

Plains Anthropological Society **Business Meeting**
Monday, November 30, 2020
4:00pm CST – Virtual

1. Welcome and call to order (Mary Adair) – The 2020 PAS Business meeting was called to order at 4:02pm CST with 41 members signed in to the virtual Zoom meeting. President Mary Adair welcomed everyone. Members are encouraged to use the “chat box” to raise questions during the meeting. Brandi Bethke will monitor the chat box and bring up any questions that arise for discussion.
2. Approval of the agenda – Bob Hoard moved to approve the planned agenda, 2nd by Lauren Ritterbush and passed without objection
3. Waiver of the reading and approval of the 2019 Business Meeting Minutes, as posted on the website. Joe Artz moved to wave the reading of the minutes of the 2019 Business meeting, 2nd by Matt E. Hill. Passed without objection.

Committee Reports – Full, in depth reports from the following officers have been posted on the web site for members to read and study. In the interests of time the reports offered at this meeting are summaries and highlights.

4. President’s report (Mary Adair) - 2020 was unusual and difficult year. There was a global pandemic, racial unrest at a national scale and a difficult national election. It was the year we had to cancel the Plains Conference because of the COVID 19 pandemic. This may be a first. Conferences were suspended during World War II but at that time they weren’t having annual meetings so this appears to be the first annual meeting that has been cancelled. When the pandemic hit the board was not enthusiastic about trying to hold a virtual conference. It was agreed that we would postpone the 2020 conference at Boulder CO and reschedule for 2021 at the same venue. We had planned to hold a workshop on Sexual Harassment and Gender Discrimination at the 2020 conference guided by experts from the Boulder campus. This workshop has also been rescheduled for 2021. Doug Bamforth was able to negotiate with the hotel and other participants and all agreed to the postponement and honored our deposits and rates agreement. The PAS is very grateful for this as well as for the organizers of the future conferences in Topeka and Rapid City who also agreed to move their plans ahead by one year.

Also because of the pandemic, the SAA conference scheduled for Austin TX was cancelled. PAS had planned to have a booth at these meetings as part of a membership drive thinking that the Austin venue might attract individuals with interest in the Plains region. Because the 2021 SAA is planned to be in California the board decided to claim our refund and wait to have a booth at a later date when the meetings are held nearer to our region.

As racial issues flared this summer, the PAS was also invited to join other regional organizations in a joint effort to discuss racial issues and try to find ways that we can be a positive force and improved the diversity within our discipline. Brandi Bethke and Chérie Haury-Artz represented the board in the first virtual meeting with this group and will continue to work on these issues in the future.

Journal issues this year – After receiving numerous complaints, a survey of the PAS membership demonstrated that most members had NOT received journals for the past year. Publishers Taylor and Francis were apparently unaware that the journals were not being mailed out. After an internal investigation they agreed to print and mail all of the missing journals to PAS members at their own expense. Anyone who may have received duplicates is encouraged to share them with students or others who may be interested. More details about the journal can be found in the editor's report. Right now journal is on schedule and we hope that the issue has been resolved.

Adair also wished to thank the board for their service this year which included extra virtual meetings in July and October and discussion related to postponing the conference and other issues. We discovered that meeting virtually is a good way to keep our efforts on schedule and efficiently handle issues that arise. She suggests that such meetings continue. This would help everyone stay on task and may allow the annual board meetings at the conferences to be kept shorter.

5. Treasurer's report (Chris Johnston) - 2019 was not a banner year financially. There were a number of one-time expenses and income from the 2019 conference was down, which was not unexpected. We rely on conferences for financial support. Many members renew their memberships at the conference and some conferences earn a profit. Moving into 2020 we will lose some money because of loss of conference and a drop in membership is down (also partly related to loss of conference). Everyone is asked to remember to renew their membership and encourage others to join or renew, especially students. The organization is still in a strong financial position and there are no concerns.

The PAS Endowment and the Donna Roper Endowment both took a major hit in March because the pandemic and other national issues caused a significant drop in the stock market and interest rates. The national improved however and both endowments are now doing well. There was enough income from the Donna Roper Endowment to allow awards to be made.

Questions?

Paul (?) "Can we politely harass people who are late renewing their membership?"

We are trying. Reminders were sent out to the membership in general and Wendi Field Murray has reached out personally to individuals encouraging them to renew. We also have contacted CRM companies and others with related interests inviting them to join and outlining benefits of memberships (see Membership Committee Report).

Bob Dawe - "Have you given any thought on adding an options for automatic renewals with credit card information?" Good question. We haven't thought of that. It is an interesting possibility, we will look into it.

