

NCAS BOD Meeting
30 JANUARY 2022
ZOOM
1:00 p.m.

Attendance: LCM, Fitts, Cranford, Nisch, McReynolds Shebalin (hence TMS), Mohler, Eastman, Petersen, Schmitz, Watkins-Kenney, and Hill (late). Guests: Beaman, Davis. Absent: Henderson, Purvis

The meeting was called to order at 1:04 p.m.

Nisch extended a welcome to new BOD members Eastman, Schmitz and McReynolds Shebalin. They replied they were happy to be attending and ready to help.

Continued Business:

First order of business was to review the BOD minutes from the 24 October 2021 meeting, held in tandem with the SEAC conference in Durham. After a brief discussion, Cranford made a motion to accept the minutes, seconded by Mohler and then approved by the BOD. LCM will forward final minutes to Davis and Henderson for webpage inclusion.

Fitts then pulled up the treasurer's reports on the screen share to review. There were two documents to review; the quarterly financial statement of October 2021 to January 2022, and then the annual report from January 2021 to January 2022. She noted that dues were on the rise, and money from the SEAC merchandise sales was good. Expenses for the quarter also included the catered lunch for the membership meeting, a well-worthwhile cost. Numbers on new members could be increased, but were generally on par with January of 2021. LCM mentioned that the "gratis" vendor fee (\$70) for New Salem Pottery, previously approved by the BOD, was not used because they did not attend the event due to covid. Overall, Fitts concluded the NCAS made a profit for the year. Davis asked if the cost for mailing the journal for 2021 was included. Fitts replied not yet. The newsletter mailing cost was also not shown in this report. Davis explained that the new hire for the RLA (to replace Jan) had been absent so the bills were not yet sent to the NCAS for payment, placing some costs out of sequence now, but he hopes this will be caught up by the next quarterly statement. After discussion concluded, Eastman made a motion to accept the treasurer's report which Cranford seconded and the BOD approved.

Cranford then presented the editor's report. He stated that Volume 70 was a success at 96 pages, and thanked all the authors. He stated that 350 copies were printed at a cost of \$913, including a 30% discount. The final cost, including mailing was \$1,191.95. Volume 71 will come out in December 2022. He has accepted a proposal from LCM and Beaman to make this next issue a thematic volume and include articles from SEAC paper presentations on the history of tobacco, pipes and smoking. LCM and Beaman will serve as first round editors of these articles before submittal to Cranford the NCASJ editor. Articles are due to the session co-organizers in August. Cranford stated he would continue to accept articles for future issues.

Cranford continued his report to address a comment/question made by one NCAS member at the October membership meeting. The question was whether the NCASJ should be made a peer-review

publication. Mohler asked what was the impetus for having it made peer-review, stating this has already been discussed. Cranford explained that the question was intended to ask for “more rigor and academic scholarship” for the journal contents. The BOD discussed this option for several minutes and cited the Mid-Atlantic Journal as an example leaving the choice of review up to the editor or peer, as requested by the submitting author. Davis mentioned that it has always been up to the editor’s discretion to send submitted articles out to other reviewers (SMEs) as needed/warranted. He also noted how such additional review could delay the process. He stated that some authors ask for a second review, but that has not often been the case. One suggestion was to add a footnote at the bottom of the article to state “this article was subject of peer-review”. Petersen said such peer-review may deter our avocational archaeologists from submitting an article for the journal. The BOD agreed that a footnote would be useful and that the author may request additional review. Ultimately, however, it is the job of the current editor to make each article publishable and to do that in a fair way which reflects the author’s message/intent.

Mohler reviewed his lengthy newsletter report sent to the BOD prior to the meeting. He reviewed the highlights: he has two articles from Tom Whyte and Shawn Patch in the que for the winter issue; Mintz has promised an article, not yet delivered; Steve Gray, NCAS member was the winner of the crossword puzzle challenge; February is Black History month, so he’d like to focus on a blurb about the African-American cowboy George McJunken, who discovered the Folsom site; various summer fieldschool announcements will be shown; a NCAS Dues reminder will be posted; and the SEAC student prize winner will be shown in the next issue. Beaman asked that a blurb be included for merchandise (always). Petersen asked if Mohler would once again reach out to the general membership for items to include in the newsletters. Cranford said he had used the NCAS webpage to call for articles and it met with low success. Concluding the BOD’s discussion of the newsletter report, Cranford made a motion to accept the associate editor’s report, seconded by Hill and approved by the BOD.

Beaman presented his stock report. He stated that stock sold very well at the recent SEAC meeting, including two items that were comped for the student prize booty (sweatshirt and hat). He said there was currently 187 pieces of stock remaining (shirts, sweatshirts, hats, magnets, and a few visors). He does not see a need to reorder any particular items at the present time. He thanked those who assisted him at the sales table in the book room. Beaman said he would like to consider a new design for the future using Daniel’s recently published, revised projectile point typology for NC. Nisch said she would like to see a new theme each year. She also asked what is being done to move out old stock? Beaman replied that discounts have been and will continue to be offered on the older stock and that was a successful approach. He also reminded the BOD that the NCAS only makes a profit of about \$2 per shirt. Cranford made a motion to accept the stock report, seconded by Fitts and approved by the BOD.

