

Los Cabos, San Lucas Winter 2008 minutes reviewed:

President Weller calls for a motion to accept minutes from last meeting. Mark Sawyer made motion to approve. Dave Fell second.

Financial Report:

Reported for period ending 9/11/08 that we have a balance in our account of \$29,428.86. Interest income of \$32.50. Total revenue is \$28,552.50. Gary Weller asked for dues and convention fees to be paid as soon as possible. Spoke about financial obligation to Natural Stone Council and also additional payments due for rooms at ASI/BSI joint meeting. Registration for next meeting will be available in October. President Weller calls for a motion to accept treasurer's report. Mark Sawyer makes a motion to accept treasurer's report. Gary Ballerini second. Motion passed.

Future Meeting Sites:

President Weller asks for an update on upcoming meetings...

Puerto Rico, Joint ASI/BSI Meeting. Brad Poynter gave report on meeting Feb 1st - 4th at Rio Mar Beach Resort and Spa. He says be sure to come. Asked for raise of hands for attendees. We have (20) firms at this time. We need about 30 more firms. Brad will have more information to members within the next week. We need to fill 40 to 45 rooms for this event due to the ASI earlier room commitment.

Pines Stone Company will host Fall 2009 meeting. Pam Pine spoke about the meeting in Glenwood Springs, CO Sept 20th - 23rd. Glenwood Springs is a small town, 8000 population and is located 3 ½ hrs from Denver. Amtrak goes to Glenwood Springs. Will try to get a Yule Mountain tour. Gave a video presentation of Glenwood Springs.

Ed Robinson spoke briefly about the meeting activities, arch tour, brewery tour, golf and ball game. Tour quarry and SEMCO on Tuesday.

Gary Weller asked for an introduction of guests:

- Andre Hagadorn from Adirondack Natural Stone, LLC
- Gary Galassi from Gary Galassi Stone & Steel in Chicago
- Brenda Edwards from Texa Stone Quarries
- Jim Owens from Indiana Limestone Institute
- Bill Carter from Montana Rockworks
- Bond Christie from Christie Cutstone
- Paul Swencki from Cleveland Quarries
- Marcos Guzman from Peninsula Building Materials

Gary Weller spoke about ASI direction. Gary gave comments that 40% ASI members are also BSI members. BSI has a great promotion course and good organization. ASI has phenomenal Fall meetings with over 70% attendance. Gary enjoys seeing other quarries, showrooms and fabricating facilities.

Board recommend that the ASI continue with only (1) meeting per year in the Fall, but leave the door open for a 2nd meeting in the Winter if so desired.

ASI board may need more ASI members. Currently 8 of 10 board members are both ASI/BSI members.

Mark Sawyer gave a report on his research about a possible ASI/BSI merger. 48% were in favor of a merger. After much discussion at board meeting it was decided that the best course was to continue the ASI.

Gary Weller thanked Mark Sawyer for his time and work.

Dave Fell spoke about conversation with Brian Porto and agreed to continue with ASI.

Bill Halquist "Grandfather" original founder. Both organizations have great people, but time constraints make it impossible to go to 4 meetings a year. Bill would like to see a merger.

Ed Robinson spoke about merging, but said it needs to be done carefully because of risks.

Dennis Buechel agreed with Bill Halquist. Would like to see merger.

Pam Pines likes the compromise of (1) fall meeting and should try this for a few years.

Frank Raducz asked Gary about 3-strike amendment. Gary explained that the 3-strike rule would be dropped in the future.

Craig Kisser enjoys fall meetings. Likes the idea of not having to commit to a winter meeting.

Bill Halquist said we may have to adjust membership cap.

Ed Walsh spoke that the industry is consolidating. Industry is joining forces.

Chan Rhee of Vinci Stone Products spoke that it is sometimes difficult to make both ASI/BSI meetings. Talked about MSHA/OSHA regulation and how both organizations help their company.

Brad Poynter spoke in favor of keeping the ASI alive and likes the idea of (1) meeting. Raise membership cap to 100.

Jack Van Etten said his father was a founder. Jack can see no reason to end the organization. Likes the idea of eliminating the 3-strike rule.

Scott Koopmeiners says if we have (1) meeting perhaps we should keep 3-strike rule.

Brian Porto says to keep 75 members cap and try to make the firms attend. Brian belongs to both the ASI and the BSI. Brian likes the ASI members and the intimacy of the ASI. ASI is a great social and business networking group.

Brenda Edwards spoke about reasons for coming to the meetings and thinks that the ASI board made correct decision to have (1) meeting and continue the ASI. Talked about the Natural Stone Council and how they have brought the industry together.

