

Spring ASOR Executive Committee Meeting  
ASOR Offices (656 Beacon Street, 5th Floor)  
11:45AM – 4:30PM--Friday, May 2, 2014

PRESENT: B.W. Ruffner, Chair; Susan Ackerman, President; Richard Coffman, Treasurer; Lynn Dodd, Secretary; Tim Harrison, Past President; Joe Seger, Sharon Herbert, VP; Eric Meyers; Ann-Marie Knoblauch, Andy Vaughn.

1. The meeting was called to order by B.W. Ruffner at 12:34PM.
2. A motion to approve the agenda was made, seconded and unanimously approved.
3. A motion to approve the Minutes of the November 23, 2013 meeting was made, seconded and unanimously approved, with the following corrections:

Page 3 – June 20<sup>th</sup> should read June 30<sup>th</sup> item 7b. Fix typographic errors in President's report.

#### 4. Announcements

- a. ASOR submitted a grant application "Planning for Safeguarding Heritage Sites in Syria" to the US State Department that will plan to address cultural heritage issues in Syria for an approximate budget of \$600,000. Kudos to Lee Ann Gordon and Michael Danti especially for their work on the grant. ASOR proposed a great coalition in a strong proposal, and we await news of the outcome of the award competition.

Susan Ackerman commented that this effort was very much in line with ASOR's strategic plan focus on advocacy.

- b. ASOR Newsletter (Sharon Herbert, for the CCC)  
We are continuing to produce our newsletter as NEWS@ASOR, as a freely available publication that is available in digital form. Legacy Members will be able to get a printed newsletter still (10-15 persons) and the cost of subscriptions to the newsletter paid by various institutions will be refunded.

#### 5. Treasurer's Report (Richard Coffman)

The Treasurer presented the Finance Committee's report. Of particular note is the report that ASOR has diversified its assets lately, with Sheldon Fox's consultation. Kudos to Steve Dana who made Wells Fargo Wealth Advisors available to ASOR. They reviewed ASOR policies and results and replied that they do not have any recommendation other than ASOR keep doing what it is doing.

- a. Action Item: Adoption of the 2015 Budget  
A discussion was held about the way the budget reflects giving to the Annual Fund versus specified funds.

A motion from Finance Committee was made to approve the budget.

**BE IT RESOLVED, The Executive Committee recommends that the Board approve the 2105 ASOR Budget as presented.**

- b. Action Item: Extension of auditors' contract for one year.

**BE IT RESOLVED, to approve a motion from the Finance Committee that ASOR seek to extend the contract with Romeo, Wiggins and Co, LLP for one year (FY 2014 audit and tax return) at a price not to exceed the maximum price for FY 2013 audit and tax return (\$20, 300) and (2) defer the competitive bidding process for the FY 2015, 2016, 2017 audits and tax returns until December 2014 or January 2015.**

#### 6. Foundation Campaign Update (Andrew Vaughn)

Overall increase in giving of all types has been \$1.8 million dollars. We have 396 discrete donors to date and seek four more in the coming month. A goal going forward is to diversify ASOR's donor base. To have planned this campaign and then succeeded is a huge deal...ASOR met its goal!!

Susan Ackerman praised all who had contributed to the successful campaign and to the establishment of scholarships. We will reach 400 donors in FY 14.

Tim Harrison commented that the broader base of givers shows how engaged and committed and generous the ASOR membership is. The collective psychology of being successful in this is important.

#### 7. Discussion: Draft Report of the Ethics Task Force (Lynn Dodd, chair, Ethics Working Group)

Tim Harrison offered his perspective on how the impetus behind the creation of a holistic policy. He recalled a CCC meeting back in 2010 when a member indicated that ASOR needed to deal with the question of a coordinated ethics or professional conduct policy. This prompted him to found an Ethics Working Group and to work toward the creation of a policy, the results of which are being discussed today.

Robust discussions ensued about unprovenanced antiquities, the nature of the policy, occupied territory; and a number of other important suggestions were made by all those present.

#### 8. Discussion: ASOR Outreach Initiatives

- a. NEA
- b. ASOR TV
- c. Podcast
- d. ANEToday
- e. ASOR Blog
- f. Facebook page
- g. Twitter feeds
- h. Attempt to establish Friends of ASOR membership group (8000 members now)

- i. Webinar series
- j. Popular sessions at ASOR mtg.

The Chair commented that outreach is where his heart is; getting the word out is important. Laypeople are a core support network for ASOR.

The ED outlined how all the various outreach mechanisms work together.

#### 9. Personnel Committee Report (Susan Ackerman)

Personnel committee undertook a new process this year as a result to a change in the ASOR Bylaws. The evaluation of the ED was undertaken by a Personnel Committee consisting of the President, VP, Treasurer and 1-2 appointees of Chair; the Chair was encouraged to appoint himself. The process involved gathering confidential evaluations and creating a summary statement.

In discussion, it was agreed to extend the Executive Director's contract for one year, through June 30, 2017.

#### 10. Old Business

The Executive Committee requested a post-mortem on the webinar.

#### 11. New Business. None.

#### 12. The meeting was adjourned at 4:30PM.