Moving on to committee reports, Nisch stated that there was nothing to report by the chair of membership committee; nothing had been done. She asked if someone else would like to take over as chair of the membership committee because she cannot do the president’s duties and chair this committee at the same time. Petersen answered Eastman’s questions about what does the membership committee actually do. He replied the two primary responsibilities are to explore ways to increase membership and spread the word, to act as support for Fitts, who manages the membership database,

and to serve on the nominations for new BOD member during fall elections. Nisch asked about Henderson and Purvis, if they had been heard from re: committee reports. Petersen reiterated that the president serves by “de facto” on every committee, but does not necessarily need to serve as chair. He also pointed out that any BOD members could help out with any committee, IOW you don’t have to be appointed to be on any particular committee should you simply choose to help. Nisch asked the BOD if they thought the committees system was working and should we keep them. Mohler pointed that the committees need to continue, and other (perhaps new BOD members) should join in to help. He said he helps Henderson with the communication committee where he can. Petersen also pointed out that the events committee struggled to get going because of covid restrictions, but this situation will change one day. Petersen noted that a handful of BOD members seems to carry the weight of the NCAS business and get things done; he would like to see that responsibility is more evenly distributed. He wants to create a chain of accountability. Nisch agreed to keep committees but seek new chairs for each. SWK said it would be useful to keep committees the same composition but have set timelines and priorities. Cranford agreed, we should keep committees small and workable and create set meeting times to move the ideas forward. LCM asked the new members in attendance if they had decided what committee they would like to join. TMS agreed to join the events committee, Eastman agreed to join the membership committee. Schmitz agreed to step in and help Henderson and Mohler and serve as chair of the communications committee. LCM agreed to send all BOD members the committee responsibilities as outlined last year by Petersen within the upcoming week.

As a member of the communications committee, Mohler offered his report on the activities underway. He reviewed the 12 (monthly) topics for social media site. Petersen mentioned Citizen Scientist as the theme for the next month (refer to Mohler handout once again). As a theme, the history of pottery and pottery-making could be expanded and LCM and SWK offered to provide more information. SWK suggested that one person from each committee write up a short progress report for the month, then combine them, and share the data at quarterly BOD meetings. Eastman said we should integrate regional topics to each committee, IOW, include coastal or piedmont or mountain and include our public.

New Business:

Nisch asked for themes for the new year. She recommended we narrow down what we are focusing on. She would like to explore more discussion about annual themes for the NCAS as it moves forward. One idea was to host guest speakers for virtual lectures: possible speakers were Lynn Harris speaking on the Princeville Community or Colleen Betti (UNC grad student) speaking on Rosenwald Schools. Hill also suggested Bill Schindler to speak on Native food ways.

LCM reported that the RFP for EAC will be sent to Mohler for inclusion in the next newsletter.

Petersen wanted to return to the land acknowledgement (LA) statement the NCAS discussed last year. He would like very much to see that to completion within the next year if possible. He may propose that a group of members (including Danny Bell) work on this document but needs more input before going forward. SWK suggested that we try to incorporate more American Indians in the NCAS leadership role;

to have more representation on the BOD. LCM pointed out that Danny Bell (who served on the BOD twice) and Caroleen Sanders (Catawba nation) have served on the BOD in recent years. Nisch said we should be electing diversity. She wants to serve on the land acknowledgement group. Other BOD members mentioned examples of LA that appear on webpages (NPS and state of Maryland) as well as workshops held to educate others on what are LAs, why are they important and how to prepare such. SWK and Hill agreed to assist Petersen in preparation or ideas for the LA, IOW to draft a purpose and review it at the next BOD meeting.

Announcements:

Cranford and Fitts are exploring their concept for a field day at TCIMSHS as previously presented pre-pandemic. This would be a partnership between OSA, NCAS, the RLA and Town Creek IMSHS. Cranford mentioned there is a newly formed American Indian Heritage Council within NCDNCR and it will likely need to be consulted about such a project in the future. It is intended to create diverse opportunities for constituent communities and to define research goals. Their blessing would likely be required for any field project at TCIMSHS. Cranford and Fitts agreed to update the BOD as things begin to return to normal re: public events and gatherings. They will circulate a proposal to the BOD once the details are ironed out, perhaps in the fall 2022.

Nisch announced she is moving her family to Michigan to pursue her career and education and plans to resign as NCAS president after the spring BOD meeting. The BOD will decide how to handle the temporary vacancy of the president's position to complete her term (October 2023), hopefully by the next quarterly meeting. The Bylaws will be consulted for guidance.

As there was no further business to discuss the BOD meeting adjourned at 2:55 p.m.

These minutes respectfully submitted by,

Linda F. Carnes-McNaughton, PhD, RPA

NCAS BOD Secretary