Bill Carter from Montana Rockworks says ASI is a great organization.

Joe Dellacroce asks what is the ASI mission statement? The BSI is now promoting the stone industry. BSI needs help, financially and manpower wise. BSI has 300-350 members and still has a sense of intimacy. The competition is brick, fake stone, artificial tops and is not the people in the stone industry.

Dave Fell talks about ASI objectives. Read objectives of By-Laws and thinks that ASI is fulfilling its objectives.

Gary Weller spoke about the notice that will be sent to all members about changes to the by-laws. Will follow-up with a fax vote.

- 1) The complete repeal of Article III, Section 7 - 3-strike rule
- 2) The revision of Article VII, Section 1 - Change to 1 meeting per year

Gary Weller will check with counsel concerning legal ramification of by-law change.

Gary Ballerini will continue to track attendance, but 3-strike rule is a nightmare to administer.

9:31 Break

9:47 Resume

Gary Weller asked for vote on merger.

Favor merger, (4) votes - Opposed to merger, many. Merger voted down overwhelming.

Gary Weller asked for motion to change By-laws. Moved, seconded motion. To send out vote to change By-laws.

Mark Sawyer asked about joint reception dinner with BSI and also the closing dinner.

Gary Weller spoke about the \$300.00 convention fee and also felt we should share in the 2 dinners. Should the dinners be joint. Show of hands votes for shared dinner. Attendees may need to pay a higher convention fee.

Brenda Edwards says that BSI's fee is \$2400.00. \$1600.00 goes to lodging and the balance goes to meeting fee.

Michelle Hoferer says airfare will be an issue, so book in advance.

Gary Ballerini spoke on attendance. 80% at this meeting. At this point only 2 firms have a 3-strike issue and Gary will visit with those companies. If we reach our cap and we have members that do not show in 6 or 7 times we should talk to them about future membership.

Ed Walsh spoke about the Natural Stone Council. Passed out the new brochure and the quarterly report. Spoke about the branding campaign. The logo, the Natural Stone tag-line. Stop at the Stone Expo Booth in Vegas. Website: Genuinestone.org

Green movement: John Madke from Cold Springs is working on this venture. We position stone in this movement.

Funding: Presently we are limping along and need more funding. The check-off program is still to be established.

Ed Walsh has DVD's for distribution. Use the information available to you from Natural Stone Council. Ed Walsh read an article from Verona Fair Magazine pushing support of the Natural Stone Council by Italian firms. Check-off program will be voted on by all organizations and firm. Use the genuine stone logo (on website)

Jim Owens urges everyone to support the Natural Stone Council.

Gary Stroeing gave a presentation about the evolution of countertop business and fabrication of granite countertops. Can this technology be applied to the limestone people with residential typical standard products, "YES".

Gary Weller asked members to think about hosting 2010 fall meeting.

Mark Sawyer motion to adjourn. Brad Poynter second. All in favor, motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 11:03A.M.

Allied Stone Industry Membership Meeting September 24, 2008

Meeting called to order by President Weller at 8:00 am.

Attendance record was circulated.

Gary Weller opened the floor for discussion on location of Fall 2010. Butch Coleman of Endless Mountain Stone volunteered to host in Bluestone country Pennsylvania. Last meeting in this area was 12 years ago. Butch recommended an October meeting because of fall foliage.

Jack Van Etten of Galloy & Van Etten, Inc. volunteered Chicago.

Put to a vote. Overwhelmingly in favor of Bluestone Country.

SEMCO will be putting a photo album together which will be available in Puerto Rico.

Request was made that an attendance list be provided to the attendees so that they could plan open nights.

Gary Weller said that we will be following up on the business regarding a single meeting and eliminating the three strike rule will be sent as a fax vote. Board member Gary Ballerini cleared the legal issue regarding the requirement for meetings. One meeting per year is all that is needed.

Gary Weller made another invitation to the Puerto Rico meeting.

Gary Weller told the group that we will no longer be keeping a record of the round table discussions. If a discussion about a topic occurs, a record will be kept. If the membership would like it to go on record, let it be known and it will be recorded.

Bill Carter at Montana Rockworks asked for a possible discussion regarding water filtration.

Jim Owens from Indiana Limestone Institute announced that all of the information provided by the Indiana Limestone Institute is available on line at the web site.

Pam Pines invited everyone to Glenwood Springs in 09. She announced that suites will be available for those interested.

Roundtable discussion: No notes taken.

Three-strike rule: Will firms that have been eliminated be notified of the change? Gary Weller suggested that they should be.

Michelle Hoferer motion to adjourn. Gary Ballerini second. All in favor, motion passed.

Meeting closes at 10:45 A.M.