A motion was made and seconded to accept the Treasurer's report. Approved without objection

6. Plains Anthropologist Editor's report (Bob Hoard) – Hoard has no concerns for the coming year. Submissions are up and there are enough articles for the next volume. The length of time between submission and response is about two months. Submissions are mostly articles, no memoirs have been submitted lately. The acceptance rate is above 90%. There have only been three rejections this year: two were out of our purview and one didn't make it through peer review. Sincere thanks to all of those who have been peer reviewers this year.

Taylor and Francis have become more responsive and easier to work with this year. A new 5 year contract with them is in the works. Either party can withdraw from the agreement at any time with notice. The decision was made to stay with Taylor and Francis for now because they are able to bundle journals and provide access to 3,000 institutions. This is great circulation for our journal which cannot be provided by other publishers. It also brings in royalties and keeps the cost of the journal low.

Working with Kelly Pool Hoard has produced a step by step guide on how to submit a manuscript which is now available on the web site (thanks Courtney).

Thanks to Matt E. Hill who has done a great job as book editor. Thanks to all who wrote reviews. Matt has agreed to continue in the position through the end of Hoard's term. Mary Hoard served as associate editor. She has provided copy editing and recommendations regarding content on many of the submitted manuscripts. The journal would not have the level of quality and would not have been produced on time without her assistance.

Hoard's term is ending. So far no one as stepped up to take the position. Hoard is willing to stay on until and new editor is selected and will help bring them up to speed.

Questions? – Bob Dawe "Is there a template for style guide?" Hoard does not have a template but he directs authors to the place in the SAA style guide that explains how to correct a problem in their manuscript. He doesn't have a quick response to Dawe's question suggesting that they get together and start a discussion about the idea.

Carlton Gover moved to accept the Editor's report, 2nd by Joe Artz. Approved without objection.

7. Membership Committee (Wendi Field Murray) – Membership currently stands at 391, 78 few than last year. This is probably not a long term problem and is probably because

there is no conference. Many renew their memberships to attend the annual meeting. Student membership is down by half, emphasizing how important the conference is to bring the organization to students' attention and providing them a platform to present their research.

Five states represent 42% of membership: Colorado, Iowa, Oklahoma, Texas, and Wyoming

The majority of Field Murray's time this year has been spent handling claims and inquiries concerning missing journals (or too many journals).

She sent out 80 plus invitations to former members and other companies and institutions highlighting benefits of membership and many renewal reminders.

8. Nominations Committee report (Wendi Field Murray) – This year's Nominations Committee included Lauren Ritterbush, Bob Dawe, and Wendi Field Murray (chair). We tried to identify current PAS members representing various subfields of anthropology. The six candidates who agreed to run provided the required biographical information by the first week of July. The ballot was prepared with the following candidates: Nancy Arendt, Alison Hadley, John Hedden, Veronica Mraz, David Posthumus, and Pat Trader.

Voting opened on August 19 and closed on September 30, 2020. The election was open for longer than usual to accommodate distractions and disruptions to work schedules as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Voting closed at midnight on September 30, with 102 members casting their votes. The three top vote-getters were Nancy Arendt, Alison Hadley, and David Posthumus.

9. Recognition of new board members and outgoing board members – Adair welcomes the new board members Nancy Arendt, Alison Hadley, and David Posthumus. She extends her thanks to leaving members Chérie Haury-Artz and Wendi Field Murray. Haury-Artz was board secretary for two years and served on the Archives Committee, Native American Student Award Committee, and Student Poster Award Committee. She also worked on developing the sexual harassment and discrimination policy and participated in a collaborative meeting with other organizations to discuss how we can make positive contributions to issues of discrimination and racial injustice. Field Murray did a marvelous job as the Membership officer throughout her three year term, maintaining and streamlining the data base. She spent untold hours helping members resolve problems, especially with journal issues. She reached out individually to members to remind them to renew and conducted an outreach program to CRM businesses and other organizations which might be interested becoming PAS members. She also chaired the Nomination Committee and the Student Travel Committee. Mary Adair is also leaving her position but will stay on as past-president for the next year.

10. Resolutions

Resolutions Plains Anthropological Society 2020 – Prepared by Brandi Bethke

Be it resolved, the Plains Anthropological Society expresses its sincere thanks to the organizers of the 78th Plains Anthropological Conference, which was regrettably canceled this year due to the COVID-19 Pandemic. Thanks to our conference host, the Department of Anthropology, University of Colorado – Boulder and conference organizer Douglass Bamforth for his work planning the conference and agreeing to reschedule for 2021. We are grateful to the Embassy Suites in Boulder for generously agreeing to cancel our 2020 contract and reschedule without penalty. We also extend thanks to David Williams of the South Dakota State Historical Society and Tricia Waggoner and Eric Skov of the Kansas State Historical Society for their willingness to alter their dates for hosting the conference to accommodate this new schedule. Thanks to those organizers and recipients of our annual awards. Finally, thanks to all those members who have renewed their membership this year, we are grateful for your support of the Society.

