

## Minutes of SSIA General Membership Meeting

Saturday, July 16, 2016  
At Marriot – Overland Park

- 1) Paul Angelos brought the meeting to order at 9 A.M. He then thanked all the Gold, Silver and Bronze Sponsors of this year's convention.
- 2) Paul Angelos announced that National Shoe Awareness week will again be the second week of October beginning October 9<sup>th</sup>.
- 3) A moment of silence was requested for those members who passed away since our last convention including:
  - James Bell – Bell's Shoe Repair in Atlanta, GA.
  - Frank Romero Sr. – Belmonte Leather Co. in Clifton, NJ.
  - William (Billy) Hetzer – HSI in Chicago.
  - Richard Goldstein – Amity Findings in New York.
  - Claire Rice.
- 4) Certificates of Appreciation were awarded to:
  - Steve Doudaklain
  - Liss Hubbs
  - Mohamed & Holly Mahfoze
  - Maria De Smet
- 5) John McLoughlin presented the Treasurer's Report with several overhead projector slides:
  - The first slide showing monthly income from May 1, 2015 to July 1, 2016.
  - The second slide showing total revenue by category for same period.
  - The third slide showing expenses by category.

John reported that our organization will have roughly \$65,000 in the bank after this year's convention expenses are paid. A motion was made to approve the report as presented and it was unanimously passed by the membership.

- 6) John McLoughlin and Sandra Verbruggen spoke briefly about the Repair with Pink campaign that shoe repair shops organized last year and will be repeating again this October.
- 7) Paul Angelos announced that the 2017 SSIA Annual Convention will be held in Long Beach, California at the Queen Mary Hotel. The dates are July 22<sup>nd</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2017 and room rates are \$169/night through June 1, 2017.
- 8) Individual group meetings for suppliers, Wholesalers and Shoe Repair Shops will be held at 5 P.M. today.
- 9) Paul Angelos invited any past presidents, or Board members to speak at this time. Lee Efronson from Miami Leather spoke about the need for all three segments of our organization – suppliers, wholesalers and repairers – to pull together and work as one to

grow our industry. Don Rinaldi also spoke about criticism of his company's product by some in the industry and his feeling of resentment.

- 10) Before moving to elect new Board members, Paul Angelos presented Steve Sachs with a plaque for his service of two terms on the Board.
- 11) It was unanimously approved by supplier members to elect John McLoughlin to a new 3 year term on the Board.
- 12) It was approved by wholesaler members to elect Laurie McPhearson to a 3 year term (replacing Steve Sachs).
- 13) Steve Doudaklian had been filling in for Marcelo Coronel's term as a shoe repairer on the Board. He and Jim McFarland both had their names placed in nomination for the new 3 year term. After an initial vote of hands for each candidate was done, the chair entertained a motion to hold a secret ballot for the position. The results were 25 votes for Jim McFarland and 23 votes for Steve Doudaklian. Jim is the new shoe repair representative on the Board.
- 14) Jim McFarland spoke about the 210 Foundation & Scholarship program. His daughter recently received a 65% funded scholarship for four years. He reminded the group that anyone in the room could have their children apply for a 210 grant.
- 15) Paul Angelos stated that the Board intends to keep publishing the newsletter and is committed to raising enough ad revenue to cover printing and mailing costs.