

Association for Washington Archaeology
General Business Meeting, 66th Annual Northwest Anthropological Conference
Portland State University, Friday, March 29, 5:00-6:30 PM
[>100 members and 6 Board directors in attendance]

MINUTES

INTRODUCTION

Opening Remarks from the Vice President – Michelle Hannum welcomed members and guests, noted the raffle for CRPS registration at the end of the meeting and sent around the Hannum boys as entry-gatherers.

Early Item - Transfer of Management of Pearson Air Museum/Ft. Vancouver NHP (HR 716)

Ken Ames announced the House Bill (HB716) from the Washington state legislature to excise seven acres from Ft Vancouver National Historic Park, including the Pearson Airfield/Museum, from NPS ownership. Stemming from a disagreement with the Trust for use of facilities, the NPS terminated their agreement with the Trust and gave notice to vacate. Ken noted the historic components, proximity to former Hudsons Bay Company facilities, and possible burials encompassed by this land. HB716 does not specify usual land transfer procedures for cultural resources. Development future is uncertain, but regardless sets a bad precedent for issues of heritage management and management in general.

A letter from the Association would be good, but individual letters of concern to state representatives about the bill are counted, which is better.

Treasurer's Report

Ross Smith report, as of this day, a checking account balance of \$2572.71 and a savings account balance of \$6228.93, for a total of \$8801.64.

Renewed membership stood at 65 regular members, 7 institutional members, and 12-15 student members, but was clearly increasing during the early minutes of the meeting as the beer line grew.

Bob Kopperl noted renewal Issues, and to please include updated email addresses with renewal, on behalf of newsletter editor Nancy Kenmotsu, who maintains and regularly used the membership list emails to communicate with members. (via Bob)

OLD/ONGOING BUSINESS

Journal

Mark DeLeon reported on the status of the journal *Archaeology in Washington* and introduced the new editor, Jim Bard. Mark first asked who has submitted a manuscript lately to the journal, to which only a few hands were raised. He then gave a brief history of journal operations during the past few editorships. Pat Lubinski got the journal up-to-date in the three years he was editor. Guy Moura and Chris Miss assumed editorship but no movement was able to be made to produce the next issues. During that time, approximately two full volumes of manuscripts were submitted, but getting peer reviewers to help became a limiting factor. Mark relayed Pat Lubinski's frustration in spending a lot of time working with authors and reviewers, only to have the manuscript withdrawn and submitted elsewhere. Jim Bard introduced himself, encouraged submissions and volunteers to serve as peer reviewers. It was also noted that an editorial board should be formed to assist Jim in reviewing manuscripts as well as seeking qualified reviewers with appropriate expertise.

Website/Consultants List

Adam Rorabaugh noted that the website consultant list was being updated as registrants came forward. It was also brought to his attention that the old website (www.washingtonarchaeology.com) as opposed to www.washingtonarchaeology.org is still functional and accessible from Google and other search engines. Adam requested he be contacted with any other issues.

Student/Research Grant Awards

Michelle Hannum announced the AWA research grant awards for this year: Ann Parfitt, Central Washington University, who is conducting obsidian sourcing analysis of artifacts from the Grisson site; and Kathryn Wojcik, Portland State University, who is conducting a pilot analysis of fishbones from Tse-whit-zen.

Call for Representative to Attend Council of Councils at SAA Meeting (Bob)

Bob Kopperl noted that Dennis Lewarch would be attending the Council of Councils meeting at the upcoming 2013 SAA conference. He also asked if any other AWA members who were also attending the SAA could represent AWA at the Council of Affiliated Societies meeting on the Thursday of the conference, to please contact him to facilitate.

Consultant List Update

Mary Rossi described the current procedures for consultants seeking a listing on the AWA-hosted consultant list. She noted 13 of the 34 current registrants are AWA members, giving them an asterisk for their entry and our undying gratitude. Stephenie Kramer is referring people to the list, so it is doing its job. Mary noted that the dues structure is a little odd for institutional members – in some ways it's a better deal than individual membership if the consultant is a small business or sole proprietor. Mary advised that she will be cracking down on keeping the asterisk listing current.

NEW BUSINESS

Request for AWA to Host a Curation Summit-Reviewed Curation Facilities List (Michelle)

Paula Johnson approached the membership with a request for AWA to host a list of Curation Summit-approved Washington state curation facilities, analogous to the consultant list that the AWA currently hosts. She gave a brief history of the Curation Summit, and noted that DAHP does not want to host this list. The Summit has approved five repositories throughout the state – they own/maintain the list, and DAHP had hosted it. Paul noted that the Curation Summit would still be the ones to determine who would or wouldn't be on the list, and would develop a disclaimer that AWA can use regarding liability and assumptions in accessing and using the list.

