

**NORTH CAROLINA ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
25 APRIL 2021  
ZOOM  
1:00 P.M.**

*Attendance: Bell, Petersen, LCM, Nisch, Cranford, Mohler, Fitts, Hill, Krizmanich, and Watkins-Kenney.  
Absent: Henderson and Purvis. Guests: Beaman, Davis*

Petersen called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m.

Minutes from the January 31, 2021 BOD meeting were reviewed. With minor edits noted, Cranford made a motion to accept the minutes, seconded by Mohler and then approved by the BOD.

**CONTINUED BUSINESS:**

Fitts presented the treasurer's report (see attached page). It indicated that \$890 of dues and contributions had been received with one new life membership (3 total so far, bringing Life Members up to 53). A total of \$86 in merchandise was sold this quarter. She noted that the cost for our new web site is on a monthly basis (\$30 p/m) and we may want to change it to an annual cost. Cranford then made a motion to change the billing to an annual fee; seconded by Hill and approved by the BOD. Davis noted that the increase in life memberships is always a double-edged sword meaning the one-time cost of being a life member does not generate accumulated income equivalent to renewed annual memberships. The BOD agreed. One suggestion was to raise the life membership beyond \$250. The question was asked why do we have life memberships, can we do away with them? The reply was life members want to participate and receive the journal without the annual renewal hassle. After more discussion, Mohler made a motion to accept the treasurer's report, seconded by Nisch and approved by the BOD.

Cranford then presented the editor's report. He stated he has two manuscripts, one left over from the previous issue, which may or may not be edited for publication. He also has three promised book reviews. He is hopeful that enough content will arrive to complete a full issue. Davis asked if one of the book reviews was for Daniel's latest volume on NC point types. Hill offered to do the book review for Daniel's book. Another article is by Sarah Stevens and another promised article is related to the QAR project. Beaman promised a book review. Shawn Patch has also promised some future articles related to previous technical reports. Cranford will reach out to Hazel to ask about his willingness to complete the revisions on his previously submitted article.

Mohler presented his updates on the next newsletter, the deadline for which is April 30<sup>th</sup>. The feature article will be about the West Site shark tooth recovered by Krizmanich. He would also like to include a short tribute to the recently passed US Forest Service archaeologist Rodney Snedecker. Beaman is providing additional mystery artifacts, and word puzzles as content for younger readers. SWK also submitted an article about UK antiquities laws in light of the recent film *The Dig*. Mintz (OSA) and Smith also promised news articles for the upcoming newsletter. Mohler mentioned a request from Keith

Reeves who is putting together a new exhibit and wants to advertise for assistance. Mohler recommended he also post this job advert on the NCAS Facebook page for quicker response. Beaman asked about feedback on the puzzles and if we should offer a prize or raffle for solving the puzzles or mystery artifact id. A sample prize may be an NCAS visor or a back issue of a special journal. Petersen recommended Mohler reach out to field school POCs to gather info about upcoming summer projects.

Beaman provided his report on NCAS stock and merchandise. He has a few visors left but does not plan to order more right now. The past few months with pandemic restrictions in place have prevented any in-person sales events, but he hopes that will change soon with upcoming meetings in the fall (SEAC and SECHSA). So far, he is able to fill most orders that come in from the new webpage and still has good stock in lots of colors. Petersen asked if we might consider have a special NCAS/SEAC t-shirt printed up for our volunteers to wear to be better recognized. He mentioned a themed t-shirts like Tobacco Heritage or some historic aspect. It was mentioned that this SEAC there will be no reception, dance nor guided tours offered in order to stay within pandemic precautions. Beaman asked if there are any questions about merchandise for SEAC to please keep him informed. He plans to staff a table for merchandise sales in the book room.

Nisch briefed on the results of recent membership committee initiatives and possible incentive ideas. She would like NCAS decals mailed to new members. Beaman said he would work to make that possible, and that some had already been sent to new members. Mohler suggested putting new member decals in the packets with the 2021 journals. There was some general discussion about a new NCAS logo magnet and what the cost might be. Fitts was tasked with membership renewal reminders, and suggested reminders be placed in the newsletter and on the NCAS webpage.

Purvis was absent so there was no Events Committee report. Petersen talked about the proposed Somerset event and how difficult it became to follow up on tours, etc. Still he hopes the NCAS will have something up on events before the SEAC meeting. A general discussion followed about a possible Watch Party and Petersen offered to do a "dry run" and see how it worked out. Cranford updated the BOD on the SEAC membership survey taken by Scarry, Lapham and other planners to find out IF people would come or not and what they expected. The planning committee for SEAC is meeting once a month to plan what events can safely happen and alternatives to tours, entertainment and gatherings.

In the absence of Henderson, Hill presented the Communications Committee report. He stated that because of end of the semester projects and other time commitments they had nothing new to report to the BOD. Mohler asked about contributions to be made for the month of May and whom should he route those to. May's topic is "Archaeology Near You". One suggestion was to send the hashtag links to local CRM companies and get them to participate. The topic shifted to soliciting new members for the BOD positions and gathering bios to get into the next newsletter for the fall election. Mohler said he would include them in the summer newsletter issue, with the deadline of July 15<sup>th</sup>. LCM reminded the BOD that the slate of candidates must be approval by the BOD before it could be posted/published. Nisch asked the BOD to also submit ideas of the monthly theme to post on social media links. SWK stated that her recent article sent to Mohler for the upcoming newsletter included lots of links for useful information local and afar. She likened her theme to Arm Chair Archaeology, what you can research

