



SOCIETY FOR CULTURAL ASTRONOMY
IN THE AMERICAN SOUTHWEST, INC.
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Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
Monday May 22, 2017
6:00PM MDT 5:00PM MST/PDT
Teleconference

Meeting convened by Bryan Bates at 6:00 pm, MDT

Bryan Bates - President, Ric Alling - Treasurer, Ray Williamson - Secretary, Greg Munson – Past President, present.

Acceptance of the meeting agenda.

Bryan called for acceptance of the agenda, to which all agreed.

Approval of previous meeting minutes

Bryan then called for approval of previous meeting minutes, of which there were two before the Executive Committee: Feb 22 Executive Committee meeting and April 10 Board Meeting, both submitted by Greg, who had revised the drafts submitted by Ray.

After a reminder from Bryan to make sure the minutes are completed on time, he moved to approve both minutes as submitted. Ric seconded and all approved.

Old Business

1) Tempe Workshop update projected expenses and income sources:

Ric provided a short update on the workshop plans. Ric has developed a draft program for Friday, Nov. 10 through Sunday, Nov. 12. Assumed 36 attendees at about \$80.00 per person.

Draft schedule:

- Start the workshop 1 pm Friday, and offer a morning field trip to South Mountain Park to take some imagery to work on during the workshop. Lunch and dinner on own Friday. Everyone bring own computers
- Saturday, Sunday, provide snacks, coffee, drinks in the morning and lunch in the afternoon. One dinner provided Saturday night (\$35/ person)
- Friday, afternoon work on images to create a 3-dimensional model in computers; Late Friday afternoon, leave time to help everyone load QGIS (free GIS package) into computer.

- Saturday: In morning, work on getting QGIS to work and developing a model contour and preparing to put the 3-D image into it. Continue on with GIS in the afternoon. doing a map of the South Mountain area. Will also have invited guest speakers.
- Sunday morning: perfect this model with the Sky models to see the site in the context of the sky. Have a speaker talk about data and data availability, LIDAR data, especially. Who is using GIS in archaeology? This kind of question could be quite important to our work.
- Wrap up about 2pm on Sunday.
- Ric checked on schedule with everyone. Board members agreed that it makes good sense.
- We also discussed how to transport people to the site Friday morning. We decided we could use cars that we use to get to the university.
- Ric was planning to contact Todd Bostwick to come out and show us the site.
- Will we use drones? We could.
- We discussed costs and people felt that somewhere between \$80 -\$100.
- Ric promised to line it all out and send it out to the Board.
- Chris will come to Tempe early to go over the site(s) and also set up the software and materials ahead of time.
- Ric wanted to have a short session on statistics and what kind of statistics we should be using. This will require Tony and Ric will discuss it with him. Bryan was concerned that statistics might be a topic too far. Might be a topic for another time.

3) Publication Committee update and needs:

- Greg said that he has sent some papers out for review and has heard back from Bryan on one or two. The process is moving slowly, but it is moving. Some authors have sent papers with the wrong (i.e., not the requested format) and they have to be fixed.
- Do we need to raise money? Greg hadn't put a lot of thought into it because we need to have a set of publishable papers.
- Can we tap the CAMF for part of it? Need to discuss with the CAMF committee. Perhaps we use the CAMF for supporting the development of the Native American inputs.
- Ric points out that we don't really know what the publication will look like. He suggests waiting till we have the papers together. In other words we don't have a product yet.
- Bryan asked, would it make sense to take something from the upcoming workshop in the publication. Ric thought that might be possible
- Ric asked, what about electronic publication instead of a book? We won't save a lot of money. Also, we don't have a lot of folks writing that are used to writing and formatting for scholarly publications. This is a topic for the publication committee. Bryan suggested that one of our goals ought to be to get the publication into the hands of archaeologists. We have to consider this as well.
- Bryan asked whether the presentations that were made at the conference were saved. Greg replied that he had saved all of those that were downloaded onto the

presentation computer but did not have those that were run from a speaker's own computer. We then discussed whether or not we should put them on the website before or when the publication came out. We could do that but would need approval from the speakers to do so.

4) Board Liability Insurance:

- Ray looked into it a bit, but he didn't have the information with him in Baltimore where he was calling from. He will send the Board the information that he has.

5) By-Law revisions:

- This is a perennial topic that will need to be put off once again for lack of time to address it.

New Business

1) Maintaining documentation of SCAAS business

Bryan reported that Chris Dombrowski has set up a dropbox account for us to put SCAAS documents into. They will be read-only Pdfs.

2) Bryan asked Ric if the workshop description would soon be posted on the SCAAS website.

Yes, this is planned and will happen soon.

3) Bryan noted that he had asked Chris to make the Donate button on the website more prominent and Chris did so.

Greg pointed out that the entire webpage needs to be redone. Among other things, it is text-heavy.

4) Forum page on the website.

Bryan asked GB Cornucopia if he would be willing to monitor a forum page for the society and GB agreed, though GB has not yet confirmed in a later email that he was still willing to do so. Bryan will follow up.

Bryan then asked if all are agreed that it would be a good idea to do this. It would include asking members for reactions to ideas and also ask for new ideas from them. We agreed that this would be a good idea. We should interact with members more often than by newsletter.

5) Conversation Bryan had with William Seven

- William is working on the summer solstice newsletter. He will do a piece on eclipses. Bryan suggested that he consult other cultural astronomers. Greg suggested Bryan ask for a review draft.
- Bryan also asked him to do a feature article on Von Del Chamberlain. Who will write it? Ray suggested that someone call him to interview him. Then publish it.

6) The question was raised about using Skype for our meetings rather than Free Conference Call

Greg is not in favor of using it. Also, Skype has no recording facility. One must use a third-party application to do so. Ric suggested using a different software.

7) Question of when we should have the next board meeting.

The next meeting will be held in July, 2017 and Bryan will send out a note citing which dates he'll be available and we can reply.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:10.

Minutes submitted by:

Ray Williamson
SCAAS Secretary
June 16, 2017

Minutes certified by:

Bryan Bates
SCAAS President
June 17, 2017