

Florida Artist Blacksmith Association

Quarterly Board Meeting Minutes

October 7, 2011

Barberville Pioneer Settlement

Board members in attendance: Jerry Wolfe, Dorothy Butler, Jim Labolito, Ron Childers, Mark Stone, Lisa Anne Conner, Rex Anderson, Ralph Nettles, Jordan Thomas

Board members absent: Charles Pate, Will Manning.

Guests: John Watson (V.P. Elect), John Butler, Clyde Payton, and many others.

I. President Jerry Wolfe called meeting to order at 5:33 PM.

II. Call made for additional agenda items: None

III. Call to approve Minutes of 4-21-2011 meeting.

Motion Made by: Dot Butler

Seconded: Lisa Anne Conner

Passed – Unanimously by those in attendance

IV. Old Business:

1. Benches and tables – Rex Anderson Gave report he, Butch Patterson, Skeeter Prather, Henry Kuczwarra and several others, at an expense of \$189. Rex made a recommendation to have the NE weld up some braces on some of the tables close to racking. Thomas Jordan “volunteered” to see to the need.
2. Donation to Tim Ryan – Dot Butler gave report of Tim’s receipt of the \$500 approved by the FABa board along with \$175 of other monies sent to FABa for Tim. Several others gave to Tim on an individual basis but have no figures on those amounts. Mark Stone reported that Dina Estenson was baking goodies, to be sold at the concession stand as a fund raiser for Tim.
3. SBA update – President Wolfe reported that a good meeting which appeared to make a profit. At the time of our Board Meeting, there had not yet been a final SBA meeting to determine the amounts going to each of the State Associations in participation. The petal selected for the SBA Flower came from the North East region of the FABa membership. Well done!

V. 2011 Conference update - Mark Stone reported that John White (Bladesmith); Kirk Sullens (Instructor) were in attendance and at the time of our Board Meeting, we had already pre-registered and registered 78 attending families (96 was the final count). Also new Family Class teaching stained glass was a hit. We finished up with a total of 112 paid for classes. We believe that is a record for classes taken at a conference.

VI. President’s Report: Jerry Wolfe graciously accepted the nomination to run for the Presidency for another term and made statement to the willingness to be a teacher of the Vice President to get him prepared for the next Presidential election. President reiterated his greatest challenge is attempting to analyze our loss of members and new ways to keep working to bringing in new blood!

VI. Treasurer’s Report: Dot’s reports were submitted to the Board Members, via email, in advance to give all parties a chance to look them over.

Motion to accept made by: Ron Childers

Seconded: Lisa Conner

Passed – Unanimously by those in attendance

1. There was an explanation of some minor expenditures, cash box and calculator with a paper tape, which the treasurer asked for reimbursement. Motion was made to accommodate:

Motion to accept made by: Mark Stone

Seconded: Rex Anderson

Passed: Unanimously by those in attendance

VII. Trustee Reports:

NE – Jordan Thomas – Seeing some of the old members return to the meetings.

NW – Ron Childers – Feels membership is on the rise in the NW. An inadvertent discussion began about ways to increase membership and maintain contact with present and previous members.

SE – Ralph Nettles – There was a quick discussion of using Public Service Announcements, which are free, to let people know about any and all meetings in their region.

SW – Lisa Anne Conner – Mentioned attempts to find new places to meet. Jerry said that a new training facility was opening up at Tarpon Springs, and Lisa said that the Fine Arts Center and Industrial Arts in Gulfport offered metal classes of some kind.

VIII. New Business:

1. Improved Forge Ventilation in the barn at Barberville. Jordan Thomas will be in charge of carrying out his proposed idea on building hoods for the forges. Motion made to carry out idea and to shelve until next meeting with these considerations: a. ownership upon completion; b. who will be responsible for maintenance; c. firm up the design and cost per unit.

Motion made by: Rex Anderson

Seconded: Mark Stone

Passed – Unanimously by those in attendance

2. Enhancements to the Clinker Breaker – President Wolfe requested color pictures in the digitally delivered CB. The deadline for putting something in the Clinker Breaker has been the 10th of each month. That deadline will be strictly held to from this time forward. If an article, advertisement or column is not to Will Manning by the 10th, it will be put in the following month's Clinker Breaker.

3. Enhancements to the Website – A request was made to publish a membership list, legally, on our FABA website. Mark Stone will check on the feasibility and compare to other blacksmithing sites. President Wolfe will talk to Steve Bloom and see what his ideas are on updating the website.

4. Budget Ideas for 2012:

A. President Wolfe made proposal to become a Patron Member of Barberville Pioneer Settlement at a cost of \$150.

Motion to accept proposal: Dorothy Butler

Seconded: Lisa Anne Conner

Passed – Unanimous by those in attendance

B. President Wolfe also brought up the possibility of becoming a “Friend” of the John C. Campbell Folk School for \$500-\$999 yearly. Due to the \$1000 donation of a Beam in the blacksmith shop last quarter, the popularity of this idea was less than enthusiastic.

C. A question from the floor about the possibility of helping the Christmas, FL School, which has recently begun and what they might need in the way of financial help. President Wolfe offered to check into that option for the board.

D. Clyde Payton made the suggestion that if we were looking for new ways to teach beginners, enlarge the membership roll and increase interest in the art, we might could

come up with FABA sponsored beginning blacksmith lessons. He also offered the use of his own shop as a possible location for the classes.

E. John Butler was enlisted to make mention of the need to start a second yearly scholarship, with deadline being 6 months after the Walt Anderson Scholarship and offered the idea of naming it the Jerry Grice Scholarship after the late founding member of the same name. Mr Butler also offered to chair selection committee for recipient selection. Motion from the floor was to initiate the Jerry Grice Scholarship, for \$1000, handled as Walt Anderson but offset by 6 months.

Motion made by: Jim Labolito

Seconded: Mark Stone

Passed – Unanimous by those in attendance

F. A request from Willard Smith was brought to the attention from the floor to make available certain donated funds to the Panhandle Pioneer Settlement for upgrades to the blacksmith shop. Motion was made to give Willard our blessing.

Motion made by: Jerry Wolfe

Seconded: Rex Anderson

Passed – Unanimous by those in attendance

Date and place of next quarterly meeting: Teleconference meeting, Thursday, January 19, 2012 @ 6:00 PM.

President calls for motion to adjourn meeting at 6:45 PM

Motion made by: Ron Childers

Seconded: Mark Stone

Passed – Unanimous by those in attendance

Respectfully submitted by Jim Labolito - State Secretary, FABA