2022 Regular Annual Meeting of the Membership FINAL Minutes
To be approved at the National Convention in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, in Year 2023

Saturday, June 25, 2022
Dayton Convention Center
22 E. 5th Street
Dayton, Ohio, 45402

Board Chair Rhett Lucke called the Regular Annual Meeting of the National Association of Watch and Clock Collectors, Inc. (NAWCC) to order at 8:05 a.m. EDT. He welcomed all in attendance and thanked them for their participation.

The General Chairs for the 2022 NAWCC National Convention Earl Harlamert (Buckeye Chapter 23) and Rich Newman (British Horology Chapter 159) were recognized by Chairman Lucke for their hard work and efforts to make the convention a success. Lu Sadowski, who passed away on April 23 of this year, was recognized for the many contributions making the NAWCC successful.

The NAWCC Board Members present were introduced by the Chair:

Chairman Rhett Lucke
Treasurer Jay Dutton
Director Leroy Baker
Director Tom Compton
Director Cathy Gorton
Director Renee Coulson
Director Philip Morris

Vice-Chairman Rich Newman
Secretary Sherry Kitts
Director Bob Burton
Director John Cote was absent

The NAWCC Headquarters staff in attendance at the National was recognized by Chair Lucke: James Campbell, Research Library Supervisor and Museum Curator; Marlo Davis, Member Services Manager; Laura Taylor, Managing Editor; and Seth Huber, Information Technology (IT) and Chapter Relations Specialist.

Chair recognized the Old Timers (200 lowest membership numbers) and Golden Circle (50-year) members. Jim Coulson qualified for both distinctions. Past NAWCC Chairmen and Presidents were also recognized: Rich Newman, Frank Del Greco, and Judy Draucker (Chairs) and Jim Coulson and Fred Ingram (Presidents). Fellows and Silver Star Fellows were recognized.

Chair Lucke made the following Motion: To suspend the reading of the minutes from the 2021 Annual Meeting held in Hampton, Virginia, and approve as published. Motion seconded by Carroll Wolfe. Hearing no objections, the motion was approved by unanimous consent.
Chairman Lucke then called on Director Coulson to present the results of the membership referendum on the Bylaws and Articles of Incorporation proposed changes.

Director Coulson reported that on May 10, 2022, electronic ballots were sent using Survey Monkey to members in good standing with valid email addresses on file, and voting and tabulation concluded at midnight EST on June 6, 2022.

There were four amendments:

1. Amendment 1 proposed insubstantial changes of wordsmithing and removal of redundancies.
2. Amendment 2 proposed adding the Awards Committee to the committees which the Board Chair and Executive Director can serve in a non-voting advisory capacity. (The other two committees which they could not, and still cannot, serve in such capacity are the Ethics Committee and the Nominating and Elections Committee.)
3. Amendment 3 proposals also affect the Awards Committee. Changes include: recognizing that the Awards Committee does not, in fact, administer all awards; affords the Awards Committee Chair autonomy to select members which can include both current and past Directors; and eliminates the circular process of Awards Committee electing its Chair from members appointed by the Chair, bringing it in line with other committees whereby the Board appoints the Chair.
4. Amendment 4 proposes simplifying the composition and thus election cycles of the Board Directors by making the number of elected and appointed Directors 6 and 6, whereas it had been 7 and 5, respectively. This required a change to the Bylaws as well as the Articles of Incorporation. Filing an amended Articles of Incorporation entails a fee, and therefore the proposal is to revise the Articles in a manner which allows the number and composition of Directors to be modified, within limits, as seen best suited to operation of the organization at the time.

These proposals had already been recommended by a 3/4 vote of the Board of Directors. The Membership Referendum Voting required a minimum of 2/3 affirmative response of the members voting and the results were as follows:

Amendment 1: approved by 94.61% of members voting
Amendment 2: approved by 95.15% of members voting
Amendment 3: approved by 93.64% of members voting
Amendment 4: approved by 93.61% of members voting

Approximately 14% of the members receiving electronic ballots voted, which is a 3% increase from our last Bylaws vote.

