



SOCIETY FOR CULTURAL ASTRONOMY
IN THE AMERICAN SOUTHWEST, INC.



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SCAAS Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
16 November 2018, 6:00pm MDT
Teleconference

Meeting convened at 18:03; Present: Bryan Bates, President; Chris Dombrowski, Vice President; Ric Alling, Treasurer; Ray Williamson, Secretary; Greg Munson, Membership Chair

Old Business:

1. Committee reports:

Financial Update: SCAAS currently has about \$14 K in the bank, including about \$6500 in the general fund and \$7500 in the CAMF account; A detailed account will be included in the 18 Dec 2018 financial statement.

- Donation acceptance: SCAAS will receive a Sustaining Membership donation of \$1000.00 from member Mark Raney. According to the SCAAS By-Laws, every donation of \$1000.00 or above must be accepted formally by the Board. Bryan moved to accept the donation, with gratitude. Ray seconded the motion; approval was unanimous.
- Bryan also noted that SCAAS was thankful for a \$500.00 Patron Membership donation by member Michael Zeilik.
- SCAAS has also received a \$9000.00 grant from the GeoFamily Foundation to support the April 2019 SCAAS conference. Bryan moved to accept this grant and Ray seconded the motion. All voted to accept this grant, which provides a solid foundation for holding the upcoming conference.

Board & Liability Insurance: Greg and Ray have discussed the benefit of joining the Colorado Nonprofit Association, which provides access to discounted board and liability insurance (liability insurance is required to use the NAU facilities this coming April). Projected cost for both types of insurance: ~\$1500.00. The organization also provides several other benefits of help to non-profits. Greg moved that we join (yearly cost: \$60.00). Ray seconded. All approved. Greg will start the process. Greg and Ray will explore the insurance on offer and report back to the board at the next meeting.

2016 publication: Greg reported that SCAAS is waiting to hear whether or not it received a grant from the Ballantine Family Foundation to support publication of the 2016 conference proceedings. Editing the articles is proceeding slowly, but well. We have only few remaining articles that need editing. They put together and circulate a publication plan once the results of the grant application are known.

Member Survey: Greg put the member's survey into Survey Monkey so that a link could be distributed and used to tabulate responses from the membership. A list of members to contact was distributed to each board member. So far 13 responses have been entered. The service, including data analysis, costs \$37/month. We will continue the survey through the end of December and then distribute the results.

2. Need all previous minutes to be updated and approved: Ray is working on this and will complete later this week.

3. 2019 Conference Update--Bryan led this discussion

Task assignments. Bryan earlier made draft assignments for organizing and holding the conference, which he sent to board members. All agreed in theory to their proposed assignments. Chris and Ray will collect abstracts as they come in and organize them for the meeting.

Discuss budget and where money comes from: After a few minutes of discussion of this topic, Ray suggested we defer this discussion until the next board meeting, which would allow Bryan, Ric and Greg to develop a draft budget for the conference. This budget would include a rough estimate of all the needs for funding we might experience and where the money might come from. He noted that we have a good starting point in the \$9000 grant. Developing the budget requires planning for the different categories of participants and presenters. Bryan offered to make a list of the different categories he expects for planning purposes.

Conference invitations: We have a conference description, the first copies of which were distributed during the Pecos Conference. A version of this will be distributed widely in the Southwest to as many organizations as possible. Greg reminded us that the Annual Conference of Colorado Council of Professional Archaeologists will be held 7-10 March, 2019 in Durango Colorado. Greg and Ray plan to host a table at this meeting in order to distribute conference invitations. There are similar opportunities at conferences in New Mexico, Arizona and Utah.

Native presenters: We hope there will be many Native presenters and attendees, especially on Wednesday, 24 April, which is devoted primarily to Native presentations from faculty and staff of NAU. Bryan is working with the NAU staff to identify possible presenters and attendees. Ray agreed to contact Philip Tuwaletstewa, a Hopi geodesist, about presenting. Among other things, he has worked with Anna Sofaer on the Chaco roads delineation.

Teachers: Friday is education day and we hope to attract many teachers and principals of SW schools, who can make use of material presented to enhance their classroom activities.

Lowell Observatory Public Event: Lowell Observatory has agreed to take part and will host the conference on Wednesday afternoon and evening. We will likely have a light dinner there to avoid losing participants between the afternoon and evening. Lowell suggested bringing Irma Tall Salt, Navajo, to present about Navajo astronomy.

Program at Museum of Northern Arizona: Bryan is still working out arrangements with the museum but the intention is to focus on Native science.

Potential problem with room capacity at NAU. The NAU facility we are using is limited to 140 participants. If we go over that, we will have to find work-arounds. Bryan flagged this issue for us to contemplate as we develop conference details. Numbers of registered participants can be limited in different categories to meet venue capacities.

Closing banquet: We expect to hold the Closing Banquet on Friday night, in order to lighten the program on Saturday, 27 April and allow attendees to depart Flagstaff in the afternoon, if necessary.

Field trips: Bryan will arrange for several possible area field trips for Sunday, 28 April.

New Business:

4. Proposal to include \$10K on the sponsorship request: Because of the short time left in the meeting, Bryan proposed delaying this item until the next board meeting to which all agreed.
5. Board elections: process & timing: This discussion was also deferred until January.

6. Goals for 2019:
Business Plan—Deferred until January
7. Newsletter: Bryan reminded us to submit articles for the next Newsletter (Solstice issue).
8. Proposed 2019 Board meetings: Jan 14; Feb 11/18; Mar 18/25; Apr 8; Jul 8/15; Sep 30; Nov 11/18

The meeting was adjourned at 7:39 pm.

Minutes submitted by:

Ray Williamson
SCAAS Secretary
November 28, 2018

Minutes certified by:

Bryan Bates
SCAAS President
November 30, 2018