



SOCIETY FOR CULTURAL ASTRONOMY
IN THE AMERICAN SOUTHWEST, INC.
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May 25, 2017

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Monday April 10, 2017 Teleconference

8:00 PM EST 6:00PM MDT 5:00PM MST/PDT

Board President Bryan Bates opened the meeting promptly at 18:00.

Present: Ric Alling, Chris Dombrowski, Tony Hull, Beth Jewell, Greg Munson, William Severn, Ray Williamson

Old Business:

1) Website, Blogs and Newsletter

a. Monitor and expected responsibilities. Is Board willing to pay for web fees connected to website/blog – Chris D. brought the Board up to date on his progress. The webpages are current; Facebook, Blog, and Forum are set up; now we need to evaluate whether we want to use them and how. We can now include presentations on the website, and they will be restricted to members only.

b. Newsletter—William S. noted that the March newsletter was a bit late. He would like to encourage everyone to contribute copy to fill the newsletter. He suggested adding profiles of Board Members, which generated a short discussion about including profiles of notable figures in cultural astronomy. This idea was received positively, but first we need to try it with one or two. Other ideas included a short history of SCAAS, where it started and why; books and articles we find particularly useful; free research resources that can be found on line; any generally entertaining material (any volunteers?). Seven sent a report a few days after the meeting.

c. Costs of website: We are paid up until 2018 at current capacity.

d. Increasing visibility of website in searches. It was suggested that we work to increase our search visibility to attract members and donations. Greg suggested that we make more use of our Facebook page to attract viewership.

2) Reports on Conferences Attended –

a) BigMACC (Big Meeting At Crow Canyon)—Greg and Ray attended; Ray presented about SCAAS and our conference with and at Crow Canyon; Greg about some of the archival work that he has done related to Jesse W. Fewkes' excavation notes at Mesa Verde. Both papers were well received, based on audience reaction. The two also put out SCAAS materials and actively promoted our organization.

b) Annual Conference of the Colorado Council of Professional Archaeologists (CCPA) in Grand Junction. Ray and Greg attended; Ray again presented about SCAAS and our

October Conference. Greg gave his paper on Fewkes' archival materials at a special symposium focused on the historical work of Colorado archaeologists; the CCPA plans to publish the papers in a special edition of Southwestern Lore. SCAA had a prominent table of literature at the conference, which garnered considerable interest from the attendees. Overall, the trip was successful in promoting SCAAS.

c) Do we need policy on financial support for board/member attending conferences?

After a short discussion the Board decided not to have a specific policy but decided such matters should be discussed on a case-by-case basis as they come up.

3) Technology Workshop in Tempe, AZ – Ric Alling brought us up to date on workshop planning. It will be held at Arizona State University, likely over the Veterans Day holiday weekend: Friday morning, 10 Nov. – Sunday early afternoon, 12 Nov.

The current plan is to schedule a site visit on Friday morning to collect data that will be used in the workshop in the session. Participants will develop a 3-D model of the site and place it in a GIS. Software will be open-source and free or very inexpensive. Workshop will be no larger than 42 participants (the limit of the facility) at ASU.

The plan is to start a website devoted to the workshop, which will include registration details. There was discussion about opening the workshop to a wider community than the SCAAS, but some concern about it growing too large to be effective. Software training takes time and attention to detail to be effective. The draft workshop agenda and registration details will be available in early May.

4) Publication Committee Update – Greg shared the current statistics for the submissions to the proposed papers volume: Received—12 of 20 potential papers; the remaining are expected in the next month or so; papers received will be going out to reviewers soon. We still need to raise funds to publish the papers.

New Business:

1) Administrative Issues

a. Quarterly financial reports—Ric reported that at the end of Q1, the society had a total of \$11,396.98 in its overall account, of which \$7,595.95 are in the Carol Ambruster Memorial Fund; which leaves a balance of \$3821.03 in general operating funds.

b. Board and Executive Committee meeting minutes; Reminder, these need to be posted as soon after meetings as possible.

c. Recordkeeping – establish a Drop Box account; Chris Dombroski volunteered to do this for SCAAS. Thanks, Chris!

2) Additional new business: There was a short discussion of a proposal by Tony Hull to work with the Society for American Archaeology to hold a session within SSA or a separate session on either side of the SAA meeting. There is an opportunity to plan something for 2018 (Washington, DC) or 2019 (Albuquerque). The Board urged Tony to continue discussions with SAA on the matter.

3) Revision of By-Laws: discussion was put off until we had some specific matters to discuss.

4) Board Liability Insurance: We should have it to protect the Board and the Society. Ray reported that a local non-profit had secured liability insurance from a reputable firm for under

\$700.00, which the Board thought reasonable. Ray will look into the details and report back to the Board in the near future (what such insurance covers, cost, etc.).

Adjournment: Moved and seconded at 19:08. The next Board Meeting will be in July (TBA).

All meetings of the SCAAS Board of Directors are recorded and the recording represents the full record of meeting activities and discussions. The recording will be made available upon request. Minutes of all meetings are posted on the SCAAS website (www.scaas.org).

Minutes submitted by:

Ray Williamson and Greg Munson
SCAAS Secretary
May 21, 2017

Minutes certified by:

Bryan Bates
SCAAS President
May 22, 2017