UNAPPROVED

Plains Anthropological Society

81st Plains Anthropological Conference, Lethbridge, Alberta, Canada

Business Meeting Minutes

Friday, October 18, 2024, 4:30 pm MT

1. **Welcome and Call to Order**
    a. Adam called to order 4:30
2. **Approval of the Agenda**
    a. Matt called motion, was seconded, all in favor
3. **Waiver of the Reading and Approval of the 2023 Business Meeting Minutes**
    a. Gary Wowchuck made the motion, Sarah Trabert 2nd, all in favor
4. **Conference Organizers' Remarks**
    a. Shawn and Kevin: Shawn- we're still alive. To summarize things, after the sub-website by Chris and team we finally had 212 people registered and 89 are students, plus 24 more registered at the table. 12 tribal members + some students. 55 Papers, 27 posters, 4 field trips, 2 pre and 2 still to come, 2 parties, and (Kevin) cookies over there. Thank you!
5. **Officer's Reports**
    a. President's Report
        i. Adam: See president's report attached.
    b. Treasurer's Report
        i. Chris: See treasurer's report attached.
        ii. Dr. Mitchell: What are the rest of the major expenses that you expect this year?
            1. Chris: Awards, student travel award, 5000 on list was Donna Roper, insurance policies hit in November that's like 1500, then the journal, and website change.
        iii. No concerning trends at this point
        iv. Endowment funds: Are going strong, see attached treasurer's report. PAS, board voted to use 2000 or 50% of the previous 12 months gains to use for student travel award, how much will be decided at the spring board meeting. Roper is doing very well.
        v. Dr. Mitchell: Website, can you say a few words about that and what you expect it will look like?
            1. Chris: Will discuss later in update. Although Board did approve $6000 to work with new vendor.
        vi. Matt Hill: Motion to approve treasurer's report, Mark Mitchell seconded, it was approved
    c. Editor's Report
        i. Bill: Thank Matt Hill for being the book review editor, and Allison Hadley for taking it over. Two memoirs accepted. 20 articles have been submitted. Need 20 accepted to publish. I rejected 5 articles from Japan on medical issues. That's 15 articles, 2 were rejected by reviewers, 5 accepted, 6 still in

review so that's 13 articles to move forwarded to the journal. Don't have 2023 finish, think August 2023 is good and one memoir and that finished 2023. FY 2024 needs an article or two. Then May 2024 is second memoir. Then concerned about August 2024 may have enough to fill it but not sure. Don't want to pass on the journal in the shape it's in but. Press also wants articles more than memoir. We have requirement of how many articles we have to publish for year. We need about 100 pages per issue and they may get rid of that and have article count. Hope that by the end of this year that FY 2023 will be completely out. But have to see it online first.

   ii. Allison: Question about TF AI?
      1. Adam: Will discuss that later
   iii. Kimball banks, Scott Proskoski motion to approve and all accepted

d. <u>Membership Committee Report</u>
   i. Chris: Covered for Abby for most of the year, we're down on membership, Abby will contact people who didn't renew, most likely didn't realize that they lapsed. Renew membership for FY 2025
   ii. Joe Artz: are there still institutional memberships.
      1. Chris: We don't have that anymore, we can only sell individual memberships, institutional is from TF

e. <u>Editorial Committee Report</u>
   i. Adam: Reinstituted this committee, we need to find an editor, to help assist new person and Bill. Call for editor, so all members are aware. Historically asked people to submit a proposal. We've had some interest.
   ii. Second thing: back in August, TF and parent company, Informa, agreement with A.I. tech companies, SEAC did it too, Informa. Not just Microsoft, there's a second company that they sold information to. Charlot Stanton, TF contact, what SEAC said was incorrect. It was book information, not journal. Second agreement involves both books and journals including Plains. What are they doing with them? They're looking to improve large language models, i.e. chat bots to make them more human-like. Will authors have the option to opt out? No. Asked about royalties? We'll receive that the same way as before, but not sure how that is going to work. FY 2027 is the next time a new agreement/or publisher, all publishers at that level are doing the same thing
   iii. Joe Artz: Site location confidentiality is a concern?
      1. Adam: It doesn't seem that they are focusing on that and are not reproducing
   iv. Adam: Asked about AI policy because TF recommends not using A.I.? Don't know if it's good news or bad news
   v. Mackenzie Cory: Is it limited to text or are images used?
      1. Adam: I don't know, it does say text and content, I'll follow up
   vi. Marcel: Has anyone talked to other journals or societies about this? It might be a good idea.
      1. Adam: It's a huge concern for all who publish

f. <u>Nominating Committee Report</u>

i. Tim: Incoming president Andy, outgoing president Adam, Board briefing packet, April call for nominations on website, social media, emails. Got some in May, 12 nominations by 8 current members, 4 from board of directors, by June deadline was reached, ballot finalized in July 20, 2024. 90 votes from membership. 6 nominees, Aug 12 voting began then website went down. Voting deadline extended a week by September. Tyrel Iron Eyes, David Williams, Stephen Perkins won. Votes tabulated by Tim, Adam, Andy independently. Would like to receive more nominee suggestions. Please reach out to me or any board members.

g. Resolutions
    i. Adam covering for Cody: GET LIST from ADAM. Conference organizers, Chris, Angela, Josiya

h. Recognition of Incoming and Outgoing Board Members and Officers
    i. Adam: Recognize outgoing board members and acknowledge the new board members, thank you for agreeing to join the board

