

Wisconsin Archeological Society

BOARD MEETING
Fall Minutes September 24, 2011
Wyalusing State Park

Board Members in attendance:

Mark Dudzik, Jeremy Cobble, Vicki Twinde-Javner, Kurt Sampson, Robert Boszhardt, Jake Pfaffenroth, Jake Rieb (Quorum met)

Society Members in attendance: 25-30

Meeting called to order by President Boszhardt at 10:15am

Spring 2011 Minutes

Mark Dudzik motions to approve the spring 2011 minutes, seconded by Jeremy Cobble; approved by the board

Secretary Report

By Secretary Jake Pfaffenroth:

In early May President Boszhardt and Secretary Pfaffenroth met with Jonathan Nelson at the Wisconsin Historical Society to discuss the possibility of archiving Wisconsin Archeological Society documents in the WHS archives, both for the WASociety's benefit, but also to benefit the public and contribute to the history of Wisconsin.

WHS archives is interested in accepting our business records, which we intend to deposit on a biannual basis that corresponds with the 2-year Presidential term. At the conclusion of each Presidential term (every 2 years, as according to the By Laws) beginning in 2011, the incoming President and acting Secretary need to collect, organize, and turn over Society records to the Archive Division of WHS.

An official Archive Policy has been established and approved by the board which will ensure regular collection and archiving of WASociety documents in the future. The Policy also includes a strategy for digital archiving on WASociety-owned hard drives.

President Boszhardt and Secretary Pfaffenroth will continue to gather any Society documents from past officers.

Treasurer's Report

By Treasurer Jake Rieb:

In terms of balance, there is little difference from that reported at the spring 2011 meeting. The balance was down about \$13 since the beginning of 2011 but printing costs will be coming soon, however there will also be a lot of income coming. The major expense since the spring 2011 meeting was a reprint of volume 92(1). Membership is at 250 journal-receiving members. That is currently down about 40-50 from last year. Rieb noted that membership will hopefully increase as a result of the Society's presence at the Midwest Archaeology Conference in La Crosse in mid-October.

Committee Reports

Editorial

Committee chair Kent Dickerson could not be present but Editor Joseph Tiffany was able to give a report:

The upcoming issue of the Wisconsin Archeologist is at the printers. It was submitted in mid-August but there is currently (at the time of the fall 2011 meeting) a delay at the printer. However, the editors do have a mock-up from the printer. It should be ready for distribution in time for the Midwest Archeology Conference in mid-October. Vicki Twinde-Javner suggested the society has people pick up their journals at the conference to cut down on shipping costs. Joseph Tiffany said the second issue for the year is on track for printing on time.

Danielle Benden reported on the status of the Society Newsletter:

Benden is ready to begin the process of handing over the Newsletter organizing role to another individual. She will continue to organize the newsletter for one more full year, for a new person to take over the role for the Fall 2012 newsletter. She is taking submissions for inclusion in the newsletter.

Membership and Fundraising

By Kurt Sampson:

A written report was distributed but was not included in the board packet. The committee plans on taking 10 full boxes of back issues of the Wisconsin Archeologist to the Midwest Archaeology Conference in La Crosse in mid-October for a sale. An ad was placed in the MAC program by Connie Arzigian (Conference organizer) and Sampson for Society membership renewal. The goal is to reduce and eliminate the full collection of back issues as soon as possible.

Sampson also reported that the Aztalan Day was successful and had a good turnout. The next mound site rededication will be in 2013 at Devil's Lake State Park. Later in the fall of 2011 the Membership committee chair and Society Chapter presidents may meet to discuss chapter compliance with membership dues.

Preservation of Sites Committee

By Rob Nurre:

A written report was not submitted at the time of the meeting. The committee's plan is to use the committee money for continued maintenance of the Heim Mound in Middleton, which has been cleaned up recently and is still looking good (at the time of the fall 2011 meeting). The neighbors expressed some initial concern with the mound clearing but now are pleased with the way the mound looks and are happy to actually be able to see it. The committee suggested that the Society may want to spend around \$500 on fencing to place around the mound or at least around the corners to designate the boundary. The committee is hoping to spend that money by the end of 2011, which is within the annual budget allocation amount (\$1,000) and period approved in Spring.

There is also a liability issue with the Society now as a landowning entity. The