

**NCAS BOD MEETING  
3 AUGUST 2020  
ZOOM, RLA-UNC  
1:30 P.M.**

*Attendance: LCM, Bell, Henderson, Fitts, Bailey, Cranford, Krizmanich, Petersen, Nisch, McArdle, Purvis. Guest: Davis, Beaman. Absent: Mohler*

Petersen called the meeting to order 1:35 p.m.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

There was a brief review of the June 7, 2020 BOD minutes, followed by McArdle's motion to accept the minutes, seconded by Krizmanich and approved by the BOD. LCM agreed to forward the approved minutes to Davis for inclusion on the NCAS webpage.

Fitts presented the Treasurer's Report to the BOD. She noted this was a slow time of the year but a few new memberships have been received. A small PayPal fee was incurred (\$15.53). Membership currently stands at 224, up from the previous two years. There had been only one t-shirt sale since June 7. Regarding an audit, she reported her conversation with a CPA who specializes in non-profit organizations and who recommended we not pursue an audit unless we need to. The estimated cost of an audit would be about \$6 – 7,000. She stated that since we have no paid employees, we would not need to have a federal audit done. The discussion concluded rather open-ended, but in general, she did not think the NCAS needed an audit done. On the topic of sales tax for the sale of our merchandise, Fitts is going to check again with her CPA colleague to be sure about it. This was also left open-ended but Beaman said he would need to have a decision soon. Beaman stated that currently the t-shirt price is \$14.95 and he could up the cost to a rounded \$16.00 to cover sale tax and shipping costs. Hats, he stated, are a bit more complicated. The BOD agreed that by this time next week, the issue will be resolved. As there was no motion, no vote on this topic was taken, nor needed for this cost increase. Henderson made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report, seconded by Niche, then approved by the BOD.

Cranford presented the Editor's Report. He stated Volume 69 is shaping up well and he now has three article in hand to review, two from Forest Hazel, one from Jack Hranicky, and two promised articles from Ben Steere and Shawn Patch. He also is hoping to include four book reviews. The deadline for submissions is August 30. Davis asked if the article from Forest Hazel was the one previously submitted in 2019 and if LCM's edits had been incorporated into the resubmission. LCM agreed to communicate with Cranford after the meeting on this submitted article which describes historic sites on Fort Bragg training lands.

Petersen suggested that we might consider trying to include artwork by Native Peoples for the NCAJ covers. Cranford stated he likes the way we've done it in the past, where the cover images are taken from an article featured in the volume, sort of teaser of what's inside to read. He

indicated there may be concerns about permissions to use Native American artwork in our journal. There was general discussion about this idea and if it would be better served to include such artwork in the newsletter instead. Krizmanich suggested we solicit such artwork from social media outlets and maybe take the top three images (judged?) with explanations and include them in the next newsletter. Petersen mentioned a photo contest as another way to include Native America artwork, cultural traditions, for greater exposure. Henderson suggested the NCAS compile a special edition of just NA artwork. McArdle stated that doing such a context and exposure on social media may remove a cost for the images, as they would be public and that paying artists for images in the journal could be problematic, IOW how would the NCAS compensate them for their artwork. This concluded the Editor's Report.

In Mohler's absence, Cranford presented the Newsletter Editor's Report. He read a statement sent by Mohler to the BOD. He reported that content is thin for the next newsletter and he plans to include the Whitey Graham Award RFP, and update on the postponed SEAC annual meeting, plus the bios for new candidates (on the ballot). Petersen said it would be a good idea to include the new committees along with the names of chairs for each committee. He could not get permission to use/reprint Ben Steele's article from the Citizens Times newspaper. Next, there was a general discussion about the previous newsletters from last fall and spring, some of which returned or bounced back. The cost to print hardcopies was covered once again by the RLA, but they need to get reimbursed. Petersen stated he'd like the diversity statement to go out in the next issue, and the deadline could be extended if need be. LCM suggested that Mohler solicit testimonials from members about how the pandemic has impacted their life, jobs, travels, research, etc. The BOD discussed how elections are going to be conducted if we have a virtual meeting, since no in-person nominations (from the floor) can be offered. Davis read a portion of the by-laws indicating that we have not been in compliance in how we advertise the election and how we acknowledge who is the Elections or Nominating Committee. We should be doing better at this. It was noted that in future spring issue newsletters, we should include the names of all committees and the composition of the Elections Committee (to comply with by-laws).

