

**Board of Directors  
Bedford, PA  
November 21, 2015**

**Minutes**

**Call to Order**—the meeting was called to order at 10:05 a.m. with president John Nass presiding. A quorum was present. Attendance attached.

**Minutes**—the minutes of the previous Board of Directors Meeting were accepted as distributed on a **motion** enter by Amanda Valko and seconded by Jon Libbon. **PASSED**

**Treasurer's Report**—Ken Burkett gave a written and verbal report which was accepted by the board.

**Old Business**

Financial:

**2016 preliminary Budget**-Ken Burkett presented the 2016 *preliminary* budget reflecting expenditures from the current budget, i.e. publications expenditures, Farm Show and the Archaeology Channel support. The budget was approved on a **motion** entered by Amanda Valko, seconded by Tom Glover. **PASSED**

**Cowin Memorial Fund**—no new donations have been received.

**Elmer Erb Permanent Fund Report**—Chairman Kurt Karr gave a written and verbal report. The fund did not do as well as in previous years reflecting the slump in the economy and low interest rates. Kurt and his committee of Ken Burkett, Bob Oshnock, an educator TBA and the Elmer Erb Trustees are working on ways to share the Elmer Erb resources to support educational and scholarly projects in the future. A report and list of projects will be presented at the Annual Meeting.

**Cowin Award**-refined criteria—no news on clarification of awards. Pam Billman was not present. We will ask for any changes to be ready for the spring meeting and announced in the *SPA Newsletter*.

**Annual Awards-reorganized committee**—John Nass appointed the new members of the awards committee. The goal was to have representation from the whole state geographically to insure that awardees are properly recognized.

The committee: is chaired by Second Vice President: Jonathan Libbon with Donna Smith, Amanda Valko, Mary Jane Shaw, Robin Van Auken, Ted Bair, Janet Johnson, and Paul Nevin. The committee will also have Noel Strattan providing the information from site recordings for the Frances Dorrance Award which is drawn from the BHP files on a calendar year basis. The committee's first task is to review the awards nomination forms and guidelines. The forms will be distributed to the chapters after the first of the year with the appropriate deadlines, posted on the SPA website and in the SPA Newsletter.

**Online presence discussion:** Facebook Vs. Websites Vs. New technology—All the technology used to connect members, students, scholarships, funding, services, interviews, faculty contacts, etc. is in constant flux. Figuring out the best way to provide information and attach new, younger members is a problem across all service and educational segments of society at present. MAAC practices seem to address these issues better than we. A new strategy must be developed soon. PAC also recognizes this problem. Perhaps working together will bring about a better method. All agree that the basic need for dissemination of SPA and archaeology information in general is at the Chapter level and must start there.

**SPA Website /Web Sales**—Roger Moeller sent his report as follows:

#### WEBMASTER REPORT

A chart for the year to date of web based sales of back issues and memberships appears below. The trend is for fewer sales, and for smaller amounts. There have been no donations using the PayPal link on the top of the opening page.



This is also true for the number of hits on the web site (fewer than 50 page views per day). People come to a page, spend very little time, and then leave. Not many are spending time browsing page after page. The least likely way for someone to find the site is by clicking a link on another web site. Most users come by using a search engine like Google. The most popular pages are the meetings/events. The annual meeting page was very popular before the meeting. The members only section has dissertations and these, but not the other items promised in the newsletter:

- a list of field opportunities sponsored by the state as well as the chapters,
- information about SPA sponsored bus trips to museums and archaeological sites,
- a membership certificate that can be printed and used to receive discounted admission fees to the State Museum in Harrisburg and the Heinz Historical Center in Pittsburgh, and SPA merchandise.

Please supply this information, and I will post it ASAP.

Has the password for the Members only section been distributed? I must have missed it.

The password is "Members2015".

I am regularly adding content, announcements, reports, newsletters, links, and pictures.

I have changed the statistics counter to collect additional details on how the site is being used.

While numbers are only numbers, the issue is why are so few people coming to the site? How do the site visitors translate into action (i.e., membership, back issues, chapter meetings, Archaeology Workshop attendees, etc)?

