



**National Association of Watch and Clock Collectors, Inc.  
 Board of Directors ZOOM Meeting  
 January 09, 2024 @ 7:00 pm Eastern**

**OPEN MEETING – FINAL MINUTES**

**DIRECTORS PRESENT**

Leroy Baker, Director	Bob Burton, Treasurer	John Cote, Director
Renee Coulson, Vice Chair	Eliel Garcia, Director	Cathy Gorton, Director
Jarett Harkness, Director	Sherry Kitts, Secretary	Rhett Lucke, Chair
Philip Morris, Director	Geoffrey Parker, Director	Jeff Zuspan, Director

**EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS PRESENT**

Rory McEvoy, Executive Director
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<b>ITEM</b>	<b>SUBJECT</b>	<b>LEAD</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>Call to Order</b> Chair Lucke called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm EST.	Chair Lucke
<b>2</b>	<b>Welcome, Introductions, Meeting Procedures &amp; Announcements</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Roberts Rules of Order for Small Boards will be used.</li> <li>• Rory McEvoy and Laura Taylor and her team were complimented for the new format of the Bulletin.</li> <li>• Director Parker was thanked for taking the Chairmanship of the Development Committee; this should be an effective committee.</li> <li>• Guests Dave Coatsworth, Judy Draucker, Rich Newman, Tim Orr, Bob Pritzker, and John Scott were welcomed.</li> </ul>	Chair Lucke
<b>3</b>	<b>Roll Call</b> All Directors were present as well as Ex-Officio member Executive Director Rory McEvoy as noted in the chart above. Guests were present as noted in Item 2.	Secretary Kitts

ITEM	SUBJECT	LEAD
4	<b>MOTION by Secretary Kitts:</b> to approve the December 07, 2023, Board of Directors Meeting Minutes.	Secretary Kitts
	<b>SECOND by Treasurer Burton.</b>	
	<b>MOTION APPROVED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT.</b>	
5	<b>Treasurer Report</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We had a surplus in November, with \$174,000 income and \$127,000 expense.</li> <li>• No draw has been taken from the investment accounts this FY.</li> <li>• Liquidity is still well above the \$400,000 we are required to maintain.</li> <li>• Investment accounts are up about 10% for the year due to the positive market performance.</li> <li>• Membership was down in November but up in December.</li> <li>• Next year’s budget will be discussed in St. Augustine.</li> </ul>	Treas. Burton
6	<b>2024 National Convention Status Report</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Registrations: 161; Tables: 195; Banquet: 36; OTF: 4</li> <li>• The National has disappeared from the event website and ED McEvoy and Alex Simpkins are working to restore it. They are also working to implement online registration.</li> <li>• The Marriott is sold out but we are working to add some rooms.</li> <li>• Five of the 30 peak rooms at the Staybridge have been booked.</li> <li>• We are working on one additional hotel contract (Hampton Group).</li> <li>• Laura Taylor did a beautiful full page add plus the registration form in the January/February Bulletin. She is working on the first eblast sent to her by Fran Geier.</li> <li>• Pre-Convention Trip to Breslin Tower: 14 registrants (limit 20).</li> <li>• Time and Strike Workshop: 2 registrants (limit 8).</li> <li>• AWCI workshop details and link to register were added to the website.</li> <li>• Currently working on details of Chapter Meetings and Lectures. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➢ Five Specialty Chapters have asked for a meeting, four with lectures, one by ZOOM.</li> <li>➢ Geoff Parker has six confirmed lectures; working toward 8.</li> <li>➢ HSNY has confirmed a specific time; still unsure of what they will do.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• John Cote noted that he has been talking with Tag-Heuer’s Jeff Stein and they may participate.</li> </ul>	Co-Chair Kitts

**ITEM****SUBJECT****LEAD****7 Time Symposium Update**

- Director Gorton gave a shout-out to the Time Symposium Committee for their excellent work. A very special thanks to Howard Cohen for all his detailed efforts for the 2024 Time Symposium – “A Horological Tour of New England.”\* And a special nod to Bob Frishman for his valuable input.
- Registration (paper and on-line) is planned to be in place by the Florida Mid-Winter Regional.
- The theme of this year’s Symposium is “A Horological Tour of New England.”\* It will be held at the Public House in Sturbridge, MA, with trips to Old Sturbridge Village, the American Watch and Clock Museum, and Willard House.
- Future Symposiums have been outlined through 2029.
- The budget for the 2024 Symposium was presented.

Symposium  
Chair Gorton

\*The theme of the 2024 Time Symposium was changed by the Committee from “Early American Horology” to “A Horological Tour of New England” to better reflect the theme after the January 09 Board meeting.

