

Houston Area Blacksmiths Association

Meeting of the Board of Directors

January 7, 2016

Location:

Via Phone or WebEx (on-line)

Board Members Present:

Dana Flanders, Peter Farrell, Pat Bossart, Richard Boswell, Tim Bailey, Ed Malmgren

Others Present:

Bill Price (member)

Quorum and Call to Order:

A quorum was present and Dana Flanders called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Agenda:

The board reviewed and unanimously approved the proposed meeting agenda.

Items Discussed:

1. Acknowledgment of Service: Martin Miles passed away unexpectedly this past month. The Board takes this opportunity to gratefully acknowledge his many years of service to HABA.
2. Election of a Board Secretary: Bill Price was elected to the HABA Board of Directors and as Secretary to the Board.
3. Discussion and Planning for upcoming meetings: The following regular and special meetings were identified and, where necessary, approved by the board. Meeting details will be listed on the HABA WEB site calendar.
 - a. January 9, 2016 - Forging a chisel at Armond Bayou. (Regular, monthly meeting.)
 - b. January 16, 2016 - Forging Poppies for the Ypres War Memorial at John Rgoni's Shop in Spring, TX.
 - c. January 23, 2016 - Making Forged Jewelry at Daniel Riffe's Forge, Needville, TX.
 - d. Regular membership meetings for 2016: Scheduled for the Armond Bayou forge on the second Saturday of each month and for Magnolia Forge on the last Saturday of each month. The agenda for each meeting will be published on the HABA WEB site calendar.

- e. February 20, 2016 - Combo-Demo at Steephollow Forge, Brian/College Station.
 - f. March 19, 2016 - Demonstrations of Finials by Dana Flanders - Ziwa Forge.
 - g. March 26, 2016 (tentative) – Magnolia Forge meeting: Gary Jamison has been contacted to be the guest presenter. Dana Flanders noted that members were very pleased with Gary's presentation the previous year. The board agreed that the demonstration should be held at Magnolia Forge. Mr. Flanders also raised the issue of compensation for Gary. Ed Malmgren will contact Gary to confirm the date and to discuss compensation. Mr. Malmgren will report on his conversation to Mr. Flanders and to other board members as needed. Finally, Mr. Flanders noted that he will reschedule his Ziwa Forge demonstration, as needed, accommodate Gary Jamison's demonstration.
 - h. March 31 – April 4, 2016 - Balcones Forge Bluebonnet Demo, Sycamore Creek Ranch, Marble Falls, TX.
 - i. April 15-17, 2016 - Annual Combo meeting at E. J. McCann's 3-Nail Forge: Kinder, LA. Pete Farrell will contact E. J. to confirm.
 - j. April 16 - HABA will be demonstrating at the Magnolia Forge to support the Magnolia Depot Day. Note: HABA is obligated to annual support of this event.
 - k. April 30, 2016 - Dave Koenig will be demonstrating at Houston Center for Contemporary Craft Museum Experience, Houston, TX.
4. Schedule Conflict: Ed Malmgren noted that there is a conflict between the regularly scheduled member meeting on March 12, 2016, and the 2016 LAMA Conference scheduled for March 12 & 13, 2016. Mr. Malmgren will address this. Any schedule change will be shown on the HABA WEB calendar.
 5. ABANA Conference, 2018 – Pat Bossart has been contacted by a representative of ABANA regarding the 2018 ABANA conference. The representative asked Mr. Bossart about volunteers, dates, possible locations, etc. Board members discussed the matter and mentioned Austin and San Antonio and venues including the Brazos Expo center, the Lone Star Convention Center and the Pasadena Convention Center. Regarding volunteers, the board agreed that it needed more information from ABANA before addressing this issue. Dana Flanders will contact the ABANA representative, will relay the board's thoughts and will invite the representative to the joint meeting of the Texas blacksmith associations at the “Combo/Demo” at Steephollow Forge on February 20, 2016 to present the ABNA proposal and answer questions.
 6. “Iron in the Hat” Tickets, Salt Lake City meeting (ABANA): Tickets are available to HABA members for this meeting. Tickets will be forwarded to Pete Farrell. He will

offer them to members at the regular, monthly meetings. Pat Bossart noted for the board that, in the past, ABANA allowed HABA to keep a fraction of the proceeds from ticket sales.

