

Board of Trustees Meeting  
Astor Crowne Plaza Hotel  
New Orleans, LA  
22 Nov 2009  
DRAFT MINUTES

PRESENT: Susan Ackerman, Beth Alpert-Nikhai, Gary Arbino, Bill Arnold, Jeffrey Blakely, VP for COP, Elizabeth Bloch-Smith, Jeffrey R. Chadwick, Mark Chavalas, Eric H. Cline, Jennie Ebeling, Nili S. Fox, Sheldon Fox, Treasurer, Lawrence T. Geraty, Past President, Sy Gitin, AIAR, Barry Gittlen, James Hardin, Tim Harrison, President, Michael Homan, Co-VP for CAMP, Morag Kersel, Co-VP for CAMP, Ann Killebrew, Outgoing VP for CAP, Øystein LaBianca, Incoming VP for CAP, P.E. MacAllister, Chairman, Eric Meyers, Past President, Bob Mullins, Orlyn Nelson, Suzanne Richard, B.W. Ruffner, Audrey Schafer, Tammi Schneider, VP for Membership, Sue Sheridan, James F. Strange, Secretary, Stuart Swiny, Andy Vaughn, Executive Director, Ed Wright, Lawson Younger, Randy Younger.

ABSENT: Lydie Shufro, Carol Meyers, Austin Ritterspach, Joe Seger, Joseph Greene.

VISITORS: Vivian Bull, Tom Davis for CAARI, Barbara A. Porter for ACOR. Gus Feissel for CAARI.

1. CTO 8:00 AM
2. Approval of minutes with one correction: Jennie Ebeling was absent. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.
3. Approval of Agenda with insertion.

- 6b. Strategic planning—Tim Harrison. Tim Harrison stressed that the Strategic plan is an attempt to identify strategic priorities that are central to our mission. Susan Ackerman, James Harden, Sten LaBianca, Morag Kersel, Carol Meyers, and P.E. MacAllister worked very hard. It was noted that the Archival Project is not named. The President emphasized that the Archive Project figures in the on-line resources parts of the document, but will be specifically named. CAMP in its current configuration will cease to exist. The Officers' Coordinating Council will replace that function and others. The OCC will not establish policy but will seek to coordinate Policy, ethical policies, and others. The President-Elect position is new. The Board of Trustees as currently configured is too big and requires wealth, wisdom, and work. It was commented that there is an increasingly restricted experience for ASOR. Since the 2001 retreat some have requested more access. A smaller board does not accomplish that. The Officers Coordinating Council is to be formed of Chairs of standing committees, the President, Public Outreach, Regional Affiliations, Publications, CAP, Membership, and the President-elect. It was envisioned that this committee would respond to issues of the web site and conversations across committees about budget, unprovenanced artifacts, digs in occupied territories, etc. It was suggested that the AIA uses the first VP as the president elect, and we might consider the same thing. The Task Force responds that it was considered. It was opined that we could do much more with a smaller Board that is fully committed. The President opines that it is not lay and professional members, but this is a board that uses many different kinds of experience and advice that this board can use. We should be developing policies for implementation by other bodies within ASOR. Increasing coordination is valuable. The ultimate legal authority is the organization, so it comes back to the Board, not the OCC. It was suggested that we consult the AGP and get their materials on Best Practices for Boards, which is usually to set policies. Chairs of the national centers also have representation. Members of the OCC are not elected, but serve by virtue of their position as chair of a standing committee. We were reminded that this will take place 2011-15, and the structure will remain the same. The president reminds us that he and the Task Force need feedback as quickly as possible in order to revise the document for posting to all by March for a vote of the EC in its April meeting.
7. Resolutions of the EC in the past meetings—Andy Vaughn. The EC approved Robert Schick on the NEA Board. The EC asked CAP to revisit and formulate guidelines that will govern the formation of regional committees.
8. Treasurer's Report—Sheldon Fox. Copies of the audit were distributed. The Treasurer went over the audit and supplemental letters. The Auditors report total net assets of \$923,000. About half of ASOR's total assets are restricted. There are also temporarily restricted assets. Unrestricted assets are down from last year. Unrestricted assets are available for operations, but come to a n.0 56.0 0 0 Tf (84.3999cm S0007g

is about 12% of the total, which is regarded as good for a non-profit of this size. The auditors were concerned that we needed more control in accounts receivable and in bad debts. Their point is well taken, and we will strengthen that area. Their second comment was that we have exhausted our reserves, so we either cut expenses or raise revenues. Receivables went up so steeply from 2008, because we had to write off 45% of receivables, some of which is due to the national economic circumstances.

There was a Motion and second to approve the report. PASSED Unanimously.

A new spending policy was passed in September subject to legal counsel. They recommended a few changes. Th

12. Membership—A. Vaughn in the absence of Tammi Schneider. The membership committee met and voted to name as chairs of Individual Membership Randall Younker and Hartenberger. The EC has affirmed that vote.

BE IT RESOLVED, that this board approves these additions.

APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

Brit Hartenberger, former staff member, will come back and serve as a volunteer in this capacity. The purpose is to recruit individual members, retain members, and work with various committees as to what the membership is thinking. Andy Vaughn and Brit Hartenberger have been charged to develop a plan to do so. They asked the EC yesterday on the focus we as an organization

16. AIAR Report—Sy Gitin. Three new developments included closing the Albright over the summer to renovate the hostel. There are now two restrooms on the first floor. The wi-fi, hot water system, etc. are all renovated. The library has been extended into what was once a cistern. Renovation finished one day early and under budget. The Albright continues to offer a 10% discount to members for use of the facilities. The Video-conferencing is broadcasting 10 lectures per week to al-Quds University. There has been an expansion of the Albright program. The new Noble Group Fellowships are for Chinese students. There is available \$270,000 in fellowships this year. All the money has been raised for another fellowship.

over 12 months. Composition costs will reduce \$25,000. We could save \$50,000 out of \$191,000, if we adopt these bids. The editors are very concerned that we do not lose quality if we go with lower bidders. For the last three books we printed we switched vendors and saved considerably.

21. President's Report—Tim Harrison. Since the spring board meeting, Tim has appointed an ad hoc Media Relations Committee for one year with Eric Cline as Chair. There is hope that this can become a standing committee. This committee is the war room against misinformation. It also facilitates relations with the media, establishing a web site where companies can ask for people to interview within their expertise. Some concern was expressed at ASOR's responding to the media when they make low-level claims. Tim Harrison thanks the Trustees who are rotating off and thanks all officers and chairs of ASOR for their hard work over the last year. He thanks Andy Vaughn for his efforts and the efforts of all the staff who work behind the scenes on behalf of ASOR. He stressed the need to get pledges in as soon as possible, especially before the end of the year, either equal to last year's pledge, but preferably higher.
22. Chair's Report—P.E. MacAllister. Read an awe-inspiring Historical statement on leadership and its cultivation from the Roman Empire forward.
23. Old Business--None
24. New Business--None
25. Announcements--None
26. Adjourn 11:22 AM.