Plains Anthropological Society Business Meeting, 75th Plains Anthropological Conference

5:00 pm, Friday, October 6, 2017
Van Gogh-Remington Room, Radisson Hotel, Bismarck, ND

1. Welcome & Call to Order (Sarah Trabert)

2. Approval of the Agenda

There was a move to approve the agenda, which was seconded and approved.

3. Waiver of Reading & Approval of 2016 Business Meeting Minutes (Sarah Trabert)

It was moved to waive reading the minutes of the 2016 meeting and this was seconded and approved.

4. President’s Report (Sarah Trabert):

Three major points were made. 1) A new editor for the journal has been found. 2) The Endowment Campaign was announced in 2016, but nothing moved forward. PAS now has an account in place and is soliciting donations. Seventy-five dollars is requested of each member to build the fund. PAS has a lot more awards now and other events. Monies from the Silent Auction will also go to this fund. 3) PAS has considered what to do with back issues and how to make better use of them. The major issue is storage space. PAS is giving away complete sets to various tribal groups (e.g., Wichita, Blackfeet, Iowa) and will contact others who might be interested. A request was made of the membership for information about tribes who might be interested in receiving Plains Anthropologist sets. Individuals may still purchase back issues. In the past year the PAS has been very healthy. The Society is in good shape.

5. Treasurer’s Report (Chris Johnston).

A breakdown of expenses and revenues for the past two years was presented orally and through a distributed handout. In brief, PAS has $188,000 in total assets, with $131,000 in checking, $53,000 in savings, and $3,000 invested in the conference.

A question was raised regarding insurance. PAS has general liability insurance and insurance for the Board of Directors.

Given PAS assets, the Board has decided to invest in Exchange Trade Funds (EFT), a mix of stock and bonds, domestic and international. In this investment the principal is never touched. A moderately aggressive strategy composed of 60-70% stocks is planned for a higher return. EFT have lower fees than Mutual Funds (1.35%) with an average return of 6%. The initial investment will utilize the $53,000 from savings plus an additional $50,000 from checking. To this will be added funds from the current endowment campaign, the silent auction, and any profits from this conference. The same strategy will be employed for the Donna Roper Endowment Fund. The PAS Board should develop bylaws for these investments and their use; the Board has decided that until these bylaws are developed, funds cannot be removed. The investment will be made
through Wells Fargo who will submit quarterly reports to PAS. They are located throughout the Plains and are flexible in dealing with changing PAS officers. The annual return should cover current conference awards with additional funds to be reinvested in the principal. The Board will watch returns for 3-5 years to see how it performs with the hope that it will generate enough income for travel and research grants.

Money for the Donna Roper Endowment Fund is expected to arrive soon. Mary Adair explained the intention of this fund. It is intended for student, professional, or avocational research in Kansas or Nebraska. A committee will evaluate proposals and make recommendations. One committee member will be on the PAS board. Anyone can donate to this fund. It will be best to wait several years to grow the principal before the fund is used.


Maney (the publisher) gave us 10 extra copies of the journal, which was not enough to rely upon as a supply of back issues. Printing new back issues is expensive. Members must subscribe before the start of each year because mid-year subscriptions cannot be provided with back issues.

Kornfeld’s term of 5 years has seen many changes and much has been learned with great effort. Maney, the former publisher, and now the institutional publisher Taylor and Francis have caused many of the changes. We now have a fully electronic professional journal. Articles are placed on-line prior to publication. We can print in color. There is a more professional look.

The question was raised if it was time to generate another master index. It was observed that type of product is no longer necessary given on-line search engines.

The work of Associate Editors Elizabeth Lynch and Allison Grunwald, and Book Review Editor Kelly Macauley, have been invaluable. They deserve much credit.

7. Announcement of New Plains Anthropologist Editor (Kornfeld).

The new Editor is Robert Hoard (Kansas State Historical Society). Mary K. Hoard, Ph.D. will serve as Assistant Editor and Matthew E. Hill (University of Iowa) will be Book Review Editor. The Editor may be emailed at: editor_at_plainsanthropologicalsociety.org. He plans to print according to the SAA Style Guide. He requests that supplemental materials that can be placed on-line be submitted along with articles. He also requests that each member indicate their specialties on membership forms in order that they may be evaluated for service as reviewers.