We remember friends and colleagues who passed away this year, including:

- John Brumley
- George Carr Frison
- Larry Grantham
- Eric Grimm
- Alden Naranjo
- Solveig Turpin
- W. Raymond Wood

10. **Old Business** (Mary Adair)

- a. Discussion of change of how president's position is elected and the length of the term has been postponed until the 2021 conference. The proposed changes will require changes to bylaws and require a change in the way that board members come on and off the board so that we maintain the same size of board. WE have a very lively discussion on this in Bloomington and feel that more is needed but would be very difficult at a virtual meeting. These proposals need to be outline in detail on the web site to allow for the discussion to begin. There are strong opinions for and against. Anyone who has ideas or opinions on this topic is invited to send them to Kelly Pool or Mary Adair before next year's conference.
- b. The Sexual Harassment and Discrimination Workshop that was planned for this year lead by experts from University at Boulder will be rescheduled for the 2021 Conference.
- c. Chris Johnston's term as treasurer is ending. We are looking for a replacement. Johnston has agreed to overlap with the incoming treasurer to help transition.
- d. A new 5 year contract with Taylor and Francis will be signed. Either party can pull out of the agreement on annual basis, with notice.

11. **New Business**

- a. **Announcement of 2020 Award winners.** All of the winners of this year's awards will also be recognized on the PAS web site and will be honored in person at the banquet at the 2021 conference.

Distinguished Service Award (Bob Hoard) – For exceptional and dedicated service to Great Plains teaching, scholarship, rock art preservation, and historic resource management, and for his service to the Plains Anthropological Society, the PAS Board of Directors is honored to present the 2020 Distinguished Service Award to **Dr. Lawrence L. "Larry" Loendorf.**

Donna C Roper research award (Mary Adair) – This is the inaugural year for award. Income from the endowment has yielded \$4000 available for distribution. This year's awardees are:

Carlton Gover (University of Colorado, Boulder) -

Funded Project - "Re-dating the Tahaksu Site (25MK15) Using Donna C. Roper's Chronometric Hygiene Protocol"

Steven Keehner (University of Iowa) -

Funded Project - "AMS Dating the Perry (14JF315) and Infinity (14MY305) Sites"

Native American Student Award (Richie Meyers) – **Maura Fournier** - Maura is currently completing a four-year Honors Bachelors of Arts in Anthropology with a minor in Indigenous Studies at the University of Winnipeg.

- b. Larger group focus on racial issues and discrimination (Brandi Bethke) – Larger group focus on racial issues and discrimination discussion group is in early stages. So far there are no specific goals or outcomes. Next steps to integrate with organizations like the Society of Black Archaeologists so that their voices are involved in the conversation from the earliest stages. SO that they can play a dominant role in decision making and action items we should prioritize such as grants or educational programming and how we allocate resources. It was left with the understanding that these representatives will be present at the next meeting.
- c. Suggestions for greater outreach (Mary Adair)
- i. PAS sponsored lecture series, pod casts. These are envisioned as short informal or casual presentation sharing of on-going research. They would provide a way to reach a larger audience and keep members involved throughout the year. We hope that student members will get involved.
 - ii. Add a Current Research section in the journal and/or on the web site as a way of letting colleagues know what is going on in various locations on the plains

iii. Virtual board meetings during mid-year. We have found that work well and help keep the board on task and should help keep meetings at the conference shorter.

d. Open for other New Business – There are no questions or comments

12. Forthcoming Conferences

- a. 2021, Embassy Suites, Boulder. University of Colorado, Boulder, Doug Bamforth chair
- b. 2022, University of Oklahoma and Oklahoma Archaeological Survey, Sarah Trabert and Brandi Bethki, chairs. The conference is scheduled for Oklahoma City, Oct. 12-15th at 21c Museum Hotel conference center.
- c. 2023, South Dakota State Historical Society, David Williams, chair, to be held in Rapid City, SD.
- d. 2024, Kansas State Historical Society, Tricia Waggoner and Eric Skov, chairs (pending). The committee looked at Manhattan and Topeka. Topeka's offer looks better \$104/ night double occupancy and the Chamber of Commerce offered to throw in \$1000 to defray costs and provide transportation for field trips and receptions.
- e. Bob Dawe indicated that the University of Lethbridge, in Lethbridge, Alberta, would like to invite the PAS to hold the next open conference in Alberta. There are many fantastic opportunities for field trips including two UNESCO World Heritage Sites, Head-Smashed-In and Writing-on-Stone. Other nearby sites include Wally's Beach, Finn Castle Site and several Medicine Wheels. Also good beer good parties guaranteed.

No other business was brought up. President Mary Adair adjourned the meeting at 5:08pm. 2nd board meeting with the new board is scheduled to follow immediately.

Minutes by PAS Board Secretary – Cherie Haury-Artz