

## Santa Cruz Woodturners

Minutes Joint 2023-2024 Board Meeting (includes edits)

November 2, 2023

Attendees: '23 Dan, Morgan, Roy, John, Wells  
 '24 Sue, Nicole, Bill English, Kevin S      Excused: Bill Hopkins

Meeting called to order on Zoom by President John Wells at 7:15 PM

**Central Issue:** Meeting site for Nov-Dec and near future, spanning boards

Situation:

1. John informed us in October that MH School policy now requires a formal application for community organizations to use public facilities, along with a per-use fee of approx. \$200, and likely an additional personnel fee for shop access.
2. The past history of substantial site improvements by the club and John's many years of volunteer teaching were not regarded as sufficient to qualify for an exception to this new blanket policy.
3. It is unknown how long the paperwork would take to complete & process, and how many sessions would be covered in one application (guessed 6)
4. Kevin S opened the opportunity to use a commercial cabinet shop on May St. in Santa Cruz. Several board members did a site visit last week.

An extended discussion followed, with contributions from every attendee. Summary:

Site	Pro	Con	Mitigation
MH	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Familiar</li> <li>2. Ample facilities w work tables, chairs, internet, water, bathroom, industrial lighting, storage for club tools and delicate club AV equipment</li> <li>3. Convenient AV set up</li> <li>4. Central geographic location</li> <li>5. Heat</li> <li>6. Parking</li> <li>7. Secure storage</li> <li>8. Site insurance</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Annual cost \$200 x 10 uses = \$2000</li> <li>2. Tedium of application</li> <li>3. Lack of friendly contact</li> <li>4. Non-negotiable</li> <li>5. Site not accessible during school hours</li> <li>6. Site not accessible without school employee service</li> <li>7. Approaching space capacity for 40+ members</li> <li>8. Speculative future closure of shop education at MH</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Annual dues revenue 40 x \$50 = \$2000</li> <li>2. Incoming Jan '24</li> <li>3. \$5000 in Treasury</li> </ol> <p>Calculation: assuming stable membership and even w no additional fund raising, we have adequate funds from dues without tapping reserves for at least 2 years.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4. Fund raising intermittently successful 2020-present through 501.c.3</li> </ol>

Site	Pro	Con	Mitigation
May Ave Shop	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Central location</li> <li>2. Available now</li> <li>3. No fee</li> <li>4. Parking adequate</li> <li>5. Less “hike” than MH for elder members</li> <li>6. No bureaucracy</li> <li>7. Like MH—it’s a working shop environment</li> <li>8. Wired for machinery</li> <li>9. Not likely inaccessible because of other users</li> <li>10. Friendly!</li> <li>11. No contract required</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. No seating</li> <li>2. Limited table display</li> <li>3. Working shop w large work pieces intermittently in open space</li> <li>4. Uncertain capacity for expanded membership</li> <li>5. Uncertain security &amp; insurance for club equipment</li> <li>6. Uncertainty re storage of 2 lathes, tools, wood, &amp; AV equipment</li> <li>7. Uncertain access during working hours</li> <li>8. No contract required</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. AAW insurance eval</li> <li>2. Bring chairs</li> </ol>

**MSP:** After input from all participants, WS moved & Morgan seconded motion to delegate John, with backup of his choosing, to engage school ASAP, complete application, and club to pay for at least 2 more months at MH. If MH unavailable, prep May St.

Motion passed w unanimous vote of 2023 board members and non-official assent of 2024 members. Dan verified bylaws delegation to board for non-capital expenditures.

Sue and Wells S volunteered to support this overture in person, meaning club presidents past, current, and future representing club interests.

**Non-Action Items:**

1. **Dues.** If additional revenue required for MH fees, should these be raised? Robust discussion of value proposition and credible need for increase. Some diverse viewpoints expressed. Sensitivity for some members.<sup>1</sup> Donations offered by multiple participants if required, as has been our history. **Consensus:** This issue will be purview of board 2024 and beyond.
2. **Fundraising:** Events of current and recent years, discussion of future possibilities, including sales in public venue. 501.c.3 opportunities for tax deductible cash and material donations have been meaningful since Feb, 2020.<sup>2</sup> **Consensus:** Agreed that expanded efforts will be important part of new board.
3. **Demo Committee:** Kevin S described experience 2023 w Demo Committee & ideas for 2024, including his role & MIL as coordinator of committees. Limited discussion followed late in the meeting, emphasized support for this critical club function. Also Roy encourages suggest annual sharpening and chain saw demos, esp for new member engagement & safety. **Consensus:** Keep experimenting, seek core of committed members. 2024 board priority.

<sup>1</sup> Currently 3 comped memberships authorized for students & hardship per board decision.

<sup>2</sup> WS note: Critical that non-profit licensure remain current! Easy to lapse, hard to restore.

4. Dates for Nov & Dec meetings. Currently sched for Nov 18 & Dec 16. Discussed whether these dates were too close to TG (5 days) and Christmas (9 days). **No action, pending progress on site.**
5. Group discussed additional opportunities & incentives for **inclusion & participation**, including non-competitive Prez Challenge, feasible & non-judgmental for all skill levels, fun contests, stretch limits, reach out to local publications, social media. <sup>3</sup>
6. **Adjourn:** Deep thanks to new board to share in these discussions and planning on short notice. Thanks also for tolerating the tech challenges of remote meetings.

Submitted Nov 3, 2023, as DRAFT for review, edits, and approval. Edits incorporated 11/4/2023.

**Follow up Nov 3 afternoon:** John reports: *I've submitted online app for 6 months. Dan is sourcing insurance docs. Old docs indicate sufficient liability. Info: Allow 10 - 14 days for approval. Pay 2 wks in advance. Cancel 2 wks in advance to avoid charges. I'll call Beth and talk to her Mon. or Tues. More when available.*

Wells Shoemaker, Acting Secretary



Welcome back to the fray, Sue!



Thanks for keeping us sharp, John!

Both Sue and John were Founders of our club 10 years ago...so grateful for your continued leadership!

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<sup>3</sup> Wells S has added in corresp expanded opportunities for beginner instruction as an attractive benefit of membership & key safety element. Not currently formal club activity, but a substantial *ad hoc* experience. AAW forum "chatter" on subject.