

American Schools of Oriental Research

Spring Board Meeting

Atlanta Airport Hilton Hotel

April 18, 2009

DRAFT MINUTES

PRESENT: P.E. MacAllister, Chairman, Tim Harrison, President, Jeffrey Blakely, VP for COP, Elizabeth Bloch-Smith, Jeffrey R. Chadwick, Tom Davis for CAARI, Jennie Ebeling, Gus Feissel, Sheldon Fox, Treasurer, Lawrence T. Geraty, Past President, Sy Gitin for AIAR, Joseph Greene, Jimmy Hardin, Michael Homan, Co-VP for CAMP, Morag Kersel, Co-VP for CAMP, Carol Meyers, Eric Meyers, Past President, Bob Mullins, Suzanne Richard, B.W. Ruffner, Joe Seger, James F. Strange, Secretary, Andy Vaughn, Executive Director, Lawson Younger, Randy Younker, Ed Wright for AIAR.

ABSENT: Susan Ackerman, Beth Alpert-Nakhai, Gary Arbino, Bill Arnold, Mark Chavalas, Eric Cline, Nili Fox, Barry Gittlen, Øystein LaBianca, VP for CAP, Beth Alpert Nakhai, Orlyn Nelson, Austin Ritterspach, Sue Sheridan, Lydie Shufro, Tammi Schneider, VP for Membership, Stuart Swiny.

VISITORS: Vivian Bull

1. Call to Order, 8:06 a.m.
2. Approval of Minutes from the 23 November 2008 Meeting. APPROVED AS DISTRIBUTED. Moved by Younkers and seconded by Hardin.
3. Approval of Agenda. APPROVED AS DISTRIBUTED BY ACCLAMATION.
4. Officers Nomination Committee Report (T. Harrison in the absence of G. Arbino). The Officer's Nominating Committee recommended the re-election of Jim Strange and Sheldon Fox as Secretary and Treasurer, respectively, when their terms run out in December. Both have agreed to serve. The Executive Committee has endorsed the Nominating Committee's recommendation. The Executive Committee further recommended that when elections are held for Treasurer, ample time be allowed for an overlap between the current Treasurer and the newly elected Treasurer for a smooth transition. APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.
5. Report of Items approved by the Executive Committee (A. Vaughn). The Executive Director read the resolutions of the Executive Committee from the meeting of 17 April 2009, to wit:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Executive Committee endorses the Nominating Committee's recommendation that James F. Strange and Sheldon Fox be affirmed as Secretary and Treasurer, respectively, when their terms run out in December. It is further recommended that, when elections are held for Treasurer, ample time is allowed for an overlap between the current Treasurer and the newly elected Treasurer, so that a smooth transition can take place. Eric Meyers moved; Øystein LaBianca seconded. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

BE IT RESOLVED that the EC adopt the Treasurer's recommended budget to send to the Board of Trustees for action. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Executive Committee authorizes the President to extend the term of the Executive Director's contract for up to one year subject to other contract revisions that are mutually acceptable to the parties. Sheldon Fox moved; Sten LaBianca seconded. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

BE IT RESOLVED that the salary of the Executive Director be adjusted 2% as a cost of living increase. Øystein LaBianca moved; Sheldon seconded. DEFEATED BY VOICE VOTE.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Executive Committee of ASOR endorse with enthusiasm the concept of partnering with the Abraham Path Initiative to provide an advisory group for archaeology and cultural heritage issues. The Executive Committee appoints as an interim advisory group Tim Harrison, Andy Vaughn, Morag Kersel, Øystein LaBianca, Joe Greene, and Eric Meyers. EC requests that CAP examine this partnership and bring a formal proposal for a permanent advisory committee to the November Board of Trustees meeting. Øystein LaBianca moved; Eric Meyers seconded. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Executive Committee asks the president to move forward with this Strategic planning process and to report back to the Executive Committee. Moved by Joe Seger; seconded by Sheldon Fox. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

BE IT Resolved that ASOR renew the Qarqur Agreement but without the financial commitment. Moved by Joe Seger; seconded by Morag Kersel. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