Beaman then provided his report on Merchandise. He reviewed potential captions for the new t-shirt design of gorgets. He had two statements; one for the t-shirt caption and one for the tag to accompany each shirt (a longer statement to include who, what, and when). McArdle said all designs should be on our RLA-NCAS link, and the gorget is in 3-D. Beaman said the artist's name will be added to the longer tag. Beaman explained the gorget image came from Ward and Davis's book *Time Before History*, and was found at the Hairston Site. There was general discussion about the burial context of the gorget and if we could use the image (re: NAGRPA rules). The Sara were ancient Catawbans. Davis agreed to check with the Catawba Indian Nation (THPO) to make sure we could use the image. Everyone agreed the tag and caption should be kept short. Beaman obtained permission from the BOD to solicit printing the new shirt at Bread and Butter once the caption is approved and finalized. Beaman mentioned that using the PayPal button on the order page can sometimes be a problem if they do not have the size ordered in

stock and he has to return the money. Bell and Davis then had a discussion re: the historical region of the Sara and Catawba Indians, and where Cherokee territory was located. It was concluded that at the time the gorget was carved they would have been called the Sara but it is always good to link to modern Native American groups where possible, to enhance the concept of continuity on the landscape.

Next followed a question about color preference for the newly designed t-shirt. After some discussion it was agreed that dark green was the first choice and dark gray would be the second choice. It will be one color for men and women's style shirts. Davis recommended that Beaman look at the color options posted on Bread and Butter webpage to compare availability.

Beaman's final point was to request permission to order new stock in large sizes (currently sold out or low). Fitts made a motion to support the order of new stock to replenish popular sizes, seconded by Cranford, then approved by the BOD.

[Petersen dropped off line temporarily due to bad connection]. LCM read off the members of each committee and chairs, where they had been appointed. Petersen rejoined the group after a technical glitch and began to ask Committee Chairs for their reports. Nisch, chair of Membership, said she'd been on vacation so did not have much to report at this time. Purvis, Events Committee chair, reported she was working on ideas for a panel discussion for current topics/issues, looking at goals, virtual programming and how to get interested people to join the NCAS. She asked the BOD for ideas to pursue, anything to increase viewing our social media links and becoming members. Petersen said he'd like the Events Committee to focus on a virtual event for Archaeology Month in October. Fitts said that since the OSA and NCAS Town Creek event was cancelled, they are thinking of making a video to show during the month as well. Cranford mentioned the OSA's "Submerged NC" Archaeology Month theme was also postponed for now. Petersen said we are doing archaeology at strange times now, so virtual tours, panel discussions on-line and interviews may be the best way to reach current and new membership. Purvis has been searching for content to appeal to younger audiences and teaching tools. Bell indicated that the annual Indian Heritage Celebration will also be a virtual event this year, featuring Sally Bloom. He said the two-day event will be held November 20 and 21. Purvis said this may be a good opportunity for our NCAS membership to join in. Nisch wished to have an event where membership felt special, offering them something extra for their annual membership fee. Petersen said these ideas can be further explored in our smaller committee meetings, then brought back to the full BOD for participation.

Henderson, as Communications Chair, presented his brief report. He hopes to have goals prepared to share with the BOD by the next meeting. He is exploring podcasts as a way to engage the public in archaeology, bringing forward the pros and cons of such a platform. He said a careful vetting of what platform to use and the content to present is crucial. He hopes to have two or three podcasts ready to post by the fall. It was mentioned that Hannah Smith moderates the Twitter account, also Tom Beaman on our Facebook account. Henderson needs to get the

password and links for the accounts. Nisch mentioned that new input is always welcoming as long as it is in keeping with the NCAS mission statement. McArdle also sent a proposal forward for ways to make superfast connections and adding links for easy access. She also mentioned keeping our branding front and center on every possible link or outlet or platform. We should be consistent in that. Smith, Beaman, and Nisch will continue to monitor the NCAS Facebook link and solicit participation from membership and the public.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

The upcoming fall election of two new board directors and renewal of our treasurer were the next topic of business. At present there are two at-large positions to be vacated by McArdle and Bailey. Following the staggered terms for officers, the treasurer's (Fitts) position must also appear on the ballot. Cranford asked the BOD who were the two candidates for at large board seats, Nisch replied Donald Hill and Sarah Watkins-Kenney for the two at-large seats. Both bios have been received and will be added to the ballot. McArdle made a motion to accept the slate, seconded by Purvis and approved by the BOD.

