

# MTA BOARD & MEMBERSHIP MEETING

## August 20th 2022

@ Fenton Community & Cultural Center, Fenton MI  
As part of the Super Seminar Event

This Board Meeting was called to order at 12:42pm

### Officers Present:

Vice President: Marc Skutt

Treasurer: Elaine Unrath

Secretary: Kelly Agren

### Board Members Present:

Robert Slogeris,, Mike Lagorio, Doug Aven, Kyle McClure, Travis Walle, Todd Ekstrom, Lexi Vaughn, Kody Godwin, Carissa Kennedy

### Officers Absent:

President: Rob Benson

### UPDATES:

- BOC Slates were ordered and brought to the event for those attending: any others will be shipped out the upcoming week
- Get Website off Kelly's personal account:
  - Can't currently move to another account due to webs.com merging with vistaprint.com
    - Merge is taking a lot longer than expected: Kelly has been in contact with webs support often.
    - Webs.com isn't even charging us currently as their system can't even update a credit card.
    - Website can still be updated etc.
    - Only other option RIGHT NOW would be to lose the whole website and possibly our domain of [www.michigantaxidermist.com](http://www.michigantaxidermist.com)
    - Kelly agrees it needs to be separate but has no problem performing updates etc.
- Get going on 2023 Job duties and projects for the show. If your unsure of your tasks, reach out to Rob.
- Kandi spoke up about her concerns:
  - We need to uphold our Integrity: Keep discussion within the board
  - Expressed concern about "Secret meetings"
  - Focus on our own Jobs
  - Work out issues amongst ourselves and not to the membership
  - We are supposed to represent the members
  - The board needs to have each others backs
  - Any Member can run for any board or officer position. Please express interest.
    - Suggestion was made that maybe we need more communication and follow up regarding issues that come up. It was difficult for anyone to rebuttal/address concern due to time

- Briefly discussed Raffle process and Ideas
  - Last show we did the 4 mount Mounting/Finishing Stand and a Large Flat screen TV
  - Go smaller on TV if we do it again.
  - Bounce any items ideas off Lexi/Carsissa
    - Blackstone griddle?

ACTION: Marc Skutt motioned to adjourn the meeting. 2nd by Kandi Nichols

ALL IN FAVOR MTA Board meeting was adjourned at 1:05pm.

Membership Meeting to follow lunch

This Membership Meeting was called to order at 2:30pm

### **Officers Present:**

Vice President: Marc Skutt

Treasurer: Elaine Unrath

Secretary: Kelly Agren

### **Board Members Present:**

Robert Slogeris,, Mike Lagorio, Doug Aven, Kyle McClure, Travis Walle, Todd Ekstrom, Lexi Vaughn, Kody Godwin, Carissa Kennedy

### **Officers Absent:**

Rob Benson

### **UPDATES:**

- Group of MTA members mounted 18 Deer for Doug Veldheis
  - Mounts are Completed! Thank you to the volunteers that helped in mounting and Joe and Hilton for their supply donations!
- Previous Meeting Minutes-Emailed to Board Prior
  - Motion made by Travis Walle to accept the previous minutes
  - 2nd by Kandi
  - All in favor
- Treasurer's Report:
  - Elaine was still in the By Law Committee Meeting: Offered to report back momentarily.
    - Financials were posted to the FB group after the meeting for all members to see
- Memberships: 188 Family Memberships

### **Old Business:**

- Replica Fish in the Master Division:

- Should commercial blanks be allowed in the Masters Division
- Discussed within the Board already and decided to bring to membership for vote

Marc asked for a show of hands and with a Majority vote : Commercial blanks will still NOT BE ALLOWED in the masters division. You must mold, cast, or sculpt your own.

- Habitat:
  - Would the Membership like to see the addition of the Artistic/Unconventional category added to Habitat .
  - This was started recently at Nationals and went over quite well there.
  - Would be for your abstract, unrealistic type displays.

Marc asked for a show of hands and with a Majority vote : The membership voted YES to add Artistic/Unconventional Habitat to the Competition in 2023

- 3D Printing and where entries should be placed in the competition
  - Make a New separate category or add to current replica categories?
  - Essentially same result as molding and casting just a different process/tool
  - Professional can use purchased 3d print blanks or purchase files, Masters would have to model/sculpt/or scan their own renderings.

Marc asked for a show of hands and with a Majority vote : The membership voted To place 3D prints into the already existing replica categories for the time being. Reconsider if the use of the process grows exponentially.

- Reciprocal Out of State Membership-For Competition ONLY
  - Only offer to out of state board members or all members?
  - Would not include any actual membership benefits except entering the competition. For full membership benefits out of staters would have to pay MTA dues as well.
  - Each state would have to honor the reciprocal membership as well.

Marc asked for a show of hands and with a Majority vote : The membership voted YES: to allow reciprocal memberships for participating states (they honor our membership at their show as well) to all State Association members for competition purposes only.

- Hall of Fame Committee: Committee has a few prospective recipients in mind.

Committee Attendees:

- Mike Lagorio
- Don Gadillie
- Charlie Fanta
- Charlie and Pat Walker
- Jean Roll
- Mike Fales

## New Business:

- By Law Committee: Met today and got a lot accomplished. They will present the revisions at the next membership meeting if possible.

Committee Attendees:

- Elaine Unrath
- Joe Miles
- Kandi Nichols

- Mike Lagorio
- Kylke McClure
- Build New Backerboards: TABLED
  - We need volunteers to help build new backerboard for the show and repair a few old ones.
  - Supply quote? Budget?
  - Set date @ Legends Ranch
- Winter Membership Meeting Dates
  - January 15th 2023 at the Lee Township Hall in Midland MI
  - Mini Comp Theme: ANYTHING! Bring whatever you can!
  - More details will be posted asap to the FB Event/Group
- MTA Purchase of a photo backdrop?
  - Small price to pay for something we can reuse for any events we choose

Marc asked for a show of hands and with a Majority vote : The membership voted YES: to allow the purchase of a photography backdrop for MTA use with the budget of \$500

- MTA Photographer: TABLED
  - Kelly announced a co worker of Jeff Agren is a professional Photographer and would be willing to photograph mounts for only 1 night stay in a hotel and her time, which would amount to approx \$750 plus the hotel fee. She would take 3-5 photos of each mount. They would be unedited and placed in a drop box for everyone. Very very cheap for a professional Photographer.
  - There has been some talk with other options as well.

With there being no other business of the Michigan Taxidermist Association Board, the following action was made:

ACTION: Robert Slogeris motioned to adjourn the meeting. 2nd by Kyle McClure

ALL IN FAVOR MTA Board meeting was adjourned at 3:16pm.

Respectively Submitted; Kelly Agren, Secretary