

Minutes Feb 15, 2017 SSIA Conference call 8pm EST

Free Conference number is [712-432-6100](tel:712-432-6100) and enter code 15151347#

Attendance: Paul Angelos, John McLoughlin, Sandra VerBruggen, Jim McFarland, Pat McCabe, Laurie McPherson, Shannon Embry, Mitch Lebovic. **Absent:** Phil, Eddy **Notes:** Gina Berman

Quorum: Yes

Vote on adoption of old Minutes from Jan 26, 2017 John motioned to accept the minutes as posted and Lori seconded. All approved.

Presidents Report: Sandra- Welcomed Shannon Embry

Vice President: Paul-

Treasurer Report (Money in the bank) John McLoughlin

John didn't send me a report with amount. Speaks to fast to record it.

Old Business:

Convention 2017- Queen Mary

Mitch-

I was in California earlier this month and met with our representative at The Queen Mary to go over the meeting. There are some things you should be aware so, if issues arise down the road, you will not be surprised.

First is the exhibit area. I have attached a photo. There is ample square footage for the show, but the room is divided into three sections. The center section has high ceilings but, as you can see in the photo, the sections on the left and right have low ceilings and pillars. Also, you will notice that wall space is very limited. We are not going to be able to accommodate all the exhibitors who want wall space and we may have some complaints about obstructed views.

My next concern is the inside freight elevator. The doorway is 33" x 83". The interior dimensions are 53" x 66" x 84". I have been in touch with both machinery companies likely to exhibit at the show, and I believe their machines will fit. But we will have to make it clear that anything shipped to the show (or brought to the show) must fit within those dimensions.

There is nothing to be done about either of these items. They are just presented for your information in case the membership has anything to say about it.

The one item that does require a decision is the Silver Cup Awards presentation.

The board decided not to serve breakfast Saturday morning and also to present the Silver Cup Awards at the evening function rather than the annual meeting.

The Queen Mary has the Saturday night function in a space suitable for a reception as you've had in the past, but there is not space to seat 200 people in rounds and have an awards presentation. You can still present awards, it just won't be in the setting you've used in the past. Unfortunately, there is no other space available aboard the ship that night.

Or you can present the Silver Cup Awards before the annual meeting in a room where everyone will be seated. I can make either one work, you just need to be aware of the Saturday night setting.

Paul- the Breakfast room is plenty big enough for us for breakfast but concerned about the space for Saturday night for Silver Cup and Party.

Jim- thinks that the party is fine for Silver Cup and people would be standing anyway. John agrees with Jim that more people are excited at night and show up.

Pat- concerned with time of Silver Cup.. Should be after dinner. All agreed Saturday night is better even if some standing.

Room blocks -are ½ full.

Online registration- Mitch will take care of the online registration confusion.

Convention 2018 Baltimore from .- Sandra/Mitch Visit

Discussion on the hotels: BWI Airport, Westin Baltimore Waterfront, Baltimore Marriott Waterfront, Hyatt Regency Inner Harbor, Sheraton

Mitch and Sandra visited 3 hotels. Mitch is Negotiating the Marriot on meeting space. They now want \$15,000 for meeting space. He will talk to them about either opening up the room block or upping the food amount.

Silver Cup Judging April 8 and 9th

Silver cup and world cup 2017 deadline to register is January 31 2017.

Entrees are due March 20 2017

Cost: USA/Canada are \$25.00 International are \$ 65.00

for more info : www.ssia.info/silvercup/index.asp

26 entries for Silver Cup and 18 for World Cup. Judging will be by John and Jim.

There is a guy that wants to enter but he does “factory recrafts” and he has a definite advantage. Plus he doesn’t really have a shop for the public. He only does factory recrafts. Jim feels its not right.

Supplier Membership- Update

Del Toro Supplier- Paul got no negative responses about letting them in. A number of the wholesalers don’t buy from them but don’t have a problem with them. As long as they pay their back fees for the years that they weren’t a member. Many people agree that they fit the criteria. Everyone agreed that they need to pay the \$1000 rejoining fee.

John makes the motion to accept them with the \$1000 back fee, Paul seconded and all approved.

New Business

No New business

Jim motioned to adjourn, Sandra seconded all approved.

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 EST

1. Gina- Send a Card to Don who was in an accident and is still in rehab.
2. Mitch will negotiate with the hotel.
- 3.