

SJFWA Board Draft Minutes
September 18, 2020
Via email

Meetings continue to be cancelled due to coronavirus stay-at-home guidance.

President Stan Stephens informed the membership on 8/18/2020 as follows:

Ben Douglas informed me that George Zerlang passed away. George joined the club in 2002 and was a member up to at least 2014. You can find his obituary in the Fresno Bee Newspaper.

I am surprised that the Covid-19 situation is failing to improve. I think it would be unwise to hold any sort of get together until there are improvements.

Also on 8/18/2020, Stan distributed the following to the SJFWA Board:

I hope you are all well and staying safe. I have a couple of items I would like to bounce off board members. Most of this is the result of over-thinking the lack of meetings. These are mostly food for thought at this point. This is almost September and the year appears to quickly coming to an end.

Next year's Board - It is highly unlikely we will meet as a club or Board this year. Assuming this is the case, there are a couple of items we need to plan for. I would like to stay on as President and I have asked Roger to stay in his position as VP North. I have only bounced this proposal off of Roger. Roger was just getting started with meeting programs when the pandemic hit and took the wind out of our sails. I would hate to lose that momentum next year and it seems having Roger continue with his planning would be great for the club members. That said, I have no idea what the first part of next year looks like. Crazy!

I would appreciate it if you would give some thought as to whether or not you would be willing to serve on the board next year. I would hope you would, but you always have the option of declining. If for some reason you decide not to serve another term, please let me know as soon as possible so we can plan on a replacement. That said, you missed a lot of Chinese food this year and somebody has got to make up for this.

Nominating committee - If the entire board decided to serve another term, that would mean we would not have to form a nominating committee. If we need a committee, this would probably need to occur by October.

Election – We would need to announce the candidates for office in November with the membership vote in December. I'm assuming this would have to be done by e-mail, which is doable.

Dues – Members didn't get much for the dues they paid this year (not much coffee and donuts). I am suggesting that we make dues voluntary in 2021. Members would not have to pay dues to remain an active member. My guess is the majority of the members would contribute. However,

there will be a few who will “appreciate” not having to pay dues. I don’t believe this will have a significant impact on our budget. I would appreciate any feedback on this proposal.

Sales Tax – This is actually an item where I do need some feedback from the board members. About 4-5 years ago David Dunlap got busy making a lot of money for the club. He mostly made a lot (as in hundreds) of cutting boards. Also, some toys were sold. We registered with the State (Dept. of Tax and Fee Administration) and faithfully paid sales tax on items sold. We have not sold anything since that time. I don’t anticipate selling items in the near future. George has found dealing with these folks (has to on an annual basis whether you sell anything or not) to be difficult. They have told George that we can “opt out” of the registration with them at any time. This means we would drop our registration and filing requirements. It is easy to get back into the program if and when we decide to start selling items and collecting sales tax.

On 9/2/2020, Stan issued the following update to the membership:

- I mentioned earlier that George Grenfell, Jr. had passed away in June of this year at age 79. He was one of the founding members of the club and a very interesting fellow. George was an Assistant District Attorney/Administrator of the Fresno County DA Family Support Division. He was an advocate on the County, State and National level for a child’s right to be supported by their parents. The club has received several donations of money in George’s memory from individuals and groups that have benefited from his lifelong efforts.
- Project updates from several members – Randy Cox, Pete Sieperda, Stan Stephens, and Craig Gough – were distributed. In addition, Jim LaMar’s project update was sent out earlier.

On 9/11/2020, Stan distributed an update to his 8/18 memo:

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All board members agreed to stay on for next 2021

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We do not need a nominating committee (see below)

Election – We would need to announce the candidates for office in November with the membership vote in December. I'm assuming this would have to be done by e-mail, which is doable.

The candidates need to be announced to members in November, with voting in December. Any member wishing to hold one of these positions can run for that position and I need to announce a deadline for nominations. Also, we have some vacancies (non-elected positions) that I will announce.

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There was a motion (George Alexander) and second (Roger McCoy) to suspend membership dues for 2021. I will encourage members to donate for 2021. I had a yes vote from 10 of the 14 Board members. I did not get a response from four members (or I missed them). Based on this response, I consider the motion passed and Bev is recording this in the September minutes.

Motion for 2021 dues holiday approved by the Board. I will announce this to members probably in late October. They have the option of a \$35 donation instead of dues. Since this notice will only be sent to names on the current roster, I don't see an issue with who will qualify for this one time exemption to the need to pay dues.

From George Alexander: If I may make a suggestion for collecting the "donations." Members can use PayPal or mail checks directly to me. I can easily deposit them and keep a record of the "donations." This will streamline the collection and eliminate the PO box and you mailing the checks to me.

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The Board decided to suspend this registration and George Alexander completed the paperwork to make this happen.