**MOTION by Director Baker:** To approve the 2024 Symposium Budget as presented.

**SECOND by Secretary Kitts**

**MOTION APPROVED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT.**

**8 Awards Committee Report**

- Purpose of the Awards Committee is to review nominations and make recommendations for granting awards.
- The committee serves a purpose which satisfies the mission of the NAWCC.
- The Awards Committee does not have formal meetings as that is not needed to serve their purpose.
- A shout out was given to Marlo Davis who does such an admirable job of putting together the Award certificates and pins in a timely manner.
- The Awards Committee handbook is what is published on the website.
- In the last 12 months, the following have been granted:
  - 12 Fellow Awards
  - 2 Kenneth D Roberts – Snowden Taylor Horological Research Awards
  - 2 James W. Gibbs Literary Awards
  - 1 Star Fellow Award
- Since May, the Committee has approved:
  - 4 Fellow Awards
- A nomination for a Kenneth D. Roberts – Snowden Taylor Horological Research Award is being examined.

Awards  
Committee  
Chair Pritzker

**SUBJECT**

**LEAD**

**ITEM**

**8 Awards Committee Report (continued)**

- A setback occurred with the loss of Janet Oechsle. The committee is fortunate that Peggy Goodwin agreed to join the committee.
- April 1 would be a good target if one wants a nomination considered in time for the National event.
- All agree we need to encourage nominations from grass roots efforts.
- Chapter Relations can be effective in promoting nominations.
- Director Burton expressed appreciation for call for nominations in Bulletin.

Bob Pritzker was thanked for his thorough report.

Awards  
Committee  
Chair Pritzker

**9 Call for Motion to Approve NEC Handbook Revision**

- Tim Orr noted that the NEC is facing a big challenge in finding nominees for Board positions in the next election, and asked that all Directors consider potential candidates.
- Rich Newman was thanked for his “lion’s share” of the work on the handbook revision.

Chair Lucke

**MOTION by Vice-Chair Coulson:** That the Nominating and Elections Committee (NEC) Policies and Procedures Handbook revision be approved as provided previously for review.

**SECOND by Director Cote**

**MOTION APPROVED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT**

**10 Executive Director Remarks**

- ED McEvoy praised his team for the seamless continuation of activities during his vacation. When he returned, all was “running as normal.”
- Thanks to Legal Counsel Myron Mintz: his agreement with the Borough of Columbia supports proceeding with request for bids for upgrades to our HVAC system.
- We have retained GMS as a grant writer, and this is a great help since these efforts involve a very complex process.
- The spring of 2025 is a realistic goal for seeing results of attention to the HVAC system.
- A new point of sales system has been launched to support commercial operations.

ED McEvoy

**ITEM****SUBJECT****LEAD****10 Executive Director Remarks (continued)****10**

- A tougher challenge is the membership database. iMIS has caused us to spend quite a lot on maintenance and it is a problem in interfaces. For instance, it cannot interface with QuickBooks.
- A draft proposal from a software company with which ED McEvoy has had good experience was presented. The company, Summit Computing, is based in the UK but software development is not limited geographically. Our museum has experience with them in the development of the Hamilton database.
- The retainer/license fee for the Summit Proposal compares very favorably with what we are currently paying Joe Johns. We anticipate a \$25,000 retainer/license fee for 2024 from Joe Johns, plus hourly costs for overcoming problems. Summit will charge \$250/month for retainer/license.
- iMIS software is outdated and that offered by Summit Computing is current industry standard.

**MOTION by Director Baker:** To approve Summit Computing Proposal as presented.

**SECOND by Vice-Chair Coulson**

**MOTION APPROVED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT**

**11 Plans for Florida Mid-Winter In-Person Board Meeting**

Chair Lucke

February 14, 2024, 8 am – 5 pm

Chair Lucke anticipates two main topics for this in-person Board meeting:

1. Review, and if possible approve, the next FY budget.
2. Consider Board moving from day-to-day operation to a strategic theme.
  - a. There is too much load on the existing headquarters staff.
  - b. We need to work on the activities that have the greatest strategic potential to advance the mission of the NAWCC.
  - c. Board members are asked to define 4-5 strategic objectives to accomplish in the next 2-3 years.
  - d. Our actions need to support these strategic objectives.
  - e. We need to define what resources we need to accomplish these objectives.
  - f. Our objectives and the activities to accomplish them need to be in sync with budget and available manpower.

ITEM	SUBJECT	LEAD
12	<b>Call for any other New Business</b> There was no new business.	Chair Lucke
13	<b>Adjournment of the Regular Open Session</b> Chair Lucke adjourned the Open Session at 8:10 pm EST.	Chair Lucke
14	<b>Solicit feedback from the audience.</b>	Chair Lucke

Please send all comments and questions to NAWCC BOD Secretary Sherry Kitts at [sacutts@comcast.net](mailto:sacutts@comcast.net)