



**Pennsylvania Archaeological Council
Business Meeting
November 8, 2019**

Attending:

Phil Neusius, Sarah Neusius, Mike Stanilla, Hannah Harvey, Gary Coppock, Casey Hanson, Christine Kula, Doug McLearen, Amy Covell-Murthy, Susanne Haney, Angela Jaillet-Wentling, Ken Basalik, Kurt Carr, Ira Beckerman, Rick Geidel, Joe Baker

Meeting called to order by Ira Beckerman at 9:32.

Minutes from Spring Meeting

Correction: add Christine Kula to the list of attendees.

Sarah Neusius moved to accept the minutes from 4/5/2019. Rick Geidel seconded. Motion passed.

President's Report (Beckerman)

- Farm Show Discussion – Does the membership want to pursue an idea to expand the existing Section of Archaeology booth to more broadly represent archaeology in Pennsylvania? Such a booth would ideally include tables or kiosks from: SMOP Section of Archaeology, PAC, SPA, SHPO, PennDOT, Carnegie Museum, IUP, and West Chester. Have a bigger booth and get major PA archaeology players in one place as a more representative public education/outreach effort.
 - General concerns – hard to get volunteers, we're not likely to get new members this way, what can we do to provide an experience/draw people in? Can we achieve the same goal with the existing booth by just having a stronger volunteer presence?
 - The topic is up for continued discussion.
- 2020 Spring PAC Meeting & Symposium – Will be held on Friday, April 3 at the Ramada Inn in Ligonier. The topic of the Symposium is the archaeology of blacksmithing. Because of time constraints in the schedule, the hotel will be providing a wrap buffet lunch. They will need to know counts ahead of time. A bus will transport attendees from the hotel to the Compass Inn & Museum for the remainder of the program. We will be asking for bus donations to defray the cost.
- 2019 Workshops in Archaeology – In the past PAC handled registration for the State Museum workshops. That is now being handled by the Pennsylvania Heritage Foundation for 2019 and 2020.
- Office of Administration Job Classifications – PAC and SPA co-signed a letter and sent this to the PA Office of Administration to support revision of the Historic Preservation Specialist job classification so that the series might better reflect SOI standards. PAC received a response, but OA is reluctant to recognize the professional nature of archaeological work because there is no licensure.
- The newly published volume on The Susquehannocks, edited by Paul Raber is being offered to PAC members at 50% discount. PAC has acquired 30 copies to sell as a fundraiser, as they have been donated to PAC by a generous and anonymous benefactor. SPA has also acquired 70 copies in the same donation. The price for PAC members will be \$15, \$20 if mailed. Please contact Hannah for copies.

Treasurer's Report (Harvey)

- Audit & Account Transfer – Due to difficulties in completing the audit, transferring the accounts to the new officers was delayed until July 12, 2019, and at that point the treasurer and president provisionally accepted the account balances from bank statements dated June 29, 2019 pending



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final confirmation of the final account balances by Ken Basalik. Ken completed the audit for the years 2015-2018 on September 10, 2019. Ken has volunteered to complete an audit for 2019 after the new year.

- New CD – Transferred \$10,000 from our savings account into a CD to gain more earnings.
- PayPal – New PayPal buttons have been added to the website for donations and member dues.
- Member Payments & Dues Reminders – 59 members have paid since 1/1/2019. According to the member database, this is the high rate of member payment in the past five years.
 - We would like to change the by-laws so that dropped members can be reinstated without re-applying once they begin to pay dues again.
 - Member list on the website will be updated after the new year.
- 2019 Cash Flow – Our income was \$3,579.74 and expenses were \$4,059.54 = Deficit of \$479.80
 - Should be able to shrink the deficit with the Susquehannock book fundraiser and continuing to solicit for delinquent 2019 dues.
- 2020 Budget – Anticipated income of \$3,404.50 and anticipated expenses of \$3,152.07 = Anticipated surplus of \$252.43
 - Changes: planning to set up 3 “funds” to use in fundraising strategies: Archaeology Month, Publications, Hatch Scholarship. Along with that, the new budget is attempting to do a better job of accounting for non-yearly expenses (Archaeology Month, Publications, and website) but setting up “reserve categories” so that each year we are setting aside a portion of total amount needed for these payments.
- New Fundraising Strategy –
 - Reaching out to former Hatch scholarship recipients
 - Donation request letters to explain that we will divide donations among three funds unless the donor specifies otherwise (40% to Arch month, 20% to Hatch, 40% to Publications). Letters will include explanations of what the money actually goes for.
 - Request corporate sponsorships for things like the continental breakfast at the Spring meeting, and then advertise “Breakfast sponsored by XYZ firm”
- *Ken Basalik moved to accept the Treasurer’s Report and 2020 Budget. Kurt Carr seconded. Motion passed.*

