

**North Carolina Archaeological Society  
Board of Directors Meeting  
January 27, 2008, 1:00 pm  
Office of State Archaeology, Raleigh**

Attendance: Linda Carnes-McNaughton, Dee Nelms, Steve Davis, Jeff Irwin, Ruth Morgans, Linda Stine, Terri Russ, Archie Smith, Bill Conen, Kate Pattison, and Scott Seibel. Guest Joe Moylan. Matt Jorgenson absent.

Russ called the meeting to order at 1:15 p.m.

Following a brief introduction of new members (Stine, Morgans, and Pattison) and the guest, Joe Moylan, the BOD thanked Nelms for arranging the meeting venue to be at OSA's new offices in the state archives building. Nelms asked all present to sign an attendance sheet which will be filed with the NCDCCR's Secretary's office.

**Old Business:**

Minutes from the October 13, 2007 meeting held at Town Creek Indian Mound were reviewed and then a motion to accept was put forward by Davis, seconded by Irwin. After a vote the minutes were approved.

Conen presented the Treasurer's report and distributed a financial report for BOD review. Membership was noted at 371, an increase from the same reporting period last year. Nelms pointed out that dues renewal cards were ready now to be mailed out and the number should further increase. Conen stated that \$917.72 represents the interest earned on the endowment money for this annual cycle. After no further discussion, Stine motioned to accept the treasurer's report; seconded by Seibel, carried after a vote.

Davis then issued the Editor's report. He explained the delay on journal printing and distribution due to illness and delay of the draft being sent to the printer which subsequently put the production out of sequence. There was additional delay (a month) on receiving the proofs back from the printer, but that the printing job was good. Because of the journal's delay the entire mailing (including the newsletter and flyer) was also delayed but that it is now in the mail to the membership. Total costs for production was about \$2400 for cost, minus mailing costs.

LCM then presented a brief history of the EAC to the new board members and how the endowment was created. She further explained who was the most recent recipient, Chris Moore, an ECU graduate student, who will use the grant award to fund scientific testing of early paleo sites. Last year's recipient was Steve Compton, and his project entailed an inventory and reboxing of Mt. Shepherd pottery collection. She asked the treasurer for an update on Compton's grant request, which totaled \$1000 (Conen). The BOD will expect a report from this project soon (and perhaps a publishable article). It was noted that in the eight year history of the endowment, it has only been awarded five times.

Davis offered a webpage update. He made it his New Year's resolution to update all links and listings on the page and corrected addresses and affiliations for officers. He then provided the

html for new board members. [www.rla.unc.edu/ncas/minutes](http://www.rla.unc.edu/ncas/minutes). The journal and newsletter listings were also updated. And he reported the most recent issue of the CoAS, formerly not available on-line, was now offered digitally and he included those as well. He stated that the most recent project report on the fall 2007 work at Town Creek (an NCAS event) was also now on the webpage. LCM suggested that we submit this report to the CoAS newsletter as an article from our state society. Davis will follow-up on that request. The BOD encouraged all members to send articles to CoAS.

### **New Business:**

Irwin and Seibel presented an update on the Chapter Development project. Irwin and Seibel have been consulting with other state societies as to how they set up new chapters. As part of this discussion, Irwin invited NCAS member Joe Moylan to the meeting to share his ideas on the topic. Irwin stated that chapters need to be amateur based and should incorporate more local members. He will write up his findings on the subject and present to the BOD for review. He thinks we need to publish our interest to start up chapters and recruit new members to partner with professionals. We should also then ask these local chapters to host an annual meeting, as Tom Oakes has already agreed to. It was agreed that limited field opportunities (such as we've done at Town Creek and Currituck) are stimulus for interaction. He stated, "field opportunities are awesome, but follow through is hell". Seibel noted that Joel Hardison is now offering a field school at Uwharrie National Forest and we should invite him to get the NCAS more involved by opening a chapter in this region of the piedmont. Davis pointed out that as people (members) come and go in an area, it takes more support at an institutional level (he cited the Cumberland County Chapter as an example). Stine mentioned the four-county area near Hickory, as an example (UniFour Archaeology Society). Pattison asked if these chapters will generate more membership. The reply was affirmative. Food, fun, activity and publicity are key ingredients. More discussion was given on the Otter Chapter in the west and its success due to David Moore's leadership. One suggestion was to get the NCAS to assist in funding a startup event in a region, to be used for keynote speakers, travel or whatever. Russ asked about the start up kit and an outline of logistics to be provided on our web page. Will the package be ready anytime soon?

The discussion then shifted to how the NCAS defines itself and if it's too "academic" rather than "amateur" oriented. Moylan indicated that that's why amateurs are more likely to embrace a chapter activity than a society's activity because of our stated by-laws re: digging, surface collections and maintenance of collections. The NCAS's policy is "do not harm", so while we wish to open it up to certain activities of the amateurs we cannot at the same time sanction certain other activities (such as the buying and selling of artifacts). Stine interjected a 1974 letter from (then) state archivist, H.G. Jones, who met with Dr. Coe and commented on the nature and small size of the local society and its goals. To conclude this discussion, Irwin and Seibel agreed to send an announcement out to the membership (via newsletter) asking about the level of interest in local chapters. Due to Dee by February 28 to make the print deadline.

