

PCNS Minutes for October 26, 2022

The board meeting for October 26, 2022, was called to order via Zoom at 7:12 PM by President Jason Macario. In attendance were Secretary Charlie Catlett, Treasurer Stephen Huston, Past President Dan Hipple, Governor Bob Somers, Bill Hyder, and Michael Wehner. Governors Mike McDaniel and Ed Treuting sent their regrets, as well as Paul Turner, for not being able to attend the meeting.

The minutes for the September meeting were approved.

Financial report for the third quarter of 2022 was forwarded to the board prior to the meeting and discussed.

We need speakers for February, April, and beyond in 2023. Let Jason and/or Stephen know if you are interested or have a speaker in mind. As March 2023 has five Wednesdays, it was decided the meeting that month would be the fourth Wednesday March 22- and a speaker for that month agreed (Charlie)

2023 Board of Governors election in December: the board members at the meeting are willing to stand for re-election. Jason will ask Mike and Ed if they are willing to repeat as well.

New Business: The board discussed publishing the four papers in the 2022 papers contest. They will be forwarded to Stephen to be published on our website. Further discussion to be planned for the next meeting to decide about possible printing.

Adjournment 7:25 PM.

At 7:32 PM, general meeting #1278 was called to order. Present, in addition to the members from the board meeting via Zoom were Doug Ward, Charlie Ludvik, Scott Safe, Federico Castillo, Mike Carolan, Greg Burns, and Harold Tuchfeld.

Elections will be held in December, and members are welcome to run for a position on the board. Let Jason know if interested.

Speakers are needed for February, April, and beyond in 2023- let Stephen/Jason know if interested or if you know of a speaker.

Michael suggested having an in-person event, perhaps once a year, to bring us all together. A discussion ensued about a possible symposium, either just by us or in conjunction with another association. This is something to think about and discuss at future meetings.

Featured Speaker: Michael Wehner

The Nobel Prize and Other Medals of Erik Lindberg

Alfred Nobel invented blasting caps, then invented dynamite- and it made him very rich. His brother's death and an erroneous accusatory obituary made him rethink his legacy about inventing destructive devices, so he set up the Nobel Prize in his will.

The Nobel Peace Prize medal was designed by Gustav Vigeland, with an assist by Erik Lindberg- he cut the dies. All the other Nobel prize medals were designed by Lindberg (1873-1966), along with many others. He was a prolific medalist, trained by his father. He designed the 1912 Stockholm Olympic medals, and he received a gold medal for his work at the PPIE!

The Nobel prizes are each awarded by a different committee. Michael's talk reviewed the different prizes, the committees which awarded them, the design of the award medals, and some of the winners.

Over the years some of the individual award medals have been sold at auction, often for large sums over \$1million. The 2021 Nobel Peace Prize was won by Dmitry Muratov, a critic of Russia. It was sold at auction for benefit (no commission fees charged by Heritage Auctions) for \$103.5million, to benefit a UNICEF fund.

The Peace prize medal features a bust of Nobel on the obverse. The reverse features three men in a group hug (“forming a fraternal bond”).

The Literature prize medal features a bust of Nobel designed by Lindberg. The reverse shows a seated man writing something, with his muse standing nearby.

The Physics and Chemistry prizes go to different people but use the same medal. Obverse- Nobel. Reverse- Nature (Isis) having her veil lifted by the Genius of Science.

The Medicine/Physiology (one prize) medal features a reverse with the Genius of Medicine helping a sick girl.

A prize for economics was not set up in Nobel’s will but was set up by a bank.

Panelists in the nominating committees received 27mm medals, and they are known in silver, gilt silver, gold, and one in bronze. These are collectible and occasionally show up at auction. Also collectible are a very few 1902 “collector” issues.

Other medals by Lindberg include those commemorating Nobel’s death; 1939 Nitroglycerine Company; 1928 Fire Insurance Company; a Swedish soprano; and the Neptune Organization (a maritime charity).

Michael’s talk was recorded and should be well worth watching to visualize the medals.

Member Exhibits:

Bill showed off two medals: 1853 Cathedrals of Europe, very highly detailed; and a Siege of the Bastille medal

Doug showed us the Zerbe ANA protest tokens that he designed and had struck. They are for sale.

Stephen talked about a correspondence he received from the PCNS website- from a Dutch person who purchased an American collection in an album. One of the coins in the album appears to be a 1922 Peace Dollar high relief proof! It is being certified and evaluated by an American auction house for sale

Charlie L showed us a Nobel Medicine Prize nominating committee medal from 1952 with initials engraved on the edge. He was able to find an image of the Medicine Prize medal for 1952 as well. Unfortunately, there is no complete list of who was on the nominating committee that year, for comparing the engraved initials on the coin edge.

Federico: 1) A medal commemorating Nobel Literature Prize winner Miguel Angel Asturias of Guatemala, minted in Paris. 2) A Costa Rica gold coin commemorating Nobel Peace Prize winner Dr. Oscar Arias

Michael was in Britain for a month. He showed us a Conder halfpenny token from Anglesey featuring a druid on the obverse. The first Conder Tokens made were like this, from the Anglesey Mine Company in Wales. Michael then showed photos from his visit to the area in Wales where the mines used to be.

The general meeting adjourned at 9:03PM. The next meeting will be November 30, 2022.

Respectfully submitted,
Charlie Catlett, Secretary PCNS