Roger Moeller

**Archaeology Month 2015/2016**—Amanda Valko reported on the 2015 PAC poster information. Gary Coppock produced the poster early and they were ready for distribution at Annual Meeting. This was a great money saver since postage fees have risen steadily. 3,000 posters were given to SPA with Amanda receiving 1,000 and Janet Johnson getting 2,000. CRM and Organizations are needed as sponsors. Letters for sponsorship will go out. If anyone has a suggestion for a possible donor, contact Amanda. The SPA is responsible for the poster production in 2016. The committee is chaired by Amanda Valko with members, Janet Johnson, and Jim Wosochlo (cc to John Nass). Janet and Amanda presented preliminary ideas that were well received.

**Pennsylvania Archaeologist Editor's Status Report**—Editor Bernard Means sent a written report as follows: "I anticipate the first issue of the *Archaeologist* to be submitted to the printer by the end of the year, which will make it late to members. In retrospect, taking up the duties mid-year was probably not a wise thing. The *Archaeologist* is also of course in need of manuscripts.

**Reissuing/sharing of Copyrighted material published in Pennsylvania Archaeologist**—John Nass was approached to allow articles printed in the *Pennsylvania Archaeologist* to be reprinted online by the author as a service for researchers. Since the SPA owns the copyrights and the issues are available through EBSCO for students the need for this sharing was unclear. It also broaches, copyright infringement, plagiarism, non assignment of sources and other issues that might come up without control on the use of copyrighted materials. John will report back on the inquiry that the SPA rejects this request at this time.

**Pennsylvania Farm Show 2016**—Kurt Carr reported that the display area has been changed again this year to a corner spot with less room and visibility. The theme is “The Evolution of Agriculture” and is also the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Farm Show. Dates are January 9 through the 16<sup>th</sup>. Volunteers are needed for every day of the show. The SPA’s contribution in support of the Farm Show was approved with the 2016 budget.

**SPA at the Pennsylvania Farm Show/ Ken Burkett**—in conjunction with the Farm show display, the SPA mans a table to promote archaeology and the SPA. Last year 12 new members came through the Farm Show. Ken needs, hand out material for chapters, the chapter maps and websites. **The biggest need is for volunteers. Kurt will be coordinating the volunteer scheduling for both the PHMC booth and the SPA table. Please contact Kurt NOW to volunteer. It was suggested that chapters might support a volunteer from each chapter with a stipend for travel, parking and lodging. This needs to be done ASAP.**

The BHP will have the booth next door featuring the century farms of Pennsylvania.

**Education Committee /Poster Session Guidelines**-reorganized committee—Tom Glover, as first Vice President will chair the committee with: Valerie Perazio, Susanne Haney, and Beverly Chiaruli. The first need from that committee is to form poster session guidelines for Annual Meeting. The development of educational material to go along with the Archaeology Month theme will be the next project along with development of general curriculum and educational materials to promote archaeology.

**ESAF Representative Report**—Amanda Valko reported on that she did not attend the 2015 ESAF meeting in Ontario but the joint meeting had banquet attendance of about 325 and there were many younger people in attendance. Amanda reminded us of the publication funding available from ESAF for CRM publications (Thomas Award) and institutional publications ( Brennen Award). The SPA as an ESAF member can use the ESAF publication to advertise our events. In 2016, Kurt Carr and Dave Mudge will be in charge of the ESAF Meeting November 4, 5, and 6. Details to follow.

Kurt announced that the tentative date for The Workshops in Archaeology is October 29, 2016. Theme will be about symbolism, ceremonies and iconography. Details will be available at a later date.

Kurt will be applying for the Brennan award for the synthesis material. Amanda Valko entered a motion that the SPA support Kurt in his application for this award, seconded by Janet Johnson. PASSED

**PAC Representative Report**—Paul Raber sent a written report as follows:

*Several new committees have been formed to encourage PAC’s goals. A public outreach committee, chaired by Amanda Snyder, will consider better ways of educating the public about archaeology. The focus is on Archaeology Day at the Capital, which most members agreed has not been effective. A related issue is the Fisher Award, which has also not been very successful. The committee will consider alternatives and other means of outreach.*

*Another committee, headed by Paul Raber, will work towards developing programs oriented to students that could be funded through grant funds and pursue appropriate grants. Ira Beckerman noted that PennDOT has fund sources that might be applied to this purpose. Ira and Jonathan Burns will work with Paul on this.*

*PennDOT and the PHMC are in the final stages of developing a statewide predictive model for prehistoric sites, based on watersheds and drainages. The PHMC will institute policies to insure that the model is updated and improved based on new data.*

*An efforts will be made to update and improve the PAC website, which is now run by Roger Moeller since Pat Miller has stepped down. Suggestion and material should be sent to Roger. Jonathan Burns has developed a PAC Facebook page; materials or suggestions for posting should be sent to Jonathan.*

*The Transitional publication is in the final stages of production. As part of the ESAF grant, 14 copies of the book must be made available for member societies. The editors will front the money for this, using their author discounts, but the*

balance will amount to \$120. PAC has agreed to reimburse half this amount and I am requesting that SPA reimburse the editors for the remaining \$60.

*The PSU Press have agreed to continue publication of future PAC symposia papers. I am currently trying to reinstate the Susquehannock symposium volume, with a goal of publishing it in 2017. Kurt Carr has expressed an interest in organizing the Spring 2016 PAC Symposium on the topic of prehistoric quarries.*

*Last year's symposium on industrial archaeology, organized by Gary Coppock, will be published as a special number of the Journal of Industrial Archaeology.*

Catherine Spohn supplemented the PAC report stating that PAC has reactivated their newsletter. Two issues annually, spring and fall. A tentative topic for the 2016 PAC Symposium will be Prehistoric Quarries. Garry Coppock will publish the 2015 symposium through the Society for Industrial Archaeology.

Hatch Student Scholarship—PAC/Paul Raber—written report as follows:

*PAC/SPA will offer two Hatch Scholarships, \$100 each, for 2016. PAC has approved the funds. I am requesting that the SPA do the same for next year's award. There was some discussion at the PAC meeting on how to encourage more applicants. The key is contacting faculty and encouraging them to identify student applicants who will attend the SPA annual meeting. There was also a recommendation that the committee send out a notice earlier, perhaps at the beginning of the fall semester. I encourage SPA chapters to identify and encourage students to apply.*

**Kinsey Scholarship**—State Museum—Janet Johnson reported that the 2015 recipient was featured in the Fall SPA Newsletter. The information on applications for the 2016 award will be disbursed in the SPA newsletters and through the educational contacts.

**Ballot: Nominating Committee 2016/Elmer Erb Trustees term expiration:** Janet Johnson and Meli Diamanti. Kurt Carr, Chair of the Elmer Erb Committee will announce nominations for the positions in the Winter 2015/2016 Newsletter.

**Annual Meeting Committee/plans 2015 and 2016**—Mary Alice Graetzer thanked the 2015 hosts and stated that there were no commitments for 2017 and beyond.

Amanda Valko outlined the schedule for the 2016 meeting which will be held in Sharon, PA, April 15-17 at the Park Inn Radisson. Amanda and Brian will be program chairs and Pam Billman will be in charge of the organization. A repeat of the Call for Papers and the meeting registration will be in the Winter SPA Newsletter.

**The State Museum volunteered to host the 2017 meeting in Harrisburg and North Fork Chapter 29 volunteer to host in 2018.**

**Publications Fund Award/ Kurt Carr Status Synthesis Volume, Transitional Volume**—The Transitional Volume is in its final stages of production. Further publications are planned and support will be needed in the future.

The \$60 fee (half of \$120 with PAC providing (\$60) for supporting members volumes was approved on a **motion** by Amanda Valko, Seconded by Janet Johnson. **PASSED**

**Membership Initiative/ John Nass**—reported on the plans to increase membership and promote the Society to the public, students and archaeologists. Helping John on this initiative will be Paul Raber (archaeology), Kenneth Burkett (museums) and Bob Oshnock (chapters).

Discussion:

- Facebook and other social media
- Members only section on website with password protection.

- Students will have a downloadable membership certificate from the website for their portfolio. To validate the certificate, a signature from their advisor would be needed.
- Continue with the welcome new member's packet with a membership card included.
- Continue Student Showcase in the SPA Newsletter.
- Make field school experiences more available to high school students and the public.
- Support an October trip to Meadowcroft with lecture.
- Possibly resurrecting the Monongahela Symposium

**C-14 Committee**-Bernard had no news from this committee.

**New Business:**

**Renewal of TAC funding for 2016**—was approved on a **motion** by Karen Martin, seconded by Amanda Valko. **PASSED**

**Discussion for the good of the Society**

Chillicothe, Ohio is planning a Hopewell Day celebration in May 2016. More information will be available in the future.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy M. Duritsa  
Secretary, SPA