

Pacific Coast Numismatic Society
November 23, 2011

Board Meeting:

Whalen called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Board members present included: Whalen, Stephen Huston, Dan Hipple, Mark William Clark, Ed Treuting, and Bill Hyder. Other members present included Federico Castillo, Ken Takahashi, Lew Robinson, and David Somers.

The treasurer's report included income from October 26 through November 23 of \$110.00 and expenses of \$117.50 for rent at Fort Mason and raffle prizes. Checking account balance is \$234.55 and savings is \$11,510.93.

The board discussed the proposed by-law changes and nominating committee report to be submitted during the business meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 7:20 pm.

General Meeting:

Whalen called the meeting to order at 7:30.

Members present included: Whalen, Stephen Huston, Ed Treuting, Bill Hyder, Dan Hipple, David Somers, Mark William Clark, Federico Castillo, Ken Takahashi, and Lew Robinson.

The nominating committee presented a set of proposed by-law changes necessary if the nominated slate is to be elected at the December meeting. The proposed changes are meant to deal with the situation where monthly attendance is low in comparison to the number of members needed to fill all board and officer positions. The committee polled active members who live in the greater Bay area as to their interest in serving on the board. The number of positive responses was insufficient to fill all positions.

Proposed changes to the constitution and by-laws must be read at the regular business meeting the month before they are presented for a vote. Stephen Huston formally presented a copy of the revised constitution and by-laws in writing, and the changes were read aloud by the Secretary. The changes allow for the positions of Secretary and Treasurer to be combined in a position to be known as the Recorder when there are insufficient nominations to fill both positions. The second change provides for the election of one to three governors depending on the number of nominations.

The nominating committee then presented its report. Nominations include:

President: Stephen Huston
Vice President: Herb Miles
Recorder: Bill Hyder
Governors: Ed Treuting and Dan Hipple

Additional nominations may be made from the floor at the December business meeting. No additional nominations were presented at the November meeting.

Dan Hipple presented a talk entitled: The Double Florin 1887-1890: "The Barmaid's Grief." The double florin, Great Britain's attempt to introduce decimal coinage, was just shy of a crown in size and value. In the dim light and alcohol fueled evenings in British pubs, the confusion between the two sometimes led a barmaid to make the wrong change. The difference in value, approximately 10 pence, was more than one day's earnings, justifiably seen as a big deal. The problems with confusing a crown and a double florin, coupled with numerous production problems, led to the generally held distaste for the new coin. It was discontinued after a short four year run.

Dan passed around examples of several of the unfortunate coins. In the first year, the 1 in the date was represented by the Roman I and created a diplomatic furor with countries in the Middle East. In the second and third years, a common and unfortunate die break inserted a 1 where none should have been found. Production problems were solved by the fourth year, but by then, it was too late for the double florin.

Member exhibits:

Ed Treuting shared a U.S. 1877 S half dollar attributed by die variety, an 1800 80/79 large cent, the first coin he purchased for his collection years ago, and an 1802 large cent his father discovered in the floorboards when working on an old house. He also brought two examples of the new U.S. Mint September 11 Memorial medal.

Federico Castillo shared three tokens including a maverick Fairview Ranch dairy token struck by Moise. The token is from Oakland, California. Another, a 1903 Liberal Convention token from Costa Rica, is still awaiting its story.

David Somers shared five medals purchased from the Paris Mint in the 1960s. He passed them around in their original boxes of issue.

Bill Hyder brought a privately issued medal honoring the first Massachusetts governor, John Endicott, designed by Laura Gardin Fraser. He also shared a silver-plated medal from the 1933 Century of Progress exposition showing an American scout and two Indians overlooking a bird's-eye view of the fair grounds.

Whalen shared panoramic photographs of the Panama Pacific International Exposition grounds on loan from the San Mateo History Museum.

No Raffle.

Whalen adjourned the meeting at 9:00.