Director Coulson gave a sincere thank you to the leadership staff at headquarters, the Governing Documents Committee, and to the Board of Directors who helped with this important initiative.

Chair Lucke then complimented the small staff in Columbia for their hard work and successful efforts. They are supported by great donors for whom we are thankful. Chair Lucke specifically mentioned Frank Del Greco’s work on the Public Time Gallery.
Chair Lucke discussed upcoming events:

1. The 80th Anniversary National Convention will be in Lancaster, PA. Convention Chairs are Rich Newman and Leroy Baker. See them if you want to volunteer.
2. The 2022 Ward Francillon Time Symposium, “Horology’s Great Collectors,” is October 21-22 in New York, NY. Bob Frishman was thanked for all his efforts to bring this to fruition.
3. The 2023 Ward Francillon Time Symposium will be in Lancaster, PA, and will immediately follow the National Convention.

Chair Lucke also recognized the Nominating and Elections Committee (NEC) and its Chair Carroll Wolfe for their work in finding good candidates for the Board of Directors. The Chair encouraged anyone interested in serving the NAWCC in this way to talk to Carroll Wolfe. Additionally, if you would like to serve on any of the National Committees, get in touch with the Committee Chair and volunteer your services. This is largely a volunteer organization, and its success depends largely on volunteers.

During the interim time between the departure of the last Executive Director (ED) and the installation of our new ED Rory McEvoy, the entire Board spent a lot of time, along with the Oversight and Advancement Committee (OAC) keeping the organization running and improving headquarters efficiency. Appreciation is especially due to former Chair Jim Price and Treasurer Jay Dutton who spent at least a week of every month at headquarters to guide the NAWCC, Inc, and to rectify financial issues and statements.

ED McEvoy is appreciated for his perseverance during the last year. With ED McEvoy here, the Board focus will shift to a more strategic approach (future direction, alliances, and development). We will continue to be a working Board, but the ED will run the day-to-day operations at headquarters.

Chair Lucke mentioned the National, Regional, Symposium (NRS) Task Force which is considering changes which may contribute to a better member experience at NAWCC events, and how the NAWCC can best support these events.

Jay Dutton was then recognized by the Chair to provide the Treasurer’s Report. Treasurer Dutton began by recognizing the challenge of the last three years and expressed what a privilege it was to work with former Chair Jim Price, who was energetic and respectful of all. He and Jim complimented each other such that it was a great working partnership.

During COVID, we were able to manage with the staff working from home. Treasurer Dutton complimented the staff for securing our fair share of the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) funds, a total of $370,000. Staff efforts combined with the OAC kept the organization in the black for all three years. Last year, our net assets increased by $1.5 Million, and currently our total assets have grown to $8.1 Million. We have moved to using Quick Books, which is much less complicated than the accounting system we had been using. We maintained a balanced budget of $1.45 Million last year, and plan on a balanced budget of $1.9 Million this year. We hope to attract new members with the School of Horology. The Financial Reports are posted on the website and Jay Dutton is always open to questions.
Chair Lucke then recognized ED McEvoy for final comments. Rory has observed that Chapter Relations needs attention – that there could be better communication between the Chapters and headquarters. The onboarding process was very helpful for him as the organization is rather large and complex. He is grateful for the trustworthy and understandable accounting. ED McEvoy intends to be as frugal as possible. He gave a big thanks to the Board for their patience throughout the pandemic which kept him in the United Kingdom. The onboarding and the patience made the transition to the US much easier. He believes the newsletter is important and needs to be given the appropriate level of attention.

Chair Lucke announced that the meeting would be followed by a chance for members to ask questions and for door prizes to be presented.
Motion by Chair Lucke: That the Annual Meeting be adjourned.
Second by Fortunat Mueller-Maerki.
With no further business to conduct, Chair Lucke adjourned the meeting at 9:00 am EDT.