

The American Schools of Oriental Research  
Board of Trustees Meeting  
November 17, 2001 - Broomfield, CO  
Minutes

PRESENT: Jeff Blakely, Oded Borowski, John Camp, Doug Clark, Sidnie White Crawford, David Detrich, William Dever, Nan Frederick, Ed Gilbert, Tim Harrison, Norma Kershaw, P.E. MacAllister (Chairman), Jodi Magness, Kyle McCarter, David McCreery, Robert Miller, Austin Ritterspach, James F. Ross, B.W. Ruffner, Tom Schaub (Vice-President), Brian Schmidt, Tammi Schneider, Joe D. Seger, President, Lydie Shufro, John Spencer, Jim Strange (Secretary), Stewart Swiny, Gerald Vincent, Billie Jean Collins (Publications), Holly Andrews (Assistant Director), Rudy Dornemann (Executive Director),

ABSENT: Walter Aufrecht, Mark Chavalas, Sten LaBianca, Albert Leonard (COP), Eric Meyers, Martha Risser, Bruce Routledge, Richard J. Scheuer (Life Trustee), Randy Younker,

VISITORS: Larry Geraty, Larry Herr, Sy Gitin (AIAR), Lee Seeman, Ingrid Wood, Bill Hook, Paul Gherman

1. **CTO 8:30 AM** P.E. MacAllister
2. **Approval of Minutes** of April 29, 2001 Trustees Meeting

due to the events of Sept 11, 2001. The ACOR Trustees commend Pierre Bikai for all his successes.

6. **Report from CAARI** David Detrich

David Detrich is the new President. Andrew Oliver has been of great help, as have the Director and Trustees. The June Annual Summer Workshop had students from SUNY with an overview of the current archaeological situation in Cyprus. Undergraduate students are introduced to a specific site and encouraged in archaeology. The Helena Wilde and Stuart Swiny fellowship is now fully funded. Other fellowships are aimed at doctoral students. There is some progress to the library cataloging program. The Trustees encourage Eric Cline to include Cypriote archaeology in the program. Joe Seger has brought up the relation of ASOR with the overseas centers. He hopes for improved communication. Trustees hope that ASOR publications are critical.

7. **Report from President** Joe D. Seger

Memorial Moments for the following:

E.J. Vardaman Mississippi State U.  
William L. Moran Harvard U.  
Rebecca MacAllister Indianapolis, IN  
Cyrus Gordon, Brookline, MA  
Sean Dever, Los Angeles, CA  
Constance Gordon Brookline, MA  
John Hartz, AIAR  
Inna Pommerantz, Jerusalem  
Charles U. Harris, Delaplane, VA  
Ludmila Elkin, Jerusalem

Joe points out that gifts for relief of the current budget shortfall are coming, but more are needed. He encouraged the Trustees who may not yet have given to do so.

The Centennial Volume is complete and will be of interest to Trustees. The income from the volume goes to allay costs of the Centennial Celebration.

Joe referred to the Summary Report of the Strategic Initiatives Retreat and suggested that all Trustees read and absorb the comments in the report, some of which are specious, but many of which reflect serious thought and insight. He noted that occasionally he was astonished by the level of ignorance of certain fundamentals of the structure and administration of ASOR. One area emerged which needs some attention from the Task Force.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board establish a task force on Leadership and Management to be convened immediately.

Membership is an area that requires attention. There has been a fairly aggressive attack on the problem of institutions in arrears with noticeable success. Total membership is not in decline, though it has not increased significantly either. Membership stays around 1250. This number is tied to subscriptions. We have had about six additions in recent years in institutional memberships. Three are in the pipeline. Our income base, however, is subscriptions and membership. Joe thanked everyone. He appreciates his election as institutional Trustee.

BE IT RESOLVED, that Joe D. Seger be commended by this body. MOVED by Austin Ritterspach. Seconded. P.E. MacAllister called on all who vote yes to stand and applaud. The commendation is in effect.

Joe introduced Paul Gherman, University Librarian of Vanderbilt University, to speak to the ETANA project (Electronic Tools and Ancient Near Eastern Archives). Their aim is to create an online database of scholarly studies. Paul explained that their goal is to put on line volumes now in the public domain so that people can access the data either cost-free or for a nominal fee. ETANA desires to partner with ASOR for this end. SBL is a partner, as are Case Western Reserve and Israel Finkelstein at Tel Aviv U. Mellon is underwriting the project. A question was raised whether Cyprus would be included. The answer was that anything can be included. This is referred to the Executive Committee. A Straw Vote indicated unanimous interest.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees recommends that the Executive Committee consider this association with ETANA. Moved by Tammi Schneider. Seconded. PASSED unanimously.