The guest, Joe Moylan, was then given the floor to present his ideas. He asked if the NCAS "almost died in the late 1970s", to which Davis provided a reply. He also asked if the NCAS "has always been going downhill", to which the Conen cited membership numbers to be at a

consistent level since the 1992 merger with the Friends Group, at about 400. Moylan then presented his proposal for collection strategies of low-level lake environments and how the local amateurs could be helpful in recording sites during drought episodes. He distributed a handout for the BOD to review, outlining these ideas and how to set up such a program, supervised by professionals in the region. There was discussion on the particulars (see attached handout for the file), and the assessment was that the general public could be engaged to help recover and protect the archaeological record. The following is a quick summary of the discussion:

**Questions and comments:**

- Good idea to be considered by NCAS.
- Irwin asked if one weekend per year could be devoted to this. And have professionals on hand to help record site location and teach how to map things.
- This program could be a suitable job for local chapters to become stewards to the lakes and rivers in their regions.
- Seibel stated a balance is sought to follow the letter of the law, and convey legal aspects.
- Who would apply for the needed ARPA permit from COE?
- ARPA permits need specific research goals, with curation costs included.
- Can we train/convince people to collect and not take the points?
- Davis reiterated that ARPA permits require a research-oriented goal, and that most lake shore regions are monitored by federal agencies (like COE), except a few private lakes like Alcoa and Badin.
- It was agreed to contact Richard Kimmel (COE) and Paul Webb (TRC) who may be willing to help coordinate such an effort/project.
- Should it be presented as salvage archaeology, since most below-level sites were have already been written off prior to impoundment?
- Should collecting be limited to diagnostic artifacts and not all materials?
- Irwin doesn't wish to discourage Moylan and others with good ideas while the risk of losing more archaeological resources is still happening.
- One research-oriented question by Moylan is settlement pattern analysis.
- Irwin will seek data re: permit options by COE and report back to the BOD.
- Davis cited NCAS member's, Whitey Graham, work on site discoveries and collections which were reported to the RLA for many years; sites all on private properties.
- He pointed out that these private sites are also being destroyed as a rapid pace and do not fall under and state or federal permitting agency's responsibility.

Russ suggested the "adopt a county" approach to have a professional available in each region of the state. Davis agreed with the idea of marshalling additional people to help record sites and protect resources was viable, but did not see it as appropriate on federally protected lands, rather he suggested it had merit on private lands where sites receive no agency protection. Irwin agreed to look into ARPA permit process (on federal vs private lands) and report back to the BOD. LCM suggested that we continue to include the long-term curation of artifacts from these sites as a relevant part of this program; don't collect if you can't curate. Irwin mentioned that Land Conservancy agencies do not pay for archaeological surveys of land, but can create protective easements and purchases of sites once they are located and evaluated. Irwin agreed to continue discussions with Moylan and explore further ideas of where this approach would work. He then

thanked Moylan for coming to speak to the BOD. Davis added that surveys of areas are an ideal activity for local chapters to do with volunteer labor within a specific area.

Discussion shifted to the upcoming spring meeting, previously presented at the October 2007 meeting to be held in May at the North Carolina Pottery Center. This meeting will occur in tandem with a new exhibit at the NCPC to highlight North Carolina's American Indians potters (past and present). LCM agreed to followup on the meeting details and call the BOD for an electronic vote for the program, once details were worked out with the NCPC director (re: speaker, activities, lunch, reception, etc). LCM will work to have this in place by the next newsletter deadline.

The BOD recommended that the fall meeting of the NCAS be held in Currituck County, and hosted by Tom Oakes, as previously offered (October 2007). Irwin will inquire about the Virginia archaeological societies meeting and if they wish to join us in fall 2008 at the Currituck event.

LCM asked if the NCAS would be willing to contribute to the next SEAC which will be held in November 2008 in Charlotte. The organizers, May, Tippitt, and Levy, will send out a request for donations/contributions soon. LCM reminded the BOD that last time (2005) the NCAS sponsored a special student reception by its donation of \$500. Russ also mentioned that Lea Abbott and John Mintz were organizing a separate event in the fall (2008), called the NC Coastal Plain conference, and are seeking donations/sponsorship from the NCAS. LCM presented a letter (received the day prior) which outlined the meeting and their objectives. After some discussion, Russ agreed to reply to Abbott and Mintz seeking more information re: venue, dates, speakers, etc.

Davis noted that this year will be the 75<sup>th</sup> birthday of the NCAS founding and we should celebrate appropriately. More specifically he noted, October was the anniversary month and the fall meeting will be an appropriate time to celebrate this milestone event.

Smith mentioned he would also like to continue the fall excavation event at Town Creek Indian Mound site, but it did not necessarily have to be an NCAS event, but just pick a weekend to invite everyone to participate. Davis, who would apply for the permit, suggested a spring time event instead since upcoming fall looked to be very busy.

As all topics and discussions came to a close, Seibel moved to adjourn, seconded by Conen, and the meeting concluded at 3:15 p.m. The BOD was then given a facilities tour by Dee Nelms.

These minutes respectfully submitted by,

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