

4/10/24

Equipment Needs Committee

Members present: Freddy Prellwitz, Dave Deitz, Dave Owen, Tom Bobak;
absent Mark Offenbacher

The Woodcrafters Equipment Needs Committee met on 4/10/24 to discuss the following:

Log cutting, 2024 HOA request, Lathe Bowl Hollowing System, upgrading a few older hand tools in the shop. Lathe Committee, Mill, Panel Saw, Track Saw, use of bandsaws.

Log Cutting

The new system and the new blade works well. The log cutters are sustaining themselves and the wear and tear on the 1" bandsaw is no longer an issue. Freddy will see if the sign up procedure is in the policies and procedures.

2024 HOA Proposal

W/ our recommendation, the club voted to replace the Grizzly with another sawstop. A reserve fund proposal was sent to the HOA on 3/9/24. While we haven't gotten written approval, we hear from Phil and the Maintenance group that it was approved. Mark is working with Mark Smith on a materials list to build an outfeed table & cabinetry for the new saw this summer. Freddy will check with Kim on formal approval

Hand Tools

The board approved replacing the 2 old Dewalt drills, 2 Bosch Orbital sanders and the old belt sander. New ones have been installed and the old units sold along with some other donated tools in a silent auction in March.

If we have leftover funds late in the year look into replacement parts for some of the big Bessey F clamps.

2025 HOA Request

It appears that replacing one of the big lathes is probably high on our list for 2025. Dave Dietz has agreed to head a committee to look into the lathes in general as well as possible recommendations for accessories and upgrades.

Mill

We are constantly having mechanical issues with the Mill. Recently the HOA maintenance staff relayed that other than some common bearings and belts, parts have been discontinued for this model. While the mill is not a heavily used tool it has unique uses such as juice grooves and cutting mortices. Similar replacement units are \$2-2500. We might want to look at one with CNC capabilities as well.

Panel Saw

While the panel saw gets very little use, it was recommended that we move it to a location where it is not in the way and look into buying a dedicated cover. Freddy will look into this cost.

Another option is to get a track saw which can perform similar tasks. Track saw kits come with the track and a conversion plate that we can attach either our Porter Cable or our Milwaukee saw to them for under \$100 by Kreg.

¼" Band Saw

The small ¼" band saw is the only band saw that we allow cutting other than straight. This saw is getting a lot of use and abuse and we are constantly replacing the blades. Look into other blades for the ½" saw, maybe a 3/8" blade where we can cut slight curves?