#### 8. **Financial Reports** R. Dornemann.

Rudy reported that we have been transferring our accounting system into a proper form for auditing not-for-profits.

payment of current bills.

This page explains the change in net assets of \$49,666

shows that the Total Cash and cash equivalents, end of year was \$197,348. Approximately \$50,000 of this represents remaining costs of the Centennial Celebration. The bulk of the remainder was publications.

This causes a cash flow problem, especially if total Receivables stay large. Annual meeting, publications, and Centennial Celebration have cost us \$188,000 in three years. There are two things that influence Unrestricted funds, cutting expenses or increasing Unrestricted Revenues. ASOR must reduce its budget and try to increase its income. Considerable discussion ensued with clarifications offered by Rudy Dornemann, Joe D. Seger, Gerald Vincent, and others.

Ingrid Wood commented on the Investment Summary (distributed in October slightly. Ingrid reported that she moved our investments into mutual funds last quarter and thereby limited out losses. Equities represent 10% of our holdings.

suggests that we adjust revenues to \$935,000 and expenses to \$895,000, that this would be a reasonable, draft budget. This can be revisited in January. Discussion ensued.

BE IT RESOLVED, that we not accept this budget but instruct that a revised budget be prepared with about a \$50,000 surplus on the baseline \$914,676. MOVED by Austin Ritterspach. Seconded. PASSED unanimously.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees instructs Rudy Dornemann to proceed to secure quotes on Liability Insurance without exclusions for the Board of Trustees. David Detrich moved, Tammi Schenider seconded. PASSED unanimously.

Rudy added we have dealt with the due diligence process in order to see what other obligations have been placed on ASOR by sponsored projects. The auditor and counsel agree that the Mi

*Institutional Slate:*      *Individual Slate:*  
Bruce Routledge      Stuart Swiny  
Timothy Harrison      Beth Nakhai  
Joe Seger      Eric Cline

Nominations Committee:

Institutional Slate: Kyle McCarter  
Individual Slate: Sten LaBianca

Agenda Committee:

Institutional Slate: Michael Hasel  
Individual Slate: Jimmy Hardin

Chair of the Committee on Publications:

Larry Herr

Walter Rast gave the report on the Search for officers. The names were presented to the Board of Trustees:

Chairman of the Board, P.E. MacAllister  
MOVED, seconded, PASSED unanimously

Secretary James F. Strange  
MOVED, seconded, PASSED unanimously

Vice-President there is no candidate in favor of input from the Presidential candidate.

President, Larry Geraty  
MOVED, seconded, PASSED unanimously

The Committee suggested that we wait on a candidate for the Vice President pending election of the president. PE suggested that we have a candidate for the Spring meeting. Joe suggested that Larry Geraty be added to the search committee.

10.      **Development Committee** Austin Ritterspach. So far in this fiscal year we have garnered another \$74,100 in donations to our Annual Appeal and \$113,285 towards the Torch Campaign. Austin urged the Board of Trustees to sign a pledge card and approach a friend to

be a cultivation event this spring in Atlanta at the Fernbank Museum, thanks to B.W. Ruffner. Austin suggested that the Trustees think of having a cultivation event in their home town. Austin has suggested that the Institutional members be listed on the web site.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board direct Publications to list all institutional members at least once a year in all relevant publications. MOVED by Austin Ritterspach. Seconded. Discussion ensued. PASSED unanimously.

In the meeting about Institutional Memberships there was discussion whether digs should be institutional members, and we should offer individual membership to the students. Norma Kershaw pointed out that we need to offer credit card pledge opportunities to people on the pledge card. She also suggests that we take in-kind and non-cash contributions.

11. **Publications** B.J. Collins. At the COP meeting Jim Weinstein was elected as editor of *BASOR* for another year. Nancy Lapp and Gloria London were also extended one year. *BASOR*

14. **Executive Director** Rudy Dornemann. Rudy mentioned that Boston would be the venue of the next Board meeting. He asked Nan Frederick to speak of the Policy Manual. Nan urged the Trustees to read the manual.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Policy and Personnel Manual be temporarily accepted. Moved by Nan Frederick. Seconded. PASSED unanimously.