

**North Carolina Archaeological Society
Board of Directors Meeting
August 15, 2004, 2:00 p.m.
Office of State Archaeology, Raleigh, NC**

Attendance: Linda Carnes-McNaughton, Bill Covington, John Hildebrand, Tom Beaman, Bill Conen, Dee Nelms, Steve Davis, and Archie Smith.

The president called the meeting to order a 2:05 p.m.

Old Business:

There was a brief review of the May 22, 2004 minutes that had been previously sent to each director electronically. Steve noted a few corrections for clarity. That said, John motioned to accept the minutes and Bill seconded the motion. The minutes were approved with noted corrections.

Tom then called on Bill Conen to present his treasurer's report. He distributed an updated financial report for review. The endowment fund has now reached over \$21,000. Dee noted that incoming dues was up by \$500 as compared to the May records, and she plans to send out a third renewal notice soon for lagging membership. This segued into a discussion of poor attendance at the May meeting. Tom apologized for his absence at the meeting due to his store management. Dee suggested that the lack of attendance for the May meeting was a result of non-commitment by members and officers.

Steve then presented his editor's report. He is planning a special issue of articles related to historic Catawba around an ethnohistory theme. It will include a collection of papers by Charles Heath, Theresa McReynolds, Mark Plane, and Brett Riggs and Steve Davis. He is also trying to get permission to reprint an early article by Harrington on the Catawba to be included in this special issue. Steve stated that this is a "backup" issue because there has been a lack of contributed papers that he further attributes to lack of commitment.

He added that this lack of interest is also prevalent in the NCAC as well. LCM asked if there had been any advertisement for the NCAC's latest volume on Somerset archaeology. Steve mentioned that Paul had not advertised because he was planning to step down as treasurer/secretary and wanted his replacement to handle that job. An advertisement for the volume will go into the next NCAS newsletter. There is a possibility a few can be taken to the SEAC/MAC conference in St. Louis in October. It was suggested that John Mintz as NCAC publication editor should be active in getting the word out on this volume and help get it distributed. LCM suggested that conferences on historical archaeology along the east coast area would be likely venues to sell this book.

For an update on the EAC, Bill Conen pointed out that the endowment fund was healthy but also that there was no recipient this year for the \$1000 grant, so it earned money. LCM mentioned that the co-chairs needed to be contacted to re-advertise the RFP in the

next newsletter. Steve mentioned the announcement is on the web site and can be updated from there. LCM will contact Randy and David to get the ball rolling.

Steve provided a brief update on the web page, not much has changed and he is keeping it current. He will add the October 2 event schedule to it. There was some discussion about putting old minutes on the web page with BOD access. LCM suggested that we wait until January to do that, after a new slate of officers is seated. Everyone agreed.

Bill Covington mentioned that he would like to see the interactive dig on the web page and Steve agreed to do that immediately. [Steve later found that this link already exists.]

New Business:

Tom stated that after a phone call to Ken Robinson, he agreed to serve on the Nominating Committee once again. The other two members of this committee will be Dee Nelms and Terri Russ. Dee suggested that we adopt the slate of candidates who offered to serve last cycle but who were not elected. These include Jeff Irwin, Bruce Idol, Matt Jorgenson, and Paul Mohler. LCM suggested Dawn Reid's name be added to the list as well. The Nominating Committee will contact each person to make sure they are still interested in serving. Tom mentioned the geographical distribution of board members is important, but most important is to get people who will commit to serve and attend meetings. Everyone agreed this was a critical requirement. The slate was approved and will appear in the next newsletter with bios of those who agree to serve if elected. Deadline for the next newsletter is August 31 and will contain mostly fall meeting information.

Next, Bill Covington asked the board their opinion or suggestions for how to appraise private collections for the purpose of donation. He mentioned some of his contacts had expressed interest in donating their collections to perhaps small museums or schools for libraries in exchange for a tax write-off. Steve began his reply by saying that for archaeological collections context is very important and often private collections lack good documentation of context which lessens their value. He added that it is difficult to get appraisals because a lack of record-keeping diminishes the scientific value for these collections. Bill asked who would appraise such collections. Steve explained how the process of appraisal was done for the Hardaway Collection recently received from the Alcoa Corporation. He explained that the value was appraised in two ways: archaeological value (or the cost to recover such materials) calculated for the bulk of the collection, and commercial value (or the price it would sell for on the open market) calculated for projectile points. In the case of the Hardaway Collection, a private appraiser from New York researched the collection and provided Alcoa with an estimated tax value. Tom mentioned that ebay is a fair guide to open market value of single and group artifacts. Steve pointed out, and others agreed, it was unethical for a professional archaeologist to place a monetary value on artifacts based on market value. He further stated that the RLA has no formal policy for accepting collections, but the decision to accept a donated collection normally was based on the quality of provenience information about the collection. Bill asked the board to think about if the NCAS would want to serve as liaison or distributor for these donated collections to help find them a suitable

home (museum, school, library, lab or whatever). The feeling of the board was that we could advise but that we could not take an active role in the distribution of collections because of the legal aspects of it. And, the NCAS should discourage collections from going into the antiques market. Bill said he would report back to his collector friends, give them our response, and make a suggestion that they contact private appraisers to receive tax value.