It was decided to do paper and digital balloting again this year. Henderson recommended we set up a special address to receive ballots: [NCASElections2020@gmail.com](mailto:NCASElections2020@gmail.com). The slate and addresses will be send to Mohler for the ballot to accompany the next newsletter. Bell requested that the ballot be listed in the subject line of the emails so folks know how to vote and when.

Petersen introduced a discussion on diversity and inclusion. He stated given the political climate of the times, that the NCAS should promote the histories of all people.

Petersen wants to be proactive to be inclusive and anti-racist, promote histories of all people, and consider ways to rephrase diversity statements. He stated the NCAS supports preservationists and should provide leadership on such critical issues. He plans to draft a longer statement to be included in the newsletter. He wishes to clarify our position on inclusive histories and how/why we exist. McArdle said we need to state our goals and revise our mission statement. Davis said our goals are found in Articles of Incorporation and we should begin there. Petersen concurred we do not need to reinvent our mission statement but perhaps expand it as a reaffirmation statement. McArdle thinks a statement that will be overarching or over-reaching is best, something to address current events. The revised statement should be posted on NCAS Facebook, the newsletter and membership forms. One suggestion was "NCAS Digs All People." Cranford recommended we look at what the SAA, SEAC and SHA has done recently to revise their mission statements towards inclusivity. Petersen stated he sees these as two different statements, a vision statement of reaffirmation and a mission statement for socio-politico standing. Davis cautioned that we want to educate and not alienate our membership, some of whom are of another generation, so it needs to be thoughtful.

Davis mentioned a recent open letter written by Michelle Lanier, head of the Historic Sites Section, NCNDCR, talking about a mission for inclusivity and under-represented communities.

LCM asked if we might reprint this open letter in our next newsletter. Bell pointed out that Native American communities are also in the under-represented communities, not specifically addressed in her letter. He supports it but thinks it is overly focused on BLM movements and not Native American communities. Bell wishes such a statement to be about ALL people of North Carolina's past. Nisch wants to create a "diversity officer or committee" to resolve and study this issue on behalf of the NCAS. McArdle said we should be mindful of our format and how we frame social history and how we educate. Purvis agreed we need to state it with clarity and support, respectfully. The BOD agreed to table this discussion until next time.

The final topic of the meeting involved the chapter proposal from the Albemarle-Pamlico Archaeological group. Petersen shared the highlights of his recent correspondence and telephone calls with Deborah Dunn, representative of this group. He summarized his conversations and reviewed the emails he sent out for review by the BOD. Petersen had requested their proposal bylaws which he received in June. Also he reached out to Dr. Charlie Ewen at ECU to inquire about his interaction with this group. It was clarified he knows them but did not agree to be a "sponsor" as they stated. Recently, Petersen received a letter from Ms. Dunn saying that they had withdrawn their request to become a NCAS Chapter or Affiliated Society. Petersen accepted their letter and sent them a reply offering her or members of their group to consider sitting on the BOD for the NCAS or other partnership opportunities. Petersen also mentioned that he reached out to Ms. Dunn and invited her to either attend a BOD meeting or join in a conference call to discuss their proposal. She declined. Henderson remarked that the NCAS should be "more transparent in how we vet requests to set up new chapters, what criteria are considered, and that the NCAS was slow to reply to the group, hence their frustration and disappointment." He thinks we should have reached out to make it work and engaged them. Petersen explained his exchange with Ms. Dunn and the timeline of interaction. Krizmanich also expressed his concerns about the group and was curious as to their "impatience" with the NCAS BOD for not giving them a greenlight. The deadline was created by the requestor, not the NCAS BOD. Krizmanich confirmed he has "major issues with their approach" and that they may not have been completely straightforward in why they were seeking chapter status with NCAS. Nisch commented that if they were willing to use us (for legitimacy) then they would also be less likely to listen to us (for advice or guidance). McArdle recommended that in the future the NCAS set up a timeline for chapter applications, on a cycle and if you miss they application period, then wait until next cycle. Cranford stated that he would expect chapter requests to come from people we already know and not an unknown entity, that way we know what to anticipate in terms of qualifications and expectations. Petersen will draft a statement and send it out to the BOD for review.

Motion made by Fitts to adjourn at 4:20 p.m.

Theses minutes submitted by Linda F. Carnes-McNaughton, NCAS BOD Secretary