

Minutes March 22, 2017 SSIA Conference call 8pm EST

Free Conference number is 712-432-6100 and enter code 15151347#

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

Quorum: Yes

Vote on adoption of old Minutes from Feb , 2017 . Sandra motioned to accept the minutes and Phil seconded. All approved

Presidents Report: Sandra-

Vice President: Paul-

Treasurer Report (Money in the bank) John McLoughlin

Ended February with \$75,124. We have 3 open checks (not yet cashed) that total \$4,450. This brings the balance to \$70,674.

Old Business:

Convention 2017- Queen Mary

Mitch sent out the statement from the hotel. General manager said the report was accurate but maintenance has been ongoing and repairs has been underway for 2 years. Areas of ship that is still in disrepair and not being used.

Paul- city of Long beach hasn't maintained the ship and the deferred area is not being used. Paul will go check it out.

Shannon- would like an engineer to go with Paul and make sure our members will not be at risk.

Paul- its public record that the city is on the line and make sure the venue is safe. They don't want to have any lawsuits so they won't be taking chances.

John said that Gene Burton would like to have something Friday night and Saderma is having something Sunday afternoon.

Vibram will be parking the RV in the parking lot and advertising to the public to make them aware of shoe repair.

Sandra- Pedifix said they won't be coming due to not having someone for the table.

Blasé will not be coming to the convention due to cost and concern of getting machines in ship.

The Board will meet on Friday before convention at 9am and again on Sunday at 8:30am for a Vote of officers and discussion on the convention. A continental breakfast will be provided.

Convention 2018 Baltimore from .- Sandra/Mitch Visit

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

All the pros and cons of each and then a vote by mail during the week will be had.

4 offers worth considering BWI - \$139 \$15k food and beverage Easiest to get to with close to airport.

Hyatt InnerHarbor \$8k food and beverage but room rate is \$199 and parking fees prettiest location. Internet service fee.

Mariott- more convenient. completely renovated. Food and beverage is low.

Radison- free meetingrooms completely renovated.

Hunt Valley Inn- free meeting space \$129 night

John- whats the cost of getting from airport to Hyatt. About 20 minutes and \$40 cabride.

Phil- we can subsidize breakfast or transportation to make the Hyatt a no brainer.

Feedback from the repairers is Long Beach at \$199 is too high. Some of the repairers are staying someplace else. Mitch- a decision needs to be made this next week.

Jim- Inner Harbor is having a city wide convention but not using meeting space. So meeting space is available to SSIA. Worried about the crowds making it not fun or too crowded to enjoy.

Is it worth \$60 plus \$20 for parking more for Hyatt.

Phil- standard rate is 259.00 a night. But the ambiance and convenient might be worth it.

Sandra- how many stay an extra day or two before and after.

John- inclined to push for BWI due to cost of rooms and it's the most convenient to repairers. Since we are mostly together for the weekend it really is the best.

Sandra- we will make the food cost of BWI no problem and most hang out with each other.

Jim is inclined to agree with the repairers needing a lower cost of rooms like BWI.

Phil- is the Harbor enough of a draw to justify spending the extra \$80 a night.

Paul- stay more as a unit at BWI

Jim- hardly anyone leaves the hotel because they want to be with their friends.

Mitch-At the Hyatt the Saturday night event would be 20 stories up overlooking the Harbor.

John- seems like we are down to 2 hotels and everyone should sleep on it.

Shannon- is with John on the wow factor is there and we should just pay some of the parking for the locals. Lets stay at the pretty place and not have planes going over head.

Email by Friday.

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

With John and Jim

Should have close to 44 entries for Silver Cup and 18 for World Cup. Judging will be by John and Jim.

Supplier Membership- Update

Ohio Travel Bag Would like to come to Long Beach. They would need to pay the membership.

Paul and John will do a quick poll of suppliers. Initiation fees of \$1000 or 10 years back dues whichever is less. Pat will send to wholesalers to question for back feedback.

Pat- said that they don't have a problem with them.

New Business

Death of a fellow repairer and silver cup winner

Glenn Dimauro passing <http://buschfuneral.tributes.com/show/104589561>

A nice basket with flowers and plants along with plaque was ordered and should arrive tomorrow. From SSIA

Funeral is on Sunday. Blasé and Steve will be going and so has Sandra. Sandra- would like to set up a scholarship in Glenn's name.

There has been some suggestions on SRI and SSIA to rename the World Cup to Glen DiMauro. Since Glenn never won World Cup it may not make sense.

Jim- Glenn was one of his best friends and thinks we should wait since Glenn has an entry in it. It would make sense to wait.

Shannon- thinks that he really concentrated on the everyday shoe maker teaching them to learn. She suggests another Cup for the guys that are entering for just a heal or soul. Something for the common repairer, instead of Silver Cup and World Cup.

John Feels that 210 is best suited to set this up. They would like to come to Long Beach and set up a table too.

John motions to invite 210 to Long Beach. Paul seconded. All approved.

Repairer needs help.

Gene Hartsock Surgery so won't be working and can't pay rent for two months.

(John & two ten foundation?) A discussion on Gene's situation and the suggestion he call two ten.

Supplier problems

supplier having a paid salesman on the street calling on shoe repair shops.

There is a supplier that is going into shops and wanting others to take other products off the shelf. He has been doing it awhile.

The supplier is Justin Blair. He has a salesmen calling on shops. Wholesalers complaining is Rick Meyer, Steve Sachs and Bill Knomos.

Phil suggests a letter or a phone call to Justin Blair telling them they have violated the supplier membership for SSIA membersip.

Mitch is concerned with the wording of the bylaws. Suggests that SSIA contact an attorney to figure out how to handle this situation.

To add Justin Blair to next agenda.

Next meeting

1. Justin Blair
2. Hotel vote

Meeting Adjourned at 10pm