

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

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

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

Minutes from the April 25, 2021 BOD meeting were reviewed. Mohler moved to accept the minutes as presented, seconded by Hill, approved by the BOD. One correction: add Krizmanich in attendance.

**CONTINUED BUSINESS:**

Fitts presented her treasurer's report. We seem to have more money but less membership. We now have 56 life members, so more of those and a drop in overall membership to 200. Beaman said sales have been slow, as expected but should pick up at SEAC in October. The EBSCO royalties are in and shown on the spreadsheet. Mohler asked what is EBSCO (Davis explained). Davis noted that the word institution was misspelled on the Membership listing. There was general discussion about NCAS current membership rates and when and how we might consider adjusting them; are our rates adequate for now? Petersen said we can talk about it again soon, and suggested the Membership Committee look at this and present a model for the BOD to consider. Mohler said it appears most categories are not far off, but it is general membership that is lacking. Why are regulars not renewing? We hope to increase membership up at SEAC in October. Petersen did a survey on Facebook members to ask if they would like to be a NCAS member too; he got few responses. Davis asked if any BOD member sends our renewal reminders. Fitts said she does not; the only reminders go out in the newsletters and on social media links. Davis said reminders might help. Nisch stated we need "enticements" for members to rejoin and without such, folks are not interested joining or renewing memberships. Petersen said we should try to reconnect to previous members and get them back on board, and thinks the Membership Committee should be tracking those people first. Nisch stated that if we have more offerings and more things happening then people will renew. SWK asked who actually communicates with our membership? Fitts stated she manages the membership database but has only indirect contact. The spreadsheet is updated regularly. SWK asked who is on the Membership Committee? Petersen said Nisch is the chair and is working on the elections. She stated she thought her role was to build membership. Petersen pointed out that ALL BOD members should be involved in all aspects of the organization business and committees are set up to lead the way. He stated all committees should overlap one to the other; the communications, events, and membership. Nisch pointed out that if you want to talk to anyone in becoming a member, do it, and don't wait on a committee member to do it. SWK asked, in general, if there was someone who wanted to join, who would that person talk to? Petersen said any BOD member can help recruit. Hill asked if our NCAS web site could create a "members portal" for inquiries.

Another comment was to add a reminder that membership is an annual cycle, so a special link could be added to let the viewer know it is time to renew, like an automated calendar. Fitts mentioned that there is software available to create an automatic renewal reminder. The BOD asked her to research the cost for this and report to the BOD. As there was no further discussion on the treasurer's report Mohler made a motion to accept the report, seconded by Hill and approved by the BOD.

Cranford presented the editor's report. He said the journal is shaping up with promised manuscripts coming in, two promised and a few book reviews to include. One manuscript left over from last year remains in limbo until updates and revisions are approved. He asked if we know of anyone who has manuscript please reach out to them. Mohler stated the summer issue for the newsletter would be a big one because of SEAC news, Elections updates, and hold-overs from the spring issue. He has one feature article on canoes by Tim Smith, and OSA blurb from John Mintz, and puzzles for the fun times. Deadline for the summer issue is August 6. Mohler will save the Edenton article for fall newsletter. Herbert has asked for one image of a pipe to be include (research question). LCM noted this pipe was previously published in a 2003 NCAS newsletter, in an article by Bill Covington. Mohler stated the ballot and candidate bios take up a lot of space in this issue. Also the Whitey Graham EAC RFP will be included.

Beaman presented his Stock Report. Only one hat and one t-shirt sold this quarter, but he hopes the SEAC sales table in the book room will be productive in October. He will look into NCAS logo 4-inch magnets for sale as well, offering them at a \$1.00 cost or give away with another purchase or to new members. The BOD approved purchase of 500 magnets, 250 to give to new members and 250 for current members who want one. Another swag items discussed were plastic or rubberized bracelets. The BOD declines on those, though they agreed the more swag the more incentives to join. Nisch made a motion to approve purchase of the magnets (estimated cost at \$550), seconded by Fitts and approved by the BOD. Mohler then made a motion for the BOD to pay the vendor's table fee of \$75 for SEAC, seconded by Krizmanich and approved by the BOD. LCM asked Beaman if he has help lined up to cover the NCAS sales table in his absence if needed (as he attends a session). He said he'd work it out.

#### **Committee reports:**

Nisch reported on the Membership Committee, and asked the BOD to approve the slate of candidates for the fall election: renewal of Secretary, one president-elect, and two at-large BOD directors [LCM, Theresa McReynolds Shebalin, Jane Eastman, Kelsey Schmitz, and M Martinez, respectively]. Cranford made a motion to approve the slate, seconded by Mohler and approved by the BOD. The ballot will go out in the upcoming newsletter for mail-ins to Nisch. Members may also vote on-line at the gmail address provided.

In the absence of Purvis and Henderson, there was not Events or Communications reports given.