8. Report of Nominations Committee (Bob Blasing - absent; read by President Sarah Trabert).

New Board members are Mike Fosha (South Dakota State Historical Society), Cherie Haury-Artz (Office of the State Archaeologists, Iowa), and Wendi Field Murray (State Historical Society of North Dakota). Outgoing members are Marcel Kornfeld, Kacy Hollenback, Gerry Otelear, and Bob Blasing.

9. Resolutions (Don Blakeslee). Be it resolved, that the Plains Anthropological Society thanks the people who made this conference successful, including:
• The State Historical Society of North Dakota for hosting both the conference and the reception;
• The conference sponsors, including the National Park Service, the North Dakota Department of Parks and Recreation, the PaleoIndian Research Lab, and PaleoCultural Research Group;
• The conference committee, including Amy Bleier, Wendi Field Murray, Timothy Reed, and Fern Swenson;
• All the volunteers, symposium coordinators and session chairs;
• The organizers and conductors of field trips;
• Our audacious banquet speaker, Bill Hunt;
• And the Radisson Hotel staff.

Be it also resolved that the Society thanks the personnel who have served in recent years, including:

• Our outgoing board members: Bob Blasing, Gerry Oetelaar, and Kacy Hollenback;
• The editor of the Plains Anthropologist, Marcel Kornfeld;
• Our hard working treasurer, Chris Johnston;
• And Society President, Sarah Trabert.

Be it also resolved that the members of the Plains Anthropological Society extend their condolences to the families, friends and colleagues of the Plains anthropologists who have passed away in the last year:

• John Koontz, Siouan linguist, of Boulder, Colorado;
• Joan Freeman, former State Archaeologist of Wisconsin;
• Nancy Lurie, cultural anthropologist and former director of the Milwaukee Public Museum;
• Doug Jones, former State Historic Preservation Officer of Iowa;
• Kathleen Gilmore, archaeologist at the University of North Texas;
• And Bob Patton, avocational archaeologist and flintknapper extraordinaire of Colorado.

10. Old Business (Jay Sturdevant)

Changes to the bylaws were to happen, but they will be delayed one year for a membership vote. The following changes are to be made:

1. Committee announcements will be made on-line instead of printed in the journal.
2. PAS will change to usage of gender-neutral pronouns.
3. State sales tax charges will be removed for Nebraska residents.
4. Membership categories will be standardized.

11. New Business

• Donna Roper’s research papers. Lauren Ritterbush indicated that besides the research fund established in her name, her papers have been archived at Kansas State University
Special Collections. Many of her project materials are now on-line. One simply does a search on-line. Use of her materials is through Creative Commons, which requires acknowledging her.

- *The W.R. Wood Outstanding Publication in Anthropology* has been established by the PAS Board. CRM reports and publications are eligible. The membership may nominate works to the Board.
- *Dick Forbes materials have been archived* at the University of Calgary. This material is not on-line; researchers must go to Calgary to use these materials.
- *The PAS website* is undergoing great changes. Links to archives will be placed on this site.

12. Forthcoming Conferences.

- **2018: San Antonio, Texas, already accepted.** Todd Ahlman, the organizer, has scheduled the meeting for the last week in October at the La Quinta Inn and Suites. It is 5 minutes from the river walk and the Alamo. The rate will be $129 plus tax per night, with parking at $8 per night. Tours might include San Antonio Missions or perhaps the Gault site.
- **2019: University of Indiana, Bloomington, presentation for acceptance.** Laura Scheiber proposed the 2019 meeting at this location, in partnership with the Glen Black Lab and Mathers Museum. A field trip could go to Angel Mound (Mississippian site), Rock House Hollow (paleoindian-archaic), Buffalo Trace, or Profits Town (historic French). Proposed dates are October 15-19 or earlier. *This proposal was accepted by the membership.*

13. Adjournment

It was moved to adjourn the annual Business Meeting, seconded and approved.