6. Treasurer's Report (S. Fox). The FY2010 budget is very similar to the FY2009 updated forecast with the exception of the NEH grant. Specific line items in the budget for the NEH grant are revenue of \$174,000 and expenses of \$138,000 or a net profit of approximately \$36,000. These figures include a new position for a full-time project archivist at approximately \$70,000, which is paid for entirely by the grant. Note that this also includes planned designated gifts of \$30,000 and ignores the allocation of staff time,

which is part of our contribution of funds toward the project. There is an increase of \$30,000 in the planned salary budget for 2010 (ignoring the archivist), including our staff time allocated to the NEH grant, which is valued at \$52,000. The \$30,000 increase in salaries assumes about a 2% increase for existing staff, some additional hours for students' employment and a full-time administrative assistant, most of whose time goes to the Archives Project. The most significant challenges for this budget will be in meeting our goals for the Annual Fund and Memberships and Subscriptions.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees adopt the recommended budget.  
PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

The Document retention policy was deferred to the fall

7. CAMP Report (M. Homan/M. Kersel). This report was distributed beforehand. There were no action items. Some new initiatives are in the offing, namely Round Tables at lunch to sit with COP and the President to ask them questions publically. There is further outreach with AIA for joint lectureships. The AIA collaboration on lectures was in response to their approach.
8. CAP Report (Presented by Tim Harrison in the absence of Ø. LaBianca). The CAP Committee reviewed 68 applications for affiliation, and 32 were granted affiliation for publication; 27 for fieldwork; 2 were granted provisional affiliation for publication and 6 for fieldwork; and one was asked to re-apply next year. The CAP Chair has appointed an ad-hoc committee consisting of Elizabeth Stone (chair), Carol Meyers, and Larry Herr to prepare a brief statement clarifying for potential applicants what the CAP committee is looking for when they review projects. Their proposed statement will be reviewed by the entire CAP committee at its next meeting. Ø. LaBianca asked those who will be in the Middle East to visit nearby CAP affiliated projects instead of funding a CAP tour. Work is underway to enhance the List of Approved Projects on the CAP web site. The new site will be created so that when one clicks on a project, a project description will drop down which will include basic information about the project and links to the project web site and to the Digital ARCHAEOLOGICAL ATLAS of the Holy Land web site (<http://daahl.ucsd.edu/DAAHL/>), where the project location is now linked to Google Earth. He has also been in conversations with the Harvard Law Faculty based Abraham Path Initiative, which was endorsed by the Executive Committee.
9. COP Report (J. Blakely). Jan 1 ended Nancy Serwint's editorship, though she is seeing Annual 64 through. Her successor is Joe Greene, who retired from the Archaeological Reports series: Marylinda Govaar's Caesarea Synagogue volume and Nancy Lapp's Balata volume will now appear. Kevin McGeough took over the Archaeological Reports series. *JCS* has been submitted to the printer to appear in May or June. *NEA* has been

behind since 1998, though it is very close to caught up now. Jeff Blakely investigated the costs associated with publications at the Boston office, namely, the cost of claims, which is caused by publishing behind schedule. (If we publish six issues of a quarterly in one year, then a library may balk at the catch-up costs, as they think they have paid for that year's quarterly issues, see the COP Report, Appendix 2: Claims, distributed). ASOR could probably cut the cost in a year to about \$11,500.

10. Membership Committee Report (Andy Vaughn in the absence of T. Schneider). The new computer system is working well, especially the membership model. We can go on line and see who is a member up to the minute or generate lists of members who have not renewed their membership. The Membership Dashboard web page is updated continually. We have a goal of 1250 members by August 31, 2009. The Trustees have agreed to the charge to find new contributing members. Andy Vaughn appealed to the Trustees to consider serving as chair of the new Individual Membership Committee.
11. Development Update/Legacy Circle (A. Vaughn). We exceeded our goal in the Annual Fund by \$40,000 last year (FY 2008), but this year (FY 2009) has been a challenge. We are about \$44,000 along on our goal of \$100,000, which is substantially below last year's figure at this time. If we met our goal we would likely have a surplus. We have a brochure about making planned gifts to ASOR, including Legacy gifts. P.E. MacAllister will write all ASOR Trustees to ask them to make a planned gift, including codicils to wills, or simply write ASOR into their will. We will keep a list called the Legacy Circle which will be updated quarterly.
12. Update on the Archives Project (E. Meyers). Eric Meyers announced formally that NEH has funded the ASOR Archive Project in a very competitive year. We have many photographs and documents that we should publish, perhaps in the Annual Series. Some documents go back to about 1876. Kelly Bazydlo, Assistant Director, is collecting applications for Archivist, a position supported by the grant, looking forward to interviewing in June. There will also be an FTE for an Assistant in the Albright, but the first task is to get the Archivist in Boston started, and then move forward with the Assistant in Jerusalem. The President thanked Eric publically for his leadership in approaching the NEH. There is an article by Rachel Hallotte in the new *Newsletter* about the Archive Project with some photos and documents
13. CAARI Report (Tom Davis). The double issue of *NEA* on Cyprus has benefited CAARI greatly. There have been only a few fellows this year, but CAARI expects ten next year including a Kress Fellow. The building permit allowing expansion underground has been let. The permit allows CAARI to sell air space above their lot for others to build elsewhere in Cyprus. CAARI will create Anatolian archaeology resources in their library, and the American Embassy has enthusiastically endorsed it. CAARI is applying to the