Newsletter (Coppock)

- Please continue to provide interesting content.

Membership (Stanilla)

- New Members: Mark Durante, Casey Hanson, Corey Hovanec
- New Membership Categories proposed for Bylaws
 - Professional – what we have now
 - Student – a fully enrolled undergrad or grad student with interest in PA Arch - \$15
 - Sustaining – someone who opts to pay \$50
 - *Change to the bylaws reflecting new member categories as well as changed procedure for member reinstatement will be prepared and sent out for voting to the full membership.*

PHMC/State Museum (Carr)

- Museum galleries – State Museum is contracting for a management plan to re-do the galleries.



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- Fort Hunter – Finished 13th year excavating and uncovered a portion of what appears to be a large feature containing only mid-18th century artifacts. Will be going out next year.
- Farm Show 2020 – Will be a State Museum-wide booth, not just Section of Archaeology.
- Artifact Catalogs – Moving disparate artifact catalogs from Access to SQL. Catalogs from compliance projects have been completed.
- PHMC Virtual Museum – Section of Archaeology will be contributing a handful of pieces for inclusion in a PHMC virtual museum
- Veigh Collection – One of their largest collections with nearly a million artifacts and possibly representing up to 2,000 sites. So far 86 new sites and 56 updates have come out of the collection.
- “The Archaeology of Native Americans in Pennsylvania” – Will be printed in April, pre-orders are 30% off
- PHMC interns – Keystone Interns are now paid. Applications due in mid-February. Help get the word out.

PHMC/SHPO (McLearen)

- File Digitization – All reports have been scanned and uploaded to CRGIS. PASS forms are almost complete and Adams Co through part of Washington Co are available on CRGIS.

PennDOT (Jaillet-Wentling)

- PennDOT report can be found in the fall newsletter.
- Current staff arrangement can be found online
- New website – hosts all of their policies/procedures, access to PATH, public outreach videos and mitigation materials.
- Recent meetings – Tribal summit in August and a joint SHPO-DOT meeting in September
- Pre-Contact Probability Model – Testing matrix has been formalized and will be used by consultants and CRPs. There is no plan to re-run the model because the original algorithms and methodology cannot be replicated.

Carnegie Museum (Covell-Murthy)

- Pitt is interested in doing a field school in Allegheny County but having a hard time finding a site – specifically trying to avoid potential for burials
- Archaeology section has no curator and only two employees but are allowing research access to collections and objects
- Museum mission focused on the Anthropocene and climate change and received a large NSF grant for climate science and education

OLD BUSINESS

Ad Hoc Committee on Mentoring (Baker)

- Recommendations from first meeting
 - Special Student membership category
 - PAC members should contact their alma maters to offer wisdom and mentoring to current students
 - Create list of internships in PA and neighboring states to include on PAC website



Ad Hoc Committee on Sexual Harassment (read by Beckerman)

- Still seeking committee members
- Desired outcome: a policy for PAC events that can also serve as a model for other organizations
- Policy needs to be in place before we build a mentoring program

NEW BUSINESS

- **PAC Website** – Roger Moeller is interested in stepping back from managing our website. We need a volunteer to take over.
- **Legislative Response Committee** – Gary Coppock suggested that we need a way to more promptly respond to legislative issues and other topics as they arise. Could we have 1 or 2 designated people who know the laws well enough and can draft letters quickly for Ira to sign?
 - Casey Hanson a possible volunteer?
- **2021 Farm Show** – Kurt Carr looking for a topic for the following Farm Show, general suggestions to stick with the blacksmithing theme.

Meeting adjourned at 12:02

Respectfully Submitted,
Hannah Harvey