

Red Wing Collectors Society
Executive Committee Meeting
Friday, November 13, 2015
(Teleconference)

On-Line: Larry Birks, President; Paul Wichert, Vice President; Dan Beck, Treasurer; Nancy Lambert, Historian; Stacy Wegner, Executive Director. After resolving technical difficulties, John Sagat, Secretary, joined the teleconference 15 minutes late.

A. Call to Order: Meeting called to order about 7:00 PM. Minutes not recorded until Sagat joined the meeting.

B. Discussion of Budget Draft: Commemorative budget amounts are uncertain due to absence of the figures from Morawski. Complete numbers expected by Thanksgiving.

MidWinter 2015 forecasted to be \$6,561 which was low due to an incorrect pre-registration number; the 2016 budget is proposed at \$14,270. Some of difference is due to booking in a different year. Attendance figures, which had incorrect pre-registration number, were questioned. Proposal for 2016 is a 20% increase. The original increase was adjusted to match last year's attendance.

Donations: We have earmarked \$5K this year. Birks suggested leaving the donation budget blank which is a drop of \$10,000 from the 2015 budget until we see if the Museum is paid off early, how involved we get in the lawsuit, and if we are able to stay on the proposed budget. Lambert questioned "breakouts" for newsletter cost. Natynski is currently investigating cost savings. Tech budget: leave as is at \$2000 which is a drop of \$8000 from the 2015 budget. Newspaper Supplement: maintain status quo for this year, but look at new ideas to cover cost next year.

Auction: Wichert proposed raising auction rates in an organized manner. We need to have a plan for incremental steps. Lambert didn't think we could make substantial progress by taking small steps. Wichert suggested 12%; currently it is 10%. The Auction needs \$20,000 worth of quality pieces from the Foundation. Birks agreed to discuss Auction needs with Dave Hallstrom. Auction schedule was proposed with Banquet on Friday, Auction on Saturday, and Show and Sale on Saturday morning as a possibility. Stacy will investigate with the Convention Evaluation Committee.

Youth: BOD should discuss at MidWinter whether or not Education and Youth programs should move to the Foundation.

At MidWinter, we will discuss changes in summer Convention registration fees. Convention could increase from \$25 to \$30 with walk-ins increasing from \$30 to \$35.

Education: Birks requested that all current references to "honorarium" be changed to "stipend" except for Guest speakers. Birks proposed stipends be dropped 20%. Beck questioned who had the job of notifying change in stipends at MidWinter. Reduced stipend will take place in 2017. Travel costs for Representatives at Large was set at \$1000 for each Representative at Large.

Convention Events: Can the banquet accommodate more people at Frontenac? May need to use upper level to increase seating. Crock Fest: Suggested that it be dropped for 2016 and gauge the reaction. Convention dates change with event programs. Integrating the various programs and dates is complex to visualize. Birks asked Lambert to make a chart and put future and past dates/days of the week for convention events in order to analyze the impact on schedule when events move, and vice versa.

C. Closing Discussion: Beck felt we did a good job of cost cutting, considering latitude available. Should we use Museum meeting room as gathering place for RWCS Facebook Chapter at the Convention? Lambert will check with Foundation. What meeting room options do we have for the MidWinter Executive Committee meeting. Stacy will check with the hotel to see what's available and report back.

D. Adjournment: There being no other items of business, Beck moved to adjourn, Lambert seconded and the meeting was adjourned at 10:06 PM

Respectfully submitted,
John Sagat, RWCS Secretary

Minutes are preliminary and unapproved.