

Wisconsin Archaeological Society

Fall 2016 Meeting
October 29, 2016, 10:00 am
Wimberly Hall, UW-La Crosse
La Crosse, WI

Total members present: 21
Board members present: 10
Quorum Met

Meeting called to order at 10:06 am by President Seth Schneider

OLD BUSINESS

Rob Nurre motioned to elect the new slate of officers; Joe Monarski seconded; approved by the membership

- Phil Milhouse as President-Elect
- Kat as secretary

Secretary's Report - Delivered by Kat Sterner

- Board voted four times since the spring meeting
 - o To confirm Kat as interim secretary
 - o To award a WAS Research Award to Madelaine Azar
 - o To pay \$30 to sponsor a table at MAC
 - o To donate \$250 to the MAC

Chris Veit motioned to approve Spring 2016 minutes; seconded by Kurt Sampson; approved by the membership

Treasurer's Report - Delivered by Jake Rieb

Overall \$56,500 total, \$26,500 in checking

- 2015 budget is finalized
 - o Surplus of \$770
- We made \$395 at the MAC
- We could get close to 300 members, although we are still down in memberships
- Connie suggested we could send out membership status notices in mass mailings; and we could send this out with the journal or separately to note membership status

Rob Nurre motioned to approve 2015 and 2016 budgets; seconded by Jeremy Cobble; approved by the membership

Editorial Committee – Delivered by Connie Arzigian in Kent Dickerson's absence

We are looking for articles.

Education and Outreach Committee – Delivered by Jeremy Cobble

Kat Sterner, Rob Ahlrichs, Jeremy and Kaarin Cobble did the MPM Archaeology Day outreach activities

- Flintknapping, experimental archaeology, artifact displays

If anyone knows of any educational events we can participate in, please let Jeremy know

Elections Committee – Delivered by Seth Schneider in John Broihahn's absence

Looking for at large board members

John Broihahn would like to step down as chair of this committee and we are looking for volunteers

Preservation Committee – Delivered by Rob Nurre

Still working on preservation of the Heim Mound

- Removal of non-native vegetation
- Saturday, November 5th there will be work going on there
- There is a dead red oak tree that needs to be removed
- Rob is giving a talk on December 3rd for the Middleton Area Historical Society and the honorarium will be donated to WAS for the preservation to the Heim Mound

Awards Committee – Delivered by Seth Schneider in Heather Walder's absence

There was a WASRA given to Madelaine Azar

Dan Wendt received the Increase Lapham Award

Web Committee – Delivered by Jake Rieb in Jake Pfaffenroth's absence

There is no committee chair as Jake Pfaffenroth is out of state. We need a committee chair.

40% of our income comes in through the website

There are 600 subscribers on our mailing list

- Everyone that purchases something on the website gets added to this list

There are 450 Facebook followers

Jaelyn noted that we should use our Twitter account that Jake Pfaffenroth set up

Programs Committee – Delivered by Rob Ahlrichs

November 21st 7:00 pm Jennifer Haas is talking about the Finch site

January 16th is the Winter Dinner (Monday, Martin Luther King Day) at North Star Bistro in Milwaukee

Talks are on the third Monday of every month in the spring (February, March, April, May)

Schneider noted that the Program Chair used to coordinate with all of the other branch societies and advertise all of their events

Charles E. Brown Chapter Report – Delivered by Joe Monarski

Jennifer Haas is speaking in December

The officers will remain the same

Monarski took his history students on a mound tour to Aztalan, the Hoard Museum, the intaglio, etc. and notes the lack of knowledge among high school students about Native Americans and mounds

- Maybe we can provide some sort of information to allow teachers to update their curriculum

Other Chapter Reports

Kurt Sampson – Rock River had an Archaeology Weekend at Horicon Marsh

- Artifact shows
- They are looking for speakers
- Ernie Boszhardt and Geri Schrab will be speaking in November

Rob Ahlrichs – Ritzenthaler holds regular meetings; Jeff Behm needs speakers for the talks