6. **Old Business**
    a. <u>Sensitive Image Policy</u>
        i. Adam: Carlton couldn't make it, this policy is something that has been in the works for 2 years. There's been a committee working on it for 2 years. As a board we voted to bring it to the membership, board was 7 yes, 3 no, 1 abstained. Nays weren't necessarily disagreeing with the draft just what to do with it. In the next month, figure out how to communicate with the membership; zoom, town hall, google
        ii. Mark: What are you expecting?
            1. Adam: To get comments, we aren't planning on voting it by the board but will be voted by membership
            2. Joe: What would be the best way to distribute to the membership?
                a. Cherie: Email notifications but then have something complicated for discussion oriented, comment section
                b. Marcel: What was the boards discussion?
                    i. Adam: The way to share it?
                    ii. Marcel: What are the concerns?
                    iii. Adam: Carlton hadn't thought about it, so they have to get back together to figure out how to move forward. They only thing the board decided was not to have anonymous. Discussion board.
                c. Mark: Want to see a way to provide private comments as well.
                    i. Tim Reed: Agree with Mark, and ability to provide a more detailed comment.
                d. Sarah: Concern about posting to a website, as they are finalized/archived, and very clear that this is a draft. Posting drafts on public forms are very risky
                e. Matt Hill: Agree with Sarah and then get non-members.

            i. Adam: Not taking comments from non-members
      f. Chris: There will not be an open forum on the website as I can't manage that
      g. Bill: If we reject policy after posting a policy can look much worse
      h. Lauren: You could post it behind the access so it's not publicly available, have a place to submit comments to the committee
      i. Joe Arz: What's the link between committee, board, and membership? Adam:
      j. Mary: Can you remind who the committee is?
            i. Adam: Carlton, Spencer, Cody, Matt Hill.
            ii. Mary: Comments will go to the committee and then what after the comment.
            iii. Adam: Looking for constructive comments. Not sure about the plan.
            iv. Mary: Can the board come up with something and recommend to the committee.
      k. Joe Artz: There is disagreement with the board.
            i. Adam: And we expect that there will be disagreements
      l. Bill: Board needs to summarize the comments and share them with the membership. Maybe we need to put out a second draft before voting on the membership.
            i. Adam: Like the idea of summarizing the comments.
      m. Stephen: Respond with to Joe it was very courteous and professional, Carlton made it clear that the committee was not handpicked but was call for volunteers and very small group were willing.
            i. Adam: That's correct
      n. Lauren: Follow up to Bill, set a deadline so it does not continue forever.
            i. Adam: That's a good idea as we're doing a joint conference with a society that already has a policy
      o. Joe Artz: Lauren has a good idea about the deadline

7. **New Business**
   a. <u>Website Updates</u>
      i. Chris: Website is back online temporarily, 10 years U of Iowa was managing, they're no longer going to offer that service, issue stemmed from malware from this spring, no data was compromised. New vendor is Code Lift out of the Netherlands, this is what they do, to work with Drupel. Very confident with this company. We're in Drupel 8, we need to get to Drupel 10, price is $4200, I asked for more to update everything. Actively seeking someone to

take on webservice position. If you're willing to, come talk to me. To post content.
    ii. Cherie: I think we all owe Chris, claps

b. Conference Code of Conduct Updates
    i. Gary: Quickly, we saw need to update code of conduct to formalize the process, we have work to do on it, good construction discussions, some tweaking, decide on a few processes, some was implemented for this conference, there's an email to notify for concerns, looked at what other societies have implemented.
    ii. Adam: Reports complaints, email addresses, code of conduct didn't make clear who to contact. Outreach, Kathy Cannool, SAA Ombuds, reached out about her services and generally what she does for organizations. Good phone call. Discussion with board, we should consider bringing an Ombuds person on board to the conference. Lots of basic issues and does receive more serious reports up to illegal behavior and provides contact information, deals with things below that in real time. People can see her, email, or call. They're a 3rd part and independent, cuts down on certain behaviors, members get reassurance that board cares about them and their well-being, she can often provide on the spot help. 1 question was cost? She recommends getting quotes from others. SAAs is exception to having someone on the ground but most have it remotely. If we give her a number she can work with that. Can work on retainer. Outside perspective could be helpful.
    iii. Brandi: I talked with her and we got quotes and everyone was like that is too much money. That's what we were pushing for.
        1. Adam: Board recognizes the need to have a little bit more. Gary has been creating something that should be really useful

c. Upcoming Conferences
    i. 2025: joint PAS/MAC meeting, Iowa City, Iowa
        1. Matt: Doershuk and I welcome you all next year to Iowa City, will be a joint conference, at this moment looking at a window in the middle or end of October, have to work around Big 10 football. Hotel will not let us have hotel on football weekend. By mid-November we should have those dates. Will be at Graduate Hotel in downtown IC. Same as 2015 just new name. 50 bars and restaurants right there. Reception in Reunion brewery, upper floor. Stanley Art Museum reception. Working through field trips will have pre and post trips. Hoe you all can come. Nearest airport is Cedar Rapids, 27 miles away. Several direct flights. Try to have one integrated conference and sessions.
    ii. 2026: Lincoln, Nebraska
        1. Dave Williams: Ditto to what Matt said. Met with hotel last week, same place as last time 10 years ago, also a Graduate Hotel and waiting on football schedule. Trying to recruit people from nearby

offices of archaeologists to help. Look forward to seeing you all there.

    iii. 2027 meeting location proposal(s)
        1. Adam: Putting call out, we'll need to decide and vote on it next year

8. Nancy: Donna Roper chair?
    a. Bill will remain in position and then Adam will take it over after bill moves on
9. **Adjournment**
    a. Matt Hill motioned to adjourn, room seconded, all in favor