ASOR Chairs Coordinating Council  
Conference Call Minutes  
Feb. 8, 2019 2:00-3:00 EST

Present: Susan Ackerman, Helen Dixon, Sharon Herbert, Laura Mazow, Kevin McGeough, Marta Ostovich, Andy Vaughn, Eric Welch

Absent: Tiffany Earley-Spadoni, Geoff Emberling, Steve Falconer, Randy Younger

1. Approval of January Minutes:
Minutes are approved with no changes.

2. Plenary Speaker Candidates (Helen)

Prior to the call, Helen circulated a list of 4 excellent candidates with bios. Two would continue the recent success in bringing a speaker from the region. The PC feels strongly about this, but it does not have to be every year (there are funding challenges). After considerable discussion the CCC settled on Eric Cline as the top candidate. Susan said it will be a particular pleasure to invite Eric. His career began as an undergrad at Dartmouth.

Helen asked whether the committee could ask for the topic of public intellectual in the invitation. Susan replied that we need to give Eric some leeway on topic, but she can suggest Archaeologist as a Public Intellectual. Helen also pointed out that Eric is supportive and excited to speak about why lecture is the best way to teach and he makes the case for traditional pedagogy. Helen said that she trusts him to include biographical information.

Susan suggested telling Eric the committee was interested in the public intellectual topic and asking him to illustrate how he made his own excavation/discoveries relevant beyond the guild and the committee agreed.

Susan will write to Eric Cline and invite him to give the plenary.

3. Committee Reports (as needed)

b. Honors and Awards

The chair (Laura) is continuing to work on a number of things, such as how to highlight awardees. Laura is working with Cynthia on doing a page or post and trying to figure out the best way to recognize those who have been honored. There are two book award nominations thus far.
Sharon reminded the chair to get members for the Committee on a Code of Conduct for the Annual Meeting.
Susan said Ian Jones has been nominated from Honors and Awards and asked if there was another name.
Laura said a couple of people were interested and asked how the committee is meeting as some of the interested candidates will be traveling.
Susan replied the meetings are done over phone and email, as this what the committee that put together the Fieldwork Code did.
Laura will follow up with her two possible people.

c. Early Career Scholars

The co-chair (Eric) is working on additions to the committee, and there are two possible people. One is a student and one is about to defend the Ph.D., which would provide good balance for committee. One of the new members is interested in Committee on a Code of Conduct for the Annual Meeting. Eric asked if this was okay, even though this committee member hasn’t been approved by Board?
Susan said it is fine and appointments are retroactive.
Eric should have official word on Monday.

The co-chair discussed the Early Career Session at the Annual Meeting. The luncheon will feature talks on preparing sessions (Helen Dixon discussing what is PC looking for) and preparing a poster (Morag Kersel).
Helen stated that while the process of submitting a paper seems easy to the PC, it is good to provide this type of session.
Susan pointed out that Helen and Morag have strong roots as Early Career scholars and they are experts who understand the constituency.

The co-chair identified ongoing efforts: connecting with younger people and building continuity.

e. Committee on Publications

The chair (Kevin) is pleased that the BASOR co-editor has been nominated to give the plenary at the Annual Meeting! The chair did not have much new to report. The NEA transition is underway. The committee is very excited about the digital publication subcommittee.
Susan said that following the Executive Committee meeting in Alexandria, Stephanie’s appointment as NEA Editor is official.

f. Programs Committee

The co-chair (Helen) reported that Stephanie Langin-Hooper stepped down as a member of PC. There are lots of Art Historians interested in a spot on the committee.
The co-chair will have nominations by February 12th for a new member. Scott Moore has also joined the PC and has volunteered to serve on Committee on a Code of Conduct for the Annual Meeting. Helen also wants to nominate herself but may be changing institutions in the fall and so short on time.

4. Central Office Matters

Susan reported that the Executive Committee met last weekend in Alexandria. While ASOR does not yet own a building, ASOR does have a purchase-and-sale agreement to buy a building at 209 Commerce Street. The process is moving along and the building inspection took place. The Executive Committee went to see building, and Susan feels that ASOR has their support. ASOR has almost $1.0 million pledged and $440,000 in hand. An announcement has been made of a giving opportunity to get to ASOR’s fund-raising goal of $1.5 million, which would allow ASOR to buy the Commerce Street building and to establish an endowment for maintenance and on-going expenses. Susan and Andy are looking at financing plans, the logistics of the move, following up on pledges, and taking out a loan that will paid off in 3 years.

Susan also discussed the work of Gary Arbino and the Future of the Annual Meeting Committee. There has be discussion about years where it is hard to find hotels (San Antonio/Denver). A final report will be part of the April Board meeting.

Andy is excited and will soon announce a challenge gift for the building. There is a little bit more work to do.

Susan said ASOR had $0 in its building fund at this time last year.

Susan said information on the new building can be shared with the committees.

Andy asked the committee to hold off on social media posts, as ASOR is in a two-week waiting period. The building inspection was positive, but a land survey still needs to be done.

5. Matters Arising: None