

**NCAS BOD Meeting [virtual]**

**7 June 2020**

**Zoom via RLA hosting**

**1:30 P.M.**

*Attendance on line: LCM, Petersen, Fitts, Mohler, Nisch, Bailey, Bell, Krizmanich, Cranford, Purvis, McArdle, and Henderson. Guests: Davis and Beaman*

Meeting was called to order by Petersen at 1:35 p.m.

**Old Business:**

The BOD minutes from 20 January 2020 were reviewed. Bell asked that his comments from that meeting be clarified re: his question of how can we better engage our NCAS with our Native Tribes and other agencies. LCM said she welcomed a statement from him to insert into the minutes for better representation. LCM noted a few typos to amend. Krizmanich made a motion to accept the minutes with noted amendments. McArdle seconded his motion and the BOD approved the document.

Fitts then presented the treasurer's report which was previously emailed to the BOD for their review. She noted an increase in dues saying that membership had exceeded last year's total at this same time. She explained expenses for the past journal issue. She and Davis discussed how to best pay for the next newsletter issue, perhaps sending the bill directly to Jan Scopel (in the RLA Admin office) for her to pay while Davis is home during the pandemic orders. Fitts indicated that membership dues, new and renewed, were sparked by receiving the newsletter digitally along with reminders. She thinks this method of membership reminders is working well. Henderson motioned to accept the report, seconded by Mohler and approved by the BOD.

Cranford presented the editor's report next. He stated he had two manuscripts in hand for Volume 69 and was hoping to solicit at least one or two more. His deadline for submittals is by the end of August. He will be working with the former editor, Davis, to get the next issue out on time and smoothly. There was a short discussion about discount coupons offered by Lulu.com, the press which Cranford plans to use if possible. Beaman commented he had something to send to Cranford for the next issue.

Mohler presented his updates on the newsletter production. He stated the summer is coming up and deadline for submittals would be July 31<sup>st</sup>. He reviewed recent newsletters to see what content is normal for the summer issue, which typically includes the slate of candidates for the fall election and sometimes a ballot. He plans to include a short piece on the postponement of SEAC in Durham, now scheduled for October 2021. He commented on the success of the digital on-line newsletter, noting a few exceptions where the emails were kicked back. He thinks those can be resolved before the summer issue is ready to send. It was also stated that institutions still prefer hardcopy issues of the newsletter so that will continue as such. Davis had previously reported that institutions send a notice if they do not receive it. Fitts mentioned some libraries like digital copies but not UNC which files the newsletters into archives. It was noted that since all libraries are officially closed for the pandemic period, the next newsletter may go out as digital only. Davis said he printed 75 newsletters and the cost of mailing those was \$5.50. To conclude Mohler asked the BOD for items to include in the next issue.

Beaman offered the BOD his assessment of our NCAS stock. He said only 10 items had been recently sold, all via mail order since there had been no in-person events. He mentioned that the SECHSA may still occur in August, but that seemed unlikely (it has since been canceled until 2021). Total stock includes 162 pieces of mostly t-shirts, male and female styles, and multiple colors. He'd like approval to order more stock of large sizes for better on-line selection. Fitts stated that she had looked into the NC state sales tax and that since we sell merchandise throughout the year (via online), and not at just events, we need to be collecting state sales tax. Fitts is also seeking an auditor for the NCAS audit to happen. Beaman suggested that the increase in cost (for NC sales tax) should be reflected in prices shown on the webpage inventory. Fitts recommended that we consult an accountant first and let them guide us on cost increases.

Beaman then discussed a new gorget design he'd distributed to the BOD for their inspection. A previous gorget design t-shirt sold really well in the past and could be repeated because of its popularity. Beaman shared three different versions of the gorget designed, and asked the BOD for their preference. The consensus was positive for the new design with some questions. The t-shirt printer is Bread and Butter. There was some discussion about new colors or popular colors. Dark colors were preferred (burgundy, dark tone, charcoal gray, maybe tan but avoid oranges and yellows). Henderson suggested that we add information about the design, like site name and period in order to provide more history of the object. The BOD discussed this as something that could be added to the NCAS merchandise page in order to educate the buyers on what each design or artifact represents. Nisch said

that site history could be added to the webpage for each design or motif. The BOD agreed we could educate as we go without getting too bogged down in details. McArdle said this could be done using a “tag” for each object to click on and find more information. Bell recommended that attaching a tag to the merchandise when it’s sent to the buyer would go far to share the knowledge and link the artifact to the people who made it. Cranford said we should not put the webpage address on the t-shirt since that can often change. Henderson said we need a blurb on the webpage for each design to include site, name, date and possible use. Someone mentioned the new Eden House design and how it needed more information to share about the artifacts shown. Cranford mentioned the Drilling into the Past t-shirt design and why it was not successful. LCM explained that particular design came about from a student competition among Junior NCAS members at the time. Beaman also stated that we want to use high quality t-shirts to get the best product for our money. McArdle asked about turnaround time for order to in-stock and Beaman replied it takes about 2-3 weeks. Davis mentioned that most companies are seeking work right now and maybe Beaman should go ahead and place an order, though all events are canceled. Nisch asked about stickers and Beaman replied he still has some and they go out with t-shirt orders. The sticker cost was very low, so they are bonuses.

