board of Directors
 - MOTION: Gary Moves Approval, Victoria seconds, passes unanimously**

3. Officer's Reports

- President's Report
- Vice President's Report
- Treasurer's Report
- ~~Secretary's Report~~

4. Board Appointees by the President

- Eric Chang

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- i. Several years ago, I was on the board for one term, and I worked with the safety committee to come up with a safer reference design for a CBA gas forge that lessened the risk from inhaling airborne particulates from ceramic wool insulation. I am interested in helping make blacksmithing more approachable, thorough education and other means, such as de-mystifying the characterization of homebuilt anvils as documented in the Physics of Anvils article series in the magazine.
- ii. Some additional information:
 - 1. I am the resident smith at Hidden Villa, a non-profit educational organization in Los Altos Hills which focuses on organic farming, environmental awareness, and social justice. I am also part of the group from the CBA which demonstrates period blacksmithing during the summer at Pioneer History Village in Wawona, Yosemite. My home has a fairly well equipped metal shop which includes a blacksmith setup, as well as welders, torches, a mill and a lathe. My day job is in using computational chemistry for doing drug discovery, specifically on the screening and docking of small molecule candidates for protein targets.

b. Greg Hudgins

- i. I have participated in every local CBA event that I could get to starting in 2013. The Placerville Conference was my first, I worked in the Gallery with Marti and her team. I am a photographer and a hobby blacksmith.

c. Michael Suwczynsky

- i. I have decades of legal/administrative experience, working for senior partners of law firms and training new attorneys in the specifics of my field (workers' compensation), and frequently have to work collaboratively with strong personalities to get our mutual needs met, especially when at odds on bigger issues. I'm also a determined amateur smith with deep respect and admiration for this craft and this organization, and happy to help any way I can.

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MOTION: Miguel moves to appoint, and Paul seconds, proposed members of the board made by the President to join the board. Passes unanimously.

5. Spring Conference Aftermath (Paul)

- a. Conference postponed approximately when the CA Governor cancelled social events. Multiple projects were being worked on and monies spent that left us with some supplies and tools, but also with a financial loss. Fortunately, we postponed the event before some higher dollar amount items were paid for.
- b. **ACTION:** Paul to check with Bondi about getting a credit for flights that were purchased for presenters. Said bills have not yet been submitted to CBA Treasurer.

6. Budget Presentation (Victoria)

- a. Treasurer's Report
 - i. Projected loss to next year's budget is \$30k since we lost the Spring Conference.
 - ii. Proposed to raise funds in order to increase our reserves to \$60k by end of year.
- b. Proposed Budget Cuts
 - i. **ACTION:** Dan Perkins generously offered to not collect his monthly stipend in order that the CBA can save some money. Victoria Ritter noted that she has also offered the same.
 - ii. **ACTION:** Jeff and Mike to work together to get bids from other mailhouse and printing services.
- c. Proposed New Sources of Revenue
 - i. Two committees
 1. Membership and Donations (President, Co Chairs, Craig and Paul, Michael Suwczinsky, Eric)
 - a. Ideas
 - i. Sustaining donations
 2. New sources of Revenue (President, Co Chairs, Jeff and Celeste, Paul)
 - a. Ideas:
 - i. Bidding online
 - ii. Online forge parties
 - iii. Jeff willing to offer ebay shirt sales
 1. **ACTION:** Jeff and Victoria to talk offline about next steps.

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- iv. CBA store on the website
- v. Grants
- vi. Working with those who want to give of their estate
- vii. Raffles
- viii. Assets for sale, such as some of our incredible art collection
 - 1. Consider what to do with the Ferndale Art Studio. **ACTION:** Dan offered to pick these up and bring them to our storage area in Loomis, in early May, and at least bring them to a secure spot.
ACTION: Paul to forward inventory to Dan. **ACTION:** Need to coordinate with Joey Koches. Paul to communicate with Joey and report back to Dan.
- ix. YouTube videos and seminars for paying members
- x. Work with video professionals
- xi. Mike Mumford offers a very generous \$2k donation! Paul to match! Victoria to match! Consideration being given how to make this a donation challenge to the total membership.

ACTION: Develop Polling Committee (President, Paul, Craig) Miguel to circulate draft questionnaire for members for input by the Board. Consider asking members when they started, for example. Market the survey by age group, and region. Gary will also look to polls he has participated in at other forges.

ACTION: Create Publication Committee (President, Mike, Michael, Greg, Celeste, Paul) Note that FABBA has an index of their past publications. Mike M will reach out to the editor to review.

ACTION: Craig to get Celeste logon for Wild Apricot to determine website edit functionality.

- 3. Proposal to pay fundraisers to help (Craig)
 - a. Begin with paying 15% commission to 1099 contract-fundraiser help renewing archived members.
 - b. **Postponed till future meeting**

d. BUDGET ACTION REQUIRED

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- i. Postponed till after fact finding efforts can proceed to raise more money

7. Magazine Committee

- a. We are in print and they will be mailing next Monday. Calendar just landed. More articles are needed for the upcoming magazine. **ACTIONS:** Victoria to send her article to Mike. Jeff can get Zander to write an article. Victoria can ghost write. Jeff Pringle could be interviewed. Mike M has done this in the past. Greg will help with this committee.

8. Education Committee

- a. Discussion of cutting the education fund. Dan expressed we could cut it in half or as much as a fourth this year would suffice, if needed.

9. Correspondence:

- a. Action- Send a condolence card to family member Joy Chase- EA Chase, **ACTIONS:** Mike M to send Craig address for Joy. Craig to send condolence card.

10. Open Time: Comments and Questions:

- a. General consensus to move to six board meetings per year. Miguel and Craig to coordinate calendar and alert Board as to upcoming schedule.

11. Election of Officers

- a. Motion for current slate of officers to remain through 2020. Dan moves Mike seconds. Passes unanimously

12. Insurance, additional discussion

- a. **ACTION:** Miguel to forward updated list to Mike Mumford when it is complete, and to the other board members to double check accuracy.

13. Next BOD meeting

- a. General Membership Meeting, time/date
 - i. ACTION to coordinate offline

14. Move for adjournment

- a. Miguel moves and Victoria seconds. Passes unanimously.