

## Minutes of August 22, 2018 SSIA Board Meeting

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

**Attendance: Todd Roberts, Jim McFarland, John McLoughlin , Phil Wadzinski, Pat McCabe, Mitch Lebovic, Eddie Gitlin, Laurie McPherson, Jesse Pasternak and Shannon Embry**

**Quorum:** Yes

- 1) Meeting was called to order at 8:00 PM.
- 2) Minutes from July 22, 2018 meeting were approved unanimously.
- 3) **President's report-**
  - a) Jim McFarland reported that the Baltimore convention went smoothly except for Sunday afternoon. That's when several people stole goods off the Super Tap display table. After some discussion it was decided that SSIA volunteers could watch booths for short periods if requested by an exhibitor.
  - b) Jim also brought up the idea of charging non-members a fee of \$5, \$10 or \$20 to walk the exhibitor hall. After some discussion it was decided to table this idea for a future meeting.
- 4) **Vice-President's report-** Phil added some thoughts on stolen goods incident and then asked if we knew who the thieves were. Jim said yes and they were already being shamed on social media.
- 5) **Treasurer's Report-** John reported that we have roughly \$115,000 in the bank after open checks are deducted.
- 6) **Old Business-**
  - a) Mitch reported that he has a meeting tomorrow with the hotel over the number of bed nights our group used. We needed 320 and they say we had 289.
  - b) Mitch reported that 167 shoe repair shops and 17 wholesalers registered at Baltimore convention. 33 of the shops were new members.
  - c) Mitch reported that hotel reservations are now open for the Orlando convention.
- 7) **New Business-**
  - a) Mitch reported that the Newsletter draft will be sent out to Board members this week. To date we have \$6,000 in ad sales.
  - b) Jim gave report on the Footwear Makers Guild meeting he attended in Savannah, GA. He will keep in touch with them and invite them to our next convention.
  - c) A brief discussion on supporting shoe repair schools in Philadelphia and Oregon resulted in Pat & Jim agreeing to look into these requests with follow-up phone calls.
  - d) The Board consensus was to not sell any more aprons with our T-shirts.
  - e) Mitch presented a Wholesaler membership application from Landwerlan Leather Company. The Board decided to vote by e-mail in the next week after checking their references.
- 8) **Open Discussion-**
  - a) Shannon agreed to send condolence card to Paul Hyde's family.

- b) Mitch said wholesalers have been opposed to their advertising in newsletter; this issue will be discussed in September.
- 9)** The next meeting was set for September 26<sup>th</sup> and the meeting was adjourned at 9:01 PM.