7. "Tall Ship Elissa", Galveston Historical Foundation: Mr. Mark Scabinico contacted Pete Farrell about providing blacksmith demonstrations at Elissa events, and about providing iron restoration work for the Elissa. The board agreed that HABA's collaboration with the Foundation could prove very beneficial to both organizations. Therefore, Mr. Farrell will explore this opportunity further and will report details to the board. HABA participation in other Foundation events was mentioned but discussion was postponed to a future board meeting.
8. Canopy Purchases: Pete Farrell reported the purchase of two (2) 10x10 exhibition booth covers. They will be stored, initially, at the Armond Bayou facility.
9. Additional blacksmith equipment: Dana Flanders asked if HABA needs to purchase additional blacksmith equipment. Following a brief discussion board members agreed that HABA needs additional leg vices, forges and tongs. Pete Farrell reported that he and Les Cook had located a fire pot, and two (2) leg vices for \$200.00, \$75.00 and \$50.00 respectively. Dana Flanders, with concurrence of the board, authorized purchasing these items. Additional equipment will be purchased as opportunities arise, pending board member approval.. As a related item, Dana Flanders noted that HABA needs to purchase coal from the Conroe, TX , supplier.
10. Membership: Pete Farrell reports that membership is growing quickly. He reports depositing \$235.00 in new and renewing membership fees this past month. Mr. Farrel has forwarded related accounting information to Pat Bossart including details for approximately \$200.00 in expenses.
11. Magnolia Forge Items:
 - a. Dana Flanders and Richard Boswell reported on recent improvements made to Magnolia forge and on expenses incurred for those improvements.
 - b. Dara Flanders reported that procedures for Magnolia Forge have been assembled into a notebook. Richard Boswell has details.
 - c. Dana Flanders believes that a working subcommittee is needed for Magnolia Forge. The board will discuss this and address it formally at a future meeting.
 - d. Board members agreed that enlarging the side draft opening at Magnolia forge is a high priority.
12. ABA Affiliates List: Kala Fishoff has asked Dana Flanders to fill out affiliates forms. Following a brief discussion it was agreed that Mr. Flanders will fill out the forms and will list Pete Farrell and Pat Bossart as the membership chair and treasurer respectively.

13. Advertisements: Dana Flanders reports the receipt of advertisements (ads) for blacksmiths from India and Australia and asked whether or not these ads should be published on the HABA WEB site. The board agreed that these and similar ads should not be published. However, the board also agreed that Pete Farrell and Dana Flanders will continue to publish local (HABA member) ads and similar information on the WEB site and/or on the Facebook page.
14. Commission Work: Tim Bailey reported on the status on collection of sources for commission work. The board agreed that all such requests should be collected and forwarded to Pete Ferrell. Mr. Farrell will create a new WEB site page for this commission information.
15. On-Line Membership Database and WEB based dues payment system: Pete Farrell reported that he has finished work on the HABA WEB site's on-line, membership database. He also reported that the WEB site is ready for an on-line dues and fees collection system. And, he recommended that HABA implement the on-line payment system.

Mr. Farrell then answered the board's questions and listed advantages to HABA . For example, Mr. Farrell indicated that as a 501c3, HABA can set up a Paypal ® based system that would cost 2.2% per transaction. Mr. Farrell further suggested that HABA do a trial run of the system for member renewals only. He suggested that new membership payments would be added pending trial results. The board unanimously agreed with Mr. Farrel's recommendations. Therefore, Mr. Farrell and Pat Bossart will begin work on an on-line payment system.

16. Auction: Richard Boswell asked when and where the next HABA auction should be held. He also asked about soliciting auction items from vendors. Following discussion, the board agreed that the auction will be held at the "October Fest" meeting and that vendors should be contacted as soon as possible for donations.

Adjournment:

Dana Flanders closed the meeting and the board adjourned at 9:00 PM.

Meeting Minutes submitted by Bill Price, Secretary.