Mohler mentioned that in his duty as newsletter editor, he has contact with the full NCAS membership and, does not mind reaching out to them with renewal reminders. He created a special email chain to link regular members in a mass-group. He can also solicit newsletter content from membership if so desired and again, does not mind sending out membership renewal reminders in this way. Fitts stated she keeps the database updated and will share with Mohler. Nisch does not think it is important to send

reminders for renewal to members, but the bigger issue is to ask them what they want to pay for. Cranford reminded everyone that this past 20 months we have been in a limited status because of pandemic safety protocols and these should lift in the hopeful near future. Then we can return to face-to-face gatherings and more activities for group interaction. Petersen stated yes, we had ambitions, like the watch party and the Somerset virtual tour that did not happen, and that we should be hopeful 2022 will be a better cycle. He hopes that 2022 will be the year the NCAS event will happen at Town Creek Indian Mound SHS.

Petersen mentioned that Purvis would like to remain on the BOD but step down at Events Chair given her work schedule and other obligations. Petersen asked if there was any requirement to replace a BOD member in mid-term. LCM cited Article 3, Section 5 which applied to Officers (not at large directors) being replaced. She said it's best to just replace this committee person with the next group elected.

There was discussion about the upcoming fall elections and trying to amend the by-laws to be in compliance with digital, on-line voting. The fall NCAS meeting will be in person with SEAC conference on Sunday, October 24. Even if the on-line voting (e.g. survey monkey app) does not get into the by-laws in time, members can still vote by paper mail-in ballot and gmail site. Votes will also be received at the meeting in-person. There are currently three methods of voting. Cranford asked Krizmanich to please revise the appropriate clause in the by-laws and submit it to the BOD for consideration. The Executive officers will also work on updating the by-laws in a comprehensive approach to avoid piecemeal changes long-term.

Petersen said he noticed some Facebook members are posting their artifacts in order to enhance artifact trading and we need to be more mindful in our management of these postings. Some applicants have been rejected, and the BOD and Communications Committee needs to monitor the situation regularly. Someone suggested tightening the membership guidelines and keep them posted. Administrators for the social media links should be sharing the load, not just Henderson. Petersen stated there is a difference between leadership and authority, and you can be a leader from wherever you are. Mohler said hashtag themes are continuing, and next is Experimental Archaeology (e.g. Brewing).

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

Petersen returned to our discussion about the land statement. He would like to see it completed before his term is up and will continue to work on it. He wants to research the National Museum of the American Indian and W&M land statements for comparison. Bell stated he is on the Cultural Committee for the NCCIA and will have a meeting in mid-August to discuss this acknowledgement. He will have some drafts to share for comparison and send them to the NCAS BOD for review.

LCM presented background information about previous NCAS support for SEAC conferences. Because the meeting is local this year and the NCAS will have a bigger role in participation than ever before she recommended that the NCAS submit a \$1000 sponsorship for SEAC this year. Mohler seconded the motion and the BOD approved the motion.

LCM then presented a motion for the NCAS to contribute to the annual SEAC Student Paper Prize of one t-shirt/sweatshirt, one visor, one magnet, one hat, one year's student membership and a bundle of back issues of NC Archaeology (cost ~ \$60). Nisch seconded the motion, and the BOD approved.

LCM presented a motion to support New Salem Pottery, a duo, who will demonstrate historic pipe making in the book room. This would be equivalent of supporting a crafts person at an outdoor event, as we've done in the past. The honorarium would pay for their travel to the meeting and time. The motion was seconded by Mohler, and approved by the BOD. A special sign will be created to place at the demonstration table to acknowledge NCAS sponsorship for this vendor.

Davis stated he would like to move out some back issues of NCAS journal and this local meeting is a good opportunity to hand them and save on shipping. He plans to offer them free to any takers at the conference registration table. Afterwards, the bundles will be available at the RLA-UNC table or NCAS table for giveaway. Bell asked that the NCAS share back issues about Native Americans in North Carolina with the NC Commission on Indian Affairs to distribute to various interested groups. He also asked Davis to be sure none of the donated journals have photographs or images of skeletal items or burials. Cranford, as editor, agreed this was a great way to move out old stock and share the journals with a broader audience.

LCM and Petersen presented information about NCAS Volunteer opportunities for the SEAC meeting. Following the SAA model, a volunteer must work at least 8 hours (split out or at one time) in order to get into the conference free. The Volunteer POC is Heather Lapham at the RLA-UNC. Mohler will place this information in the next newsletter and Henderson will post it on the webpage. It will also go out on Facebook.

Cranford was asked to organize a place at the SEAC conference to host our fall meeting, likely to be on Sunday afternoon, and outdoors (under the big tent) if possible. Elections and other business will be conducted at this meeting that will also recruit new members. Cranford will discuss this with SEAC planners to find the best venue, time slot, and perhaps meal offerings and report to the BOD. The deadline for planning this is August 31. SWK asked if there will be any part of it hosted virtually and Davis replied not likely. Mohler asked about the sponsorship flyer (LCM shared) and who received them. LCM said to ask Heather Lapham at the RLA-UNC, who sent it forward to her.

Bell mentioned that November is American Indian Heritage Month and perhaps some local events can be added to the newsletter to advertise.

As there was no further business, Cranford made a motion to adjourn at 3:20 p.m.

These minutes respectfully submitted by,

Linda F. Carnes-McNaughton, PhD, RPA

Secretary NCAS BOD