Bell asked about upcoming events like Archaeology Month and if we need stock on hand for that event, or create new, special items. Since all gathering events are on hold, no one can say what will be the case in November. Fitts said while all in-person events are on hold, the NCAS and OSA can still pursue virtual offerings, like posters and podcasts. Beaman asked for a decision on ordering new stock now since online sales have continued. The BOD concluded we should table this decision for now and revisit at the next meeting when a timeline for re-opening or holding events maybe be decided. Petersen wants to have our next BOD quarterly meeting in early August to stay on track.

### **New Business:**

Petersen initiated discussion about the “new” brochure and where that project now stands. He stated that our initial deadline was SEAC in October but since that meeting is canceled the deadline is less critical. No new work had taken place on the finalization of the document. Another effort is underway. Discussions about the brochure continued and Petersen will make it available for review using Dropbox or share a thumb drive. Nisch and LCM agreed to revisit the mockup and see if the graphics can be improved. Purvis offered to assist. Petersen requested we finish it and tweak it later if necessary, but wants the NCAS to have something to share

with new students or interested patrons. Davis mentioned students are due back on UNC campus by August 10.

Petersen then initiated discussion about new and existing committees and giving them goals to accomplish per quarter, and committee chairs reporting back to the BOD at each meeting. He suggested committees for Events, Membership, and Communication/Social Media. Petersen will serve on every committee and each BOD member must be on one committee. Other NCAS members and interested persons can also seat on a committee to assist or contribute. He explained the function of all committees. He wants the chair of each committee to have a report to present at quarterly meeting and LCM will add those reports to the agenda. The chairs will be determined before the next meeting in order to report on the committee progress. Events Committee can be exploring virtual offerings in place of in-person gatherings; Membership Committee can be working on new candidates for the BOD seats; and so on. Cranford recommended that we add the new committees and their functions and each chair to the next newsletter inviting membership to join up if interested. Mohler recommended a cap for the number of people on each committee, initially anyway. Beaman recommended that each committee get going and set up then add new folks to the roster. LCM recommended former NCAS BOD members be considered.

Nisch asked Bell for his perspective on how to incorporate his ideas for increased involvement with American Indian communities. It was suggested the NCAS have a fourth committee devoted to AI Relations. Petersen said we need to establish a mission statement for each committee and set goals. Nisch said the goals can be changeable each year as needed and/or as goals are achieved. Someone suggested we consider setting up a committee to enhance engagement with African-American communities as well. Henderson stated that historical markers are disappearing and should we make a statement in the next newsletter. Petersen explained that the NCAS role is to be apolitical in most instances and the NCAC's role is to be a political advocate for preservation. He stated we need to be clear on our mission and our message, staying engaged with current issues but make the statement neutral as possible. Bell stated that in general there is a lack of engagement with AI communities across the state and incomplete or incorrect information results. He stated AI members need to join the NCAS and have a bigger voice in important discussions about various topics (e.g. human burial remains). He cited the Cherokee Nation as being more involved in these discussions. He stated any programs or topics for discussion at events for Archaeology Month, need to engage the AI communities.

The final agenda item was a discussion about the newly proposed Albemarle-Pamlico Archaeology Chapter By-laws. Petersen received these from Ms. Dunn and sent them out to the BOD for review. He explained the history of the organization and why they approached the NCAS BOD to establish a local chapter. Ms. Dunn had contacted Petersen on several occasions about details in the BOD's acceptance of their proposed chapter. There was general discussion about the goals of this group and the nature of their work, why they wished to be an affiliated chapter of NCAS. Krizmanich who is familiar with their work on sites in the NE corner of the state said there are political aspects of this where private groups are clamoring to find early settlement sites before they are destroyed by development. He stated there is "big" money involved to search for early sites and this group is "shopping for credibility" to conduct archaeological work on these sites. He stated some groups are more serious in research and scholarship, and some have access to land to be investigated. The BOD agreed any members of an affiliated society or chapter must be NCAS members first and understand our mission statement and by-laws. Petersen agreed to share email discussions with Ms. Dunn with the BOD for future discussions and a possible vote of acceptance or not. All future discussions must be done respectfully and in fairness. Bailey said this one chapter request could set precedent to vet the applicant, review their by-laws and perhaps interview members. Davis seemed to think they were seeking a professional (whose tuition they are seeking donations for) to give their group legitimacy and if they don't become NCAS affiliates then they'll do their work anyway. It was noted that the person they are hoping to become their "professional" archaeologist is working on a bachelor's degree in archaeology and would therefore not meet the SOI professional standards anyway. McArdle asked to they meet the criteria for a new chapter or affiliated society. Cranford said one possible solution is to require them to present a scope of work on any planned fieldwork and allow it to be vetted and approved (like an ARPA permit would do). The BOD agreed to review the dialogue and table further discussion or a vote until the August meeting. Davis cautioned that if they become an NCAS endorsed group that their actions could impact all of NCAS and so they must meet professional standards for archaeological research. Petersen agreed to reply to Ms. Dunn the nature of our discussions and he'd be in touch after the August BOD meeting and decision.

Petersen said he appreciated everyone's time to ZOOM in for the meeting and expressed the strain of these unusual times and the impact it's taking on our personal and work lives.

As there was no further business to discuss Bailey made a motion to adjourn at 3:40 p.m.

These minutes respectfully submitted by

Linda F. Carnes-McNaughton, PhD, RPA  
NCAS BOD Secretary