Bill Covington was asked to update the board on his project to distribute NCAS brochures to local libraries. He said he had covered Catawba County and about 20 others so far. He is approaching each library individually by first sending a letter, and then following up with a call. He sends 15 to 20 to each venue upon response. Tom mentioned that some local chamber of commerce offices control the content of racks at visitors centers and they have authority over who places cards where. Bill noted that Cumberland County did not respond to his request to place NCAS brochures in their building. Archie said he would take some brochures to Town Creek.

There was a brief discussion about redoing the brochure when this set is gone, perhaps sometime in January. Dee agreed to do a "patch run" to have enough for the October fair set up.

Tom initiated discussion of the Grants and Awards Committee, approved back in 1993, to ask for board feedback. He has not yet named a committee. LCM provided a brief explanation of how and why the G&A Committee was created (as an oversight committee) to handle requests for funds for special projects or events and to award the Douglas Rights Award to anyone who demonstrates outstanding dedication to North Carolina's archaeology. Bill said we should revisit the issue of having a formal application for funding requests so we can have a tracking record and a way to assess merit of each applicant. There was general discussion about how the committee would function, its authority, and how it would interact with the board. LCM suggested that since the G&A Committee is an ad-hoc committee appointed by the president, that he simply use members of the present board for this same committee. Bill Conen then motioned that the G&A Committee be made up of the Executive Board, sans President (i.e., the President-Elect, the Treasurer, and the Secretary). John Hildebran seconded the motion and after a vote, the motion carried. The three-person committee will create a grant application form and an application for the Douglas Right Award, and try to get them into the next newsletter. Once applications are received, the G&A Committee will review applications and make recommendations to the board for a full vote of approval or rejection. Bill Conen, Bill Covington and Linda Carnes-McNaughton are the current G&A Committee.

LCM presented an update on planning for the upcoming fall meeting scheduled for Saturday, October 2, 2004 at the North Carolina Pottery Center in Seagrove. LCM and Dee, along with Denny Mecham (director of the Pottery Center), will finalize the schedule. Dee will help with lunch arrangements and secure a vendor. LCM then asked several board members to be in charge of the identification tables for the afternoon event. They can also ask others to help at their designated stations: Steve Davis will be in

charge of the prehistoric pottery table; Terry Zug and Steve Compton will be in charge of the traditional folk pottery table; Tom Beaman and Linda Stine will be in charge of the imported historic ceramics table; Bill Covington will be in charge of the lithics table; Dee will be at the registration and sales table; Archie Smith and Joe Herbert will demonstrate a prehistoric kiln firing; and two NCPC staff members will give tours of the wood-firing kilns on site. LCM is planning to have two Native American potters (one Cherokee and one Catawba) on hand that day to demonstrate their craft. She asked that the NCAS pay each an honorarium and cover lunches and travel for these two vendors since the venue site (NCPC) is being offered free of charge and is covering the cost of the guest lecturer, Dr. Chester DePratter. LCM is the curator of the Santa Elena exhibit scheduled to open on that same day. LCM will work with Dee to get information into the newsletter on time and lunch reservations made. LCM asked that the board members also be responsible for helping to set up and break down chairs and tables on that day since the NCPC staff is only three people.

Dee presented a status report on the state fair. NCDOT is doing the exhibit this year but she still needs a few volunteers. She also mentioned that the rental fee for the booth jumped significantly from \$620 to \$840 without prior notice. NCAS paid for the fee, but was reimbursed by NCDOT. She asked if the NCAS wants to continue to do this event. There was general discussion that this is our primary public outreach venue, that hat and shirts sales were a plus, and that we've been doing it for 20 years. Dee pointed out a general lack of participation and that she was tired of covering for shifts when folks didn't show up or canceled at the last minute. The board agreed to help Dee figure out a way to make this work better. Since NCDOT is covering for this year, Tom suggested we table this discussion until January and not make a decision on it now. John Hildebrand agreed to be "on call" for Dee to cover any unexpected absences.

At the request of Vin Steponaitis, Steve then asked the board to consider offering Haynes Lea, an attorney who worked *pro bono* for the NCAS during its merger in the early 1990s, an honorary membership to the NCAS. Bill Conen motioned for the board to accept this proposal. John Hildebrand seconded and the motion carried. Bill Covington asked how many honorary members are there out there and if we have any legal council as members. No one knew for sure. He suggested we might want to change the by-laws to include legal council at some point on a case-by-case basis.

As no other business was brought to the table, Conen moved to adjourn and Steve seconded. Meeting was adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

These minutes respectfully submitted by,

Dr. Linda F. Carnes-McNaughton, RPA
Secretary, NCAS