EU for money to digitize sculpture in the Cyprus museum and the original 19<sup>th</sup> century maps of Cyprus. CAP's allowance of European applications for affiliation through CAARI has been very helping in establishing CAARI's status in Cyprus and Europe. Tom Davis will exchange with the center at Ankara in Turkey as part of the on-going exchange program with other research centers.

14. AIAR Report (Sy Gitin). This year there were sixty-four fellows in four programs. Tom Davis of CAARI will lecture at the Albright as part of a Director's exchange program. Six Fellows took an official AIAR trip to Jordan. For the first time AIAR had four high profile senior fellows from Eastern Europe. The Carol and Eric Meyers Fellowship will begin in 2010. The new Getty Fellowship is in place. There is also an increase in NEH fellowship stipends. AIAR hopes to begin a new Dever Fellowship in 2010. The AIAR librarians have surveyed fifty-two research institutions in Jerusalem and reported it on their website. They hope to broadcast ten lectures in 2009. There should be four volumes of the Migne Report appearing in 2009-10. Phase two of the renovation will begin soon. This summer there will be a large number of American projects in the field. The NEH matching grant is still in effect.
15. ACOR Report. Deferred in the absence of Øystein LaBianca.
16. Executive Director's Report (distributed). Andy Vaughn has already commented upon parts of this (see above), such as the new data base and Development.
17. President's Report. For some years we have focused on management of meetings, achievement of stability, publications, etc. Now it appears to be a good time to focus on a Strategic planning process. The Presidents plans to bring together for the fall a Strategic Planning Task Force to meet in October. They will produce a working document, using the feedback from committees, before the Annual Meeting. This will allow inform a town meeting and would provide content for the proposed Round Table at New Orleans. This document is to come before the Board in November for thorough discussion. The goal is to produce a Strategic Planning Document so the Board can decide whether it wishes to proceed. The timing is important, as this would be the President's plan for his second term. The membership of the Strategic Planning Task Force would include Susan Ackerman, Jimmy Hardin, Tim Harrison, Morag Kersel, Øystein LaBianca, P.E. MacAllister, and Carol Meyers. He stressed that the Boston office has worked hard to trim costs and show prudence. We need to do the same as a Board and fulfill our pledges. We must give what we gave last year by the end of the fiscal year June 30. We need to raise \$35,000 as the breakeven point. The Contributing Membership resolution was voted unanimously by this Board, which obligates all of us to find one new Contributing Member. The fall Annual Meeting is scheduled November 18-22. A point was raised about fellowships. Andy Vaughn reported that we gave out quite a few fellowships last

year, but the Harris Fellowships are not available. The Platt Fellowships will number eight. Heritage Fellowships have also dropped from \$2,500. Perhaps there will be 25-30 for this year at \$1,000 each.

18. Chair's Report (P.E. MacAllister). The Chair read a personal history with a memorable aphorism: "When the present changes radically, the past is no longer prelude to the present or the future." (The Chair's report was subsequently published in the Summer 2009 ASOR Newsletter).

19. Old Business—none.

20. New Business—none.

21. Announcements. The President announced that Eric and Carol Meyers have a conference "DUKE SYMPOSIUM: ARCHAEOLOGY, POLITICS AND THE MEDIA: RE-VISIONING THE MIDDLE EAST" on Thursday and Friday, April 23-24, which is open to the public. He congratulated Suzanne Richard for being promoted to Professor. He asked that Trustees communicate such events to him for the announcements.

22. Adjourn at 10:36 am, hitherto unrecorded.

Respectfully submitted,

James F. Strange, Secretary.