

Houston Area Blacksmith's Association, Inc.

Board Meeting Minutes

Feb. 12, 2013

HABA Board Minutes pending approval.

Call to Order

The Board of Directors meeting of the Houston Area Blacksmith's Association was called to order at 6:10 PM by HABA President Pat Bossart (pronounced BOW'-sart) who expressed his appreciation on behalf of HABA to Stress Engineering for the use of their conference room and hospitality.

Location:

Stress Engineering Services, 13800 Westfair East Dr., Houston, Tx.

In Attendance:

Pat Bossart-President, Richard Boswell, Ed Malmgren-Treasurer, Bob Nichols-Secretary. Board members, Pete Farrell, Martin Miles, and Past President Dave Koenig.

Order of Business

1. Reading and Approval of Minutes

- a. The Minutes of the November meeting were read by Secretary Bob Nichols and unanimously approved. Also approved by acclamation were the Minutes of the August meeting which were not available at the November meeting.
- b. Pete Ferrall moved to approve the minutes and the motion was seconded by Bob Hensley.

2. Financial Report

- a. Ed Malmgren reviewed the financial report and stated that HABA finances remained strong. The financial report is retained by Ed Malmgren.
- b. Richard Boswell moved to approved the financial report and Pete Farrell seconded the motion which was unanimously approved.

3. Old Business

- a. The board discussed setting up a Survey Monkey to evaluate the effectiveness of our media efforts to promote HABA. Pete Farrell said he would do this. Before he can create a survey, we need to decide what questions to ask.
- b. A counter for the website was proposed last meeting for the purposes of gauging the activity on our website. Richard said he would investigate freeware to do this.
- c. The workday on Dec. 8 was carried out with great success.
- d. Richard is going to contact the appropriate people at MHS to see if we have permission to put down crushed rock outside of the smithy and ask if the society would help pay for it.
- e. The meeting schedule for 2013 is addressed under new business.

4. Depot Report

- a. Richard said there is a ditch/low spot in front of the Smithy that collects and retains water when it rains. The area should be re-graded or leveled with crushed granite to provide safe and dry walking areas.
- b. A motion was made by Richard Boswell and seconded by Bob Hensley to authorize the purchase of a truckload of crushed granite if MHS approves our request.
- c. Magnolia Historical Society was awarded a plaque by the Union Pacific RR for being a "Train Town".

5. New Business

- a. The TIDC will be at WOB Barrington Farms on March 2-3. Dave Koenig and Bob Nichols plan to be there to demo.
- b. The layout for the Smithy and the equipment list is being done by Dana Flanders who was out of town for this meeting. No Report.
- c. Pete Farrell asked again for volunteers for the February meeting with Balcones. Ed said he would be there as would a few others.
- d. The Meeting Schedule for the rest of the year is as follows (tentative)
 - i. March 16: Magnolia Smithy, knife making
 - ii. April 20 at EJ's in Louisiana: pinecone, maybe another demo with Alan Lee.
 - iii. May 11: Ziwa Forge; Tool making for the Smithy.
 - iv. June 15: Daniel Riffe at Magnolia Smithy? Unknown theme.
 - v. July 20th: HABA picnic at Magnolia Smithy.
 - vi. Aug 16: Amanda at Kleb Farm? Ed to contact Amanda.
 - vii. Sept: Armand Bayou? Amanda?
 - viii. Oct. 18: Iron Smelting at Oldenburg with Lee Sauder
 - ix. Nov. 9: Work day/hammer in at Magnolia Smithy.
 - x. Dec. No meeting
- e. Iron Making Demo with Lee Sauder
 - i. The board discussed this at length and resolved to include both the Balcones and North Texas clubs. We will propose that three members from each group be allowed full participation and share in the expense. Other members may watch the process in progress. It is hoped that we can learn enough from this experience that we can duplicate it in the future with local iron ore.

6. Adjournment

- a. Bob Hensley moved for adjournment at 8:20 and seconded by Pete Farrell.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert K. Nichols, Secretary