

Notes from board meeting OWAC TELECONFERENCE AGENDA – February 14, 2022

7 p.m., Monday, February 14, 2022

Call-in Number: 607-374-1189 Pin 141147#

Call to Order: Carrie Wilson, President

AGENDA

- I. As a charitable corporation OWAC must maintain minutes for its board meetings. A note taker can volunteer, or one will need to be appointed.
- II. Call to Order. 7:03 p.m.
- III. Roll Call – Carrie. Attending: John, Betsy, Carrie, Bob, Tom and Barbara. Absent: Don, Risa, Peter.
- IV. Review and approval of previous board minutes. Bob made motion to approve which Barbara seconded. Approved by voice vote.
- V. Call for Additions to Agenda. Publicity and press cards added to agenda as item VIII.
- VI. General Account: **\$14,367.98**. Bob reported the account has held its own with nothing new. No new income and a few new members. Bob reports that investment account balance is \$17,200 and that investments are secure and should provide a dividend.
- VII. Spring 2022 Conference, Big Bear Lake, California, May 9-12, 2022.

ADDED AGENDA ITEM #1 – PUBLICITY... Betsy sent out press releases after the January meeting, incorporating the scholarships, conference info, etc., to many media outlets. She needs board and members to send clips from the fall conference. For the high school contest, press releases are needed for every contest winner. Also need press release for Excellence in Craft. Need to ask what Peter had in mind for press coverage. Big problem is that the OWAC media list is limited, so board members need to add their contacts. Board thanked Betsy for sending the news releases. She noted that OWAC hasn't gotten any response.

ADDED AGENDA ITEM #2 – PRESS Cards ... Bob reported that some members have been asking about whether OWAC would issue press cards. These were not issued last year. Bob and John will create press cards on the computer and Kathleen will do the paste up. Bob said that the cards cost about \$4 per member, so the total cost would be \$240 if done for 60 members. Someone asked whether they are used. Carrie said she uses hers to get into trade and adventure shows. There was consensus that OWAC would make the cards only for members who want them and not for those who don't. Members must be reminded to send a picture for the card; the picture can be put on the web site. The picture would be required in order to get a card.

Bob said OWAC needs to get ready with the invitations to the spring conference. Betsy said Peter said she would be asked to do the invitations if sent the complete invitation list. Big Bear has a deadline tomorrow (Feb. 15, 2022) to provide us with their draft list of activities. Bob will send Big Bear information by middle of next week (Feb. 23, 2022). For BATW, OWAC will post the invitation on the group's web site when it's available. Carrie said she will help with the graphics. Who is vetting the lists? Peter sent out the list? Carrie said she will go through the list ... Bob said he needs it by the end of next week (Feb. 25, 2022).

- a. Conference Speaker -- Big Bear said it will get a keynote speaker for the Wednesday night dinner. Barbara has reached out to Zack Bahrens for Tuesday night. He has previously been discussed as a speaker about USFS issues and storytelling. If Zak is lined up for Tuesday, then OWAC will get Big Bear to do Wednesday. If Zak falls through, then will get Big Bear to do the speaker Tuesday night. Big Bear is getting some local dignitaries to attend and participate.
- b. Craft Improvement -- Barbara and Carrie have been talking to Rick Saez from Bishop and he has agreed to do a craft improvement session on podcasting.
- c. Need one more speaker... OWAC has a new member, Donald Potant from Morro Bay, who is a nature tourism photographer who does conservation work. Bob raised the issue of whether Potant could do the craft improvement -- being a new member to the group. It was decided to ask him to do a presentation. There were no other suggestions for craft improvement speaker.
- d. Raffle -- We are having a raffle at the conference. Barbara will put something on the web site. She will post something on Facebook with a link to the web site. Tom said he will check on the reporting requirement for the raffle with the California Attorney General's office.
- e. Will extend the conference invitation to OWAA, NOWA, BATW when details are known.
- f. Registration for the spring conference -- Bob is working on registration. Gigi is doing registration through the web site ... same done the last time. Should be on time.

Fall conference suggestions? Barbara said she was at Livermore in Alameda County, which might be venue for conference with Del Valle Reservoir, Mount Diablo State Park, and some golf etc. in the area. Have to be flexible about what's expected to the area. Will check with the Tri Valley Visitor's Bureau. Another option is contacting Lake Comanche, which wanted us for spring. They didn't have their housing finished, but should be done by now.

- VIII. Website Update -- When Gigi returned from Costa Rica, she spent three hours with John and Bob on tutorials for getting something for the newsletter. John got schooled on how to do membership, which he has done a great job on. Gigi fixed two problems on the web site. She will be available for some fixes in the future.

There was consensus that OWAC should still have Barbara's web site builders do a site check. Bob still would like to have the review for which OWAC is paying \$100. Barbara said her web site contacts are waiting for the go-ahead. It was agreed that the site doesn't need maintenance because John and Bob are taking care of that. Gigi will retain her OWAC membership and continue to serve as the "fix it" person. It was noted that OWAC was not paying Gigi. Gigi, however, would want to be paid for help with special work, such as for conference.

- IX. Vachini High School Contest -- Bob said the contest is ready to get going. Matt is ready to get it distributed. Betsy sent out the PR to get it going. Got eight submissions last year. There were three or five judges last year. Bob said he is working to have 15 or 25 entries, but OWAC would be overwhelmed with 50 entries. So far, one entry has been submitted.
- X. EIC-Peter/John Software -- Peter sent the rules and categories a couple of days ago. Bob asked whether anyone had a chance to look at them. No one responded. John said the software has to be rebuilt and will be ready by next week. Wants to have a meeting to check software. If a monetary prize is going to be awarded, then he needs to know for the software. Carrie said the idea of awards is for people to promote their work and it is one of the biggest benefits to our membership. If people enter a category and no one else enters, then the person should get the award in cash. John said if OWAC loses some money, but not a lot, it's a benefit for membership. He said the cost of software is \$300. OWAC has been paying monthly. Bob asks that everyone review and send comments to Peter by next Monday (2/21/22). John and Peter will send comments on Peter's memo to Bob. Submissions can be sent on stories published in states other than California.
- XI. Newsletter next publication date March 1, 2022. Bob will handle it. Peter is getting people to post to www.owac.org Yeah! Barbara would like to see the draft first. Bob wants everything for newsletter by March 25, 2022 ...
- XII. Bob will be unavailable March 5, 2022 through March 12, 2022.
- XIII. Next Meeting Date: Monday, March 14, 2022. Betsy made a motion to adjourn which was seconded by John. Approved by voice vote.
- XIV. Adjourn