Paula made the motion that AWA host the list on the AWA website; Kelly Bush seconded the motion. Mark DeLeon moved to amend the motion to consider studying the proposal for AWA to host the list, noting that there are still issues in hosting the consultant list that have yet to be resolved, and adding another list would add complications. Paula asked if the Board has discussed it yet; mark replied that the Board has discussed it a little bit – this issue arose after our last quarterly Board meeting. Tom Becker asked what the issues were; Mark noted password requirements as one of several.

Lorelea Hudson maintained we needed to move forward to host the list, and if it's a problem, let the Board deal with it. Mark noted the difference between the consultant and curation facility lists – there is no verification for the consultant list, just interface by registrants with AWA and the disclaimer that we aren't verifying their credentials. Paula noted that the Curation Summit would make the decision who gets listed. Mark asked Paula if the Summit has a website that they can use to host the list; she said no. *Original motion repeated; Passed.*

SEPA

Mary Rossi addressed the membership regarding legislative changes to SEPA. She briefly reviewed the history of SEPA in terms of its role in cultural resource management in the state, including the redundancies, ambiguities, and lack of streamlining that characterizes it as it still stands.

Legislation has been introduced to reform SEPA. It passed last year with support from local governments and business interests. Concern regarding its implications for oversight of cultural resource has been raised at the table; Mary is serving on a committee specifically to explore these issues, and she exhorts the membership to participate.

Phase I of streamlining SEPA already went into effect January 28, 2013, lowering the threshold of projects exempt from SEPA. This is an optional measure for local jurisdictions, and requires certain findings. Growth Management Act is followed, if applicable, which may bump up the thresholds; cultural resources are an *optional* planning element, however, under GMA.

For upcoming pending SEPA revision legislation, Department of Ecology included cultural resources as “top 5 topics”, so at least it’s giving lip service to its importance. There are monthly meetings regarding the legislation, and the reality of changes in the treatment of cultural resources is ominous. John McCoy (Tulalip) added bill to address some of the pressing issues. Public comment period for Phase II revisions will be August-October 2013 with a target date to file it in early Fall and with a vote by December 31st. The committee meeting will be in July.

Our members can: Monitor the Ecology website (<http://www.ecy.wa.gov/>); look for updates from Mary to the AWA membership (keep your email current with us!); if you want to get involved by contacting Ecology or representatives, provide *specifics*; when rules are put out, add comments; also, contact Mary directly for more information. Paula Johnson asked Mary if she could put together specific talking points for letter composing.

David Powell addressed the membership regarding HB 1809, which exempts some of the exemptions that went into place for Phase I back in January. It is a short bill – in the absence of data sharing agreement with DAHP, exemptions can’t be granted. There was a lot of negative lobbying on the bill. Although it died, it can be revived. David noted the implications for the SEPA revisions happening now for CRM consultants. He encouraged contact with reps and senators. Virginia Butler asked whether to write them now, or wait until bill is re-introduced, and can Mary/Nancy send the membership talking points. David encouraged contacting Dept. of Ecology right now regarding concerns.

Election

Michelle noted that this is an election year. Bob Kopperl noted that the bylaws have not been revised since 1997 and no provisions are given for email balloting, despite past elections conducted by email. *He made a motion to change the wording specifically to allow voting by both email and mail; the motion passed unanimously. He also made a motion for a committee to be formed to revise other minor inconsistencies in the bylaws and get them up to 21st century standards; the motion passed unanimously.*

Michelle noted that none of the current Board of Directors have reached their two consecutive full-term limits for the same Board position, and therefore are qualified to serve another term. A call for additional nominations was made – no responses. *Sarah Campbell made a motion to re-elect the Board as it stands, considering no other nominations were made, obviating the need for email elections. Motion was unanimously approved.*

WRAP-UP

Mary Rossi reminded the membership of the upcoming Cultural Resource Protection Summit, and announced the winner of the registration raffle – Pat McCutcheon.

Ross Smith announced the end of the silent auction, and for winners to pay for and claim their lots with him.

Sarah Campbell reminisced of NWACs past and her son's birthday – a toast to Kevin Mitchell was made.

Meeting adjourned.