from the comfort of your own home or office. Petersen said he would like to get more questions out there to stimulate more discussions on the social media links. Bell brought up the topic of artifacts being sold or traded on some web sites he had visited and wondered how the NCAS should address this issue. The BOD agreed it is a reality that is not going away so we should make the effort to educate or find another way to communicate in order to save the archaeological resources we have. Petersen said there are ways to communicate and educate without being confrontational. He wants to set up a committee to reach out to those folks and provide guidance on laws of preservation, letting the NCAS serve as liaison with the public. Davis said he is willing to communicate, share and help education but does not wish to engage with those who are simply confrontational. He said oftentimes, those folks have a very basic level of understanding and it is difficult to convince them otherwise. Most of these folks he stated are probably illegally digging sites. SWK suggested that NCAS members maybe do a one-on-one approach to engage these types of people about their particular artifact, keeping it on a personal level. The BOD agreed the NCAS mission must always be front and center, and not compromised. One member suggested we offer an on-line workshop for material cultural identification as a way to engage new members and educate on site preservation. OSA members could also partner and help to create guidelines. Fitts stated that the OSA already has a "Citizen Niche" on its webpage and folks share their artifacts for identification there. Fitts stated that if it appears the inquirer is more interested in buying or selling (what's it worth?) the artifacts then they shy away from interaction. Mohler mentioned the Preservation Maryland webpage as a good example of how to interact with local collectors in a positive way. Davis pointed out that one chapter in Daniel's recent book dealt specifically with the topic of working with amateur archaeologists and collectors to assess and preserve their collections.

Petersen next asked Krizmanich to discuss By Law revisions. Krizmanich sent out some suggested bylaw changes the morning of the meeting, so most BOD did not have an opportunity to preview the suggested changes. He noted that numerous changes were outdated and needed to be revised to reflect electronic voting, specifically Article 2. Krizmanich pointed out that the elections are all tied around the fall annual meeting and that we should abandon that cycle because we do not always have a fall meeting. Mohler also pointed out that in Article 4 indicated he should have been seated by BOD vote instead of the membership. Davis explained that following Nelms' exit from the NCAS BOD, Lapham served for one year at the Newsletter Editor and it was a newly created position to assist the Editor position, IOW not originally in the By Laws. Krizmanich stated we need to comb carefully through the By Laws to make updates and changes are consistent. Davis said this should be done by committee and we should be thoughtful/careful not to create more inconsistencies by making changes that will impact other parts of the By Laws. Krizmanich provided three changes to the By Laws (see attached handout) for the BOD to consider. He stated members no longer come to fall meetings or we do not hold fall meetings for them to vote in person. Davis further explained that the fall meeting simply represents an annual cycle whether there is a meeting/event or not. It provides a rhythm to the yearly business of the BOD. He stated that the pandemic has created additional complications over this past year, which prevented in person gatherings. He stated we should continue to hold elections in the fall for regularity, otherwise "things would drift". Petersen said we do not wish to chip at the By Laws piecemeal but should approach these changes with a holistic approach. Davis agreed some of the language may be a result of the merger with the Friends group long ago and we should address those areas for uniformity.

Petersen asks that the BOD look over the proposed changes put forward by Krizmanich for further discussion. LCM reminded Petersen that the By Laws Revision Committee is Krizmanich, Davis, LCM and Cranford. Davis stated it would be beneficial to also review the Articles of Incorporation at the same time make sure both are in synch.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Petersen then offered some discussion about a land acknowledgment statement. Bell recommended that we revise and submit the previous version of the statement sent forward several months ago for the BOD to review. He thinks such a statement presents a talking point for everyone to learn more about Native Americans on the land. Petersen said he had reviewed the Land Acknowledgement published by William and Mary University on their web link. He would like to have more input into a statement for the NCAS. He thinks we should focus on background information, research and how the information can be better shared. How does this statement fit into the story of North Carolina? Do we keep it “between the borders” or make it encompassing pre-state borders? Davis said if we make it too inclusive then we stand a chance of leaving some group out and offending them, it is always a risk. He noted that over centuries, some were here and some are now gone or located elsewhere. He recommended a shorter statement for publication followed or linked to a longer statement with names of tribes, nations or groups listed. LCM stated that it would be a mistake to list only state or federally recognized nations or groups as there are also many heritage families of unnamed origins. Bell suggested we start with naming North Carolina groups, and then add those groups we consider regional and historical. Petersen stated he would like to finalize the NCAS Land Statement before he rotates off the BOD in the fall. He will bring a draft of a shorter (broader) statement to the BOD for review and input soon.

Discussion then moved to the upcoming SEAC conference to be held in Durham in late October and how the NCAS can participate and be involved. It is likely the NCAS will contribute funds and/or become a sponsor. NCAS will also plan to have a vendor station in the book room to sell our stock (thanks to Tom and volunteers). LCM mentioned, given the location (city of tobacco) there will likely be a special symposium on the topic of tobacco use and history. Several members of the NCAS BOD are also on the SEAC planning committee so will be able to share updates as they come online soon.

There was a brief discussion about the upcoming fall elections. LCM mentioned a candidate for the President position is Theresa McReynolds Shebalin, and for BOD at large, Jane Eastman and Kelsey Schmitz.

LCM and Beaman mentioned the upcoming SECHSA in Cayce, SC in September. He hopes to sell NCAS stock there.

Bell made a motion to adjourn at 3:15 p.m. As there was no further business, the BOD adjourned.

These minutes respectfully submitted by,

Linda F. Carnes-McNaughton, PhD, RPA