

# **ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTH CAROLINA, INC (ASSC)**

## **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

**March 7, 2020**

**SCDNR Parker Annex Archaeology Building  
2025 Barnwell Street  
Columbia, SC**

The regular bi-monthly meeting of the ASSC Executive Committee was held Saturday, March 7, 2020 at the SCDNR archaeology building. The meeting was called to order at 10:03 a.m. by President David Gordon. A quorum was present.

In attendance: David Gordon– President; Savannah Hulon - Vice-President; Rebecca Shepherd-Secretary; Ashley Stewart-Treasurer; Members-at-Large: Bach Pham, Kelly Higgins, Will Britz; Katherine Parker; Student Representative: Jessica Cooper; Past-President: Kieth Stephenson

### **Officer Reports:**

#### **Secretary's Report-** (Rebecca)

The minutes for the previous meetings were sent out recently and no corrections were received. A motion was made to approve the minutes and all were in favor.

#### **Post Conference Membership Update:**

We currently have 103 (non-lifetime) society members, and 51 lifetime members. This breaks down to 8 family memberships, 33 Individual, 35 Senior, 21 Senior Family, and 6 Student memberships.

Membership location demographics break down to 89 in South Carolina, 7 in North Carolina, 3 in Florida, 2 in Georgia, 1 in Arkansas, 1 in Tennessee, and 1 in Pennsylvania.

Our membership total for 2019 was 123, so we are down slightly from that. We received 48 membership renewals at the conference, which continues to be the most popular way to renew, followed by renewing through a chapter, which so far 41 members have done.

60 regular members and 4 lifetime members attended the conference.

The majority of our members are seniors and we need to work on better appealing to younger demographics. Possibly setting up tables at USC events like the Student Anthropology conference.

Possibility of a “light membership” was suggested. Would not include the journal but would get newsletter and access to events. Potentially a \$10 membership fee. We would have to amend the bylaws for this, will be tabled for now.

#### **Treasurer's Report-** (Ashley)

Jodi has been paid for the conference. A total of \$618 was spent on the Conference. We received \$2,180 in donations for Grant in Aid

### Archivist Report-

No report

### Newsletter Editor – (Keely Lewis via email)

I plan to send out the next newsletter in mid April. It will include photos and highlights from the conference and write-ups on the award members. David, I will follow up with you around the end of the month for the president's letter. We also discussed at the conference trying again to highlight lifetime members for a bio write up in the newsletter. We discussed reaching out to Ernest Helms for the first write-up after his conference presentation. If anyone else has any suggestions for who to contact, please let me know. I look forward to hearing about the conversation on the Avocational Certification from today's meeting and can also highlight this in the next newsletter if we decide to move forward with it.

### Journal Editor: (Joe Wilkinson via email)

I have continued formatting the articles I've received and have slowly started sending them out to their respective authors for a final review to make sure I didn't mess up anything. I am still waiting for the last bit of materials before I can compile it all, but hope to have them very soon. My plan is to have it all completely formatted and ready to send off to the printer by the end of the month.

### Chapter Updates –

Hilton Head - David Gordon

## **Projects/Committee Reports**

### Conference:

The conference was very well attended all throughout the day. The panel was really well received and the participation of the avocational archaeologists seemed like a really big draw for attendees. We should try to replicate the panel format next year. Perhaps with shell rings as a topic and Matt Sanger as a keynote?

### Fall Field Day:

We need to set a date. SEAC is scheduled for Oct 28 through 31, so not over that weekend, nor the weekend of the 17th when the Arkhaiois Film Festival is scheduled. Also need to touch base with Mary Hayden who is organizing the PowPow and discuss potential partnerships. Sesquicentennial State Park could also be a potential location.

### Website:

No update

Social Media:

No update

Merchandise:

We sold quite a few t-shirts at the conference, but few koozies.

Savannah plans to get quotes from a friend of hers who does graphic design for a new logo to use for merchandise.

Grant-in-Aid Fund:

There is currently \$7,620 in the GIA account.

Our deadline for applications is March 20th.

So far we have received only one applicant, John Dodge from USC.

David Palmer has agreed to work with Mona on the GIA committee. Savannah will contact her and David to send them the application for judging.

Membership:

See secretary's report.

**Unfinished Business**

None

**New Business:**

Founder's Day at Charles Towne Landing:

Nicole Isenbarger emailed the society inviting us to participate in their annual Founder's Day celebration on April 18th and 19th. This year will commemorate the 350th anniversary of the founding of Charles Towne. To participate we need to fill out a form that Nicole sent, which Bach will handle. Becca, Bach, Savannah, and Kelly plan to attend and work a booth.

Avocational Archaeologist Certification Program:

David Gordon presented a discussion on the possibly of the ASSC implementing such a program, modeled somewhat on the one existing in Arkansas. Discussion points include:

- This type of program would be difficult to manage on our own, as we are solely a volunteer run organization. To adequately implement we would need to partner with another organization Luke SCDNR, SCIAA, or SCPRT.
- The program should include a combination of practical experience and training classes, possibly through You Tube videos
- We could apply for a grant to get the program off the ground
- Other similar programs to look to for a model include Virginia's avocational program, the Master Naturalist program, or the Master Gardener program
- David plans to get with Joe Wilkinson and James Stewart, who have discussed implementing this in the past, and work out a draft plan.

Next Meeting

**Next Meeting: Saturday May 16, 10:00 AM at the DNR Archaeology building**

**2020 Meeting Schedule: (subject to change)**

**January 18**

**February 7 (tentative informal conference planning meeting)**

**March 7**

**May 16**

**July 11**

**September 19**

**November 7**

Adjournment: 12:27 pm

**Votes:**

To approve the previous meeting minutes.