

Wisconsin Archeological Society

SPRING 2012 MEETING

May 5, 2012

Horicon Marsh Education Center

Board members present: Jaremy Cobble, John Broihahn, Dick Mason, Rob Nurre, Sara Pfannkuche, Mark Bruhy, Kurt Sampson, Robert 'Ernie' Boszhardt, Jake Pfaffenroth

Total members present (including board): ~20

Call to order by President Boszhardt at 10:30am
Opening thanks to Rock River Chapter for hosting.

Approval of fall minutes

Minutes approved by the board

President's report:

President Boszhardt had nothing to specifically report on, but had numerous comments on various items throughout the meeting, which were given at their appropriate times.

Secretary's report:

By Secretary Jake Pfaffenroth

Following the spring meeting, President Boszhardt and Secretary Pfaffenroth will be organizing and submitting all the Society documents from Boszhardt's term to the Wisconsin Historical Society Archives according to the previously-established archival policy. Following submission of President Boszhardt's documents, the secretary will work with President-Elect Kurt Sampson to organize documents throughout his term for future archiving.

Treasurer's report:

By Treasurer Jake Rieb (absent)

President Boszhardt reported that the Society has been tapping into savings the last few years, and that in the last decade memberships have declined. However, Rieb's report indicates that as of three weeks ago (from the meeting on May 5), there were 344 paid members - the first increase since around 2000. At the time of this meeting, various chapters had not reported in with membership info. Rieb's report indicates that the budget looks healthy.

John Broihahn noted that some institutions don't buy institutional memberships and just purchase the issues when they come out, accounting for the decline in institutional memberships.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Editorial:

Joe Tiffany (not present) reports that the journal is on schedule to be printed and distributed in July/August. There are content commitments for the next year and a half, including some substantial articles including a major report from a DOT project in La Crosse. As a reminder, the DOT will sometimes be using the Wisconsin Archeologist as an outlet for contract reports and will be subsidizing issues. Joe Tiffany would like some smaller articles to break up the larger issues, though.

Rob Nurre pointed out that we may want to work out the timing of renewal letters with making sure the members get the second journal before we ask them to renew.

WisArch News:

Motion from Jaremy Cobble to accept Baker as newsletter editor

Seconded by John Broihahn

Approved by the board

Danielle Benden reports that the new newsletter editor will be John Baker, a faculty member at UW-La Crosse. Information and suggestions should go to him.

Membership and fundraising:

Kurt Sampson communicated some Ideas to increase membership:

- 1) New merchandise ideas - Such as bumper stickers he bought (donated - thanks Kurt).
- 2) New t-shirts with new logos.
- 3) Organizing mound cleanups to get people involved.
- 4) Social gatherings have been successful and should be continued.
- 5) Maybe hosting a small conference for Wisconsin Archaeology.

Sampson also reported on the back-issue problem, having been graciously stored at UW-Oshkosh by Dr. Jeff Behm. The back-stock needs to be moved or eliminated. Sampson thinks we should keep 5-6 complete sets of issues and recycle the rest of it. Robb Nurre has the man-mound t-shirts and gives them away to people who volunteer at the Man mound. We could put the word out through the society that people can come to oshkosh and get anything they want. Do it for a two-day weekend and then afterward recycle the rest.

Danielle Benden commented that the most important lesson is to never get ourselves into this situation again. Think of all the money wasted on all those extra issues no one needs

John Broihahn commented that we've been lucky that the back-issues have been in climate-controlled spaces now. A warehouse isn't a good idea for storing them

Borszhardt reported that the society has no complete sets of physical issues.

Borszhardt summarized the discussion as a plan to 1) Contact Jeff Behm to coordinate a day to have members go to UW-Oshkosh to take whatever they want for free; 2) Save several copies of each issue; and 3) Recycle the rest.

Motion by Jake Pfaffenroth to go through with this plan

Second by John Broihahn

Approved by board.

Borszhardt noted that we do need to include the elimination of the merchandise in the budget (there is a line item that some income comes in from merchandise sales).

Stores and Merch report:

There has been \$1688 in sales from the store and \$260 in store expenses so far in 2012. Thanks to Sue Brown for her tremendous effort in selling merchandise and back-issues, and to Jeff Behm for storing the stock at UW-Oshkosh.

Preservation of sites committee:

Rob Nurre reports on their meeting on Feb 19th. There are three things to do this year:

- 1) Heim Mound.
- 2) A process of working with State Archaeologist's Office for preservation of sites.
- 3) Develop guidelines for non-archaeologists (like park services) for preservation of mounds and sites.

The committee is also in talks to update the Heim mound signage, and is exploring possibilities for fencing or other boundaries, possibly using boulders/rocks. We should use the site to demonstrate best practices for mound preservation and public awareness. Nurre asked for the board's approval to extend the committee's \$500 allowance rollover from past budget until September/October.

Motion by Sarah Pfannkuche.

Second by Mark Bruhy

Approved by board.

Some events coming up: May 12 open house at Heim mound. Advertised in Middle Times Tribune, with cleanup planned beforehand. We will also be marking the 153rd anniversary of the measurement of Man-mound, which will be celebrated with exhibits other activities.

Awards Report:

Mark Dudzik (absent): The Wisconsin Archeological Society Research Award (WASRA) was awarded to Heather Walder, a Ph.D. candidate at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Congratulations! Heather is researching chemical analysis of glass trade

beads and copper ornaments of fur-trade era Wisconsin. Heather gave a brief summary of what her project/research is and will submit an article to the Wisconsin Archeologist after she's finished.

Note: There were three applicants for the WASRA award.

Web and Facebook:

Jake Pfaffenroth will be taking over as committee chair from Brian Nicholls. There has been discussion of creating a new website for the Society. The current website is hosted on the UW-Milwaukee servers for free. This has been convenient, but has also led to difficulties regarding web administrator access. In the coming weeks, Pfaffenroth will put together options for the board to consider regarding pricing, features, and changes to the Society website. Pfaffenroth's goal is to have a new website up and running by the end of July.

Until a new website is developed, Brian Nicholls has the only access to the current website and any changes to it must be made by him. Please include Brian in any requests for changes.

INSTALLMENT OF PRESIDENT-ELECT KURT SAMPSON AS PRESIDENT:

Robert "Ernie" Boszhardt thanked the board members and officers.

Danielle Benden, on behalf of the society, thanked Ernie for his leadership and service.

Kurt Sampson thanked Ernie also for all his hard work of over the last several years. Sampson expressed that he would do everything in his power to maintain the high level of hard work and commitment to the Society.

New Committee Chairs and membership:

Motion by John Broihahn to nominate Katie Egan-Bruhy and Mark Bruhy as co-chairs of the Programs/Events committee

Second by Jeremy Cobble

Approved by board

Jake Pfaffenroth will be taking over as chair of the Web/Facebook committee.

Sampson will send out requests for further board nominations.

Fall meeting:

There was discussion about when and where to have the fall meeting, and to possibly make it a social event. Sampson suggested that the board decide by the end of May.

Meeting adjourned at 11:37am

AFTERNOON'S EVENTS:

1) Lunch following the meeting (cookout)

- 2) Following lunch, a program by Assistant State Archaeologist Amy Rosebrough on recognizing and documenting burial sites
- 3) Workshop on methods for measuring and documenting effigy mounds, at Propst Skyline Tree Farm. Thanks to David and Laurie Propst for welcoming us to their land, and for their interest in Wisconsin Archaeology!