Additional Old Business – Delivered by Seth Schneider

Updating the Society Bylaws

- Rob Nurre has drafted a new set of updated bylaws
 - o Trying to integrate the Society and the Chapters
 - Associate memberships were used to remedy this
 - o How do we represent the chapters on the board?
 - The board is too large at 17 members

- We need to have bylaws that do not change every few years; *policy statements* can be made about Chapter relationships, membership, membership fees, etc. that can be changed as needed by a 2/3 vote
- We also do not have a mission statement, which should be part of our bylaws
- La Crosse is not technically set up as a Chapter as the bylaws are currently written but they are looking for financial support from the Society to help pay for having lectures
 - Support for transportation, lodging, encouraging student participation, etc.
- Nurre noted that we need to examine what the benefit of WAS affiliation is for Chapters and what the benefit to WAS is for being involved with Chapters
 - Most of the publicity for WAS is through the Chapters
- Schneider said we should put a committee together at the November Board Meeting to coordinate with the Chapters
 - The tentative plan is to hold the meeting in Baraboo
- Monarski noted we need to differentiate between community Chapters like Ritzenthaler and the student Chapters like La Crosse

Wisconsin Archaeology Handbook

- Still something we are working on with the Survey
- Letters will go out to Society members about participation

Devil's Lake Bird Mound Centennial

- Event was well attended and helped raise awareness about archaeology and preservation

The WAS table at the MAC in Iowa City

- Attendance at the MAC was relatively low
- Schneider proposed that we have a vendor table at the MAC on a regular basis
- We donated two archive volumes to the student paper awards

The WAS donation to the MAC on a regular basis

- *Chris Veit motioned that there should be a budget line item for MAC donations; seconded by Joe Monarski; approved by the membership*

Schneider noted that we should have an awards section from the past few years of Increase Lapham and Ritzenthaler awards in the journal

- Connie will speak with Heather Walder in the Awards Committee about finding this information

NEW BUSINESS

Katie and Mark Bruhy are working with David Grinon and Dave Overstreet to create a video about the work being done on the Menominee Reservation in conjunction with the Wisconsin Humanities Council

- David Grinon and Dave Overstreet will be speaking about this at the Winter Dinner and will show the video
- Discussion with the Board since the Spring 2016 meeting led to agreement supporting this effort
 - We can put links to the video and related materials on the WAS website

George Christiansen is interested in starting a new chapter in the Baraboo area

Rob Nurre motions to have the Heim Mound as the new logo for WAS, seconded by Joe Monarski

- Motion was amended to state that we will form a committee to move forward to incorporate the Heim Mound as part of the logo and the color, text, etc. will be formalized later
- The main goal is to formalize *one* logo rather than the multiple logos we have been using
- The amended motion was approved by the membership

John Broihahn has asked if we could donate to the Archaeology Month again

- Since it is a line item under the budget we will vote on that later

The Board Meeting was tentatively scheduled for Saturday, January 7 due to conflicts in November

- It will be in Baraboo or Madison based on feedback about availability of facilities

- If facilities are not available, Kurt can host in Dodge County

The Spring 2017 meeting for WAS is currently open

- Schneider proposed holding it in Kenosha pending support from Dan Joyce
- Sampson proposed the Milwaukee Public Museum as a location

The Fall 2017 meeting could be in Beloit at the Logan Museum

The Legislative Committee on the Preservation of Burial Sites is meeting again on November 10

- Nurre provided an update on how the committee meetings are progressing
 - They do not take public testimony but they do take written statements so maybe we should make a statement as a society
 - Because of our bylaws we cannot lobby but we can provide an educational letter
 - *Rob Nurre motioned that this letter to the committee be written and circulated to the board for approval; seconded by Chris Veit*
 - Monarski suggested publishing it in the Capital Times
 - *The membership approved this motion*
 - *Joe Monarski motioned that a letter to the editor also be drafted to discuss the legacy of the mounds and their meaning to our state heritage as well as connection to the extant Native American community and their small remaining number be circulated to the major newspapers in the state; seconded by Chris Veit*
 - *The membership approved this motion*

Motion for adjournment made by Schneider at 12:10 pm; seconded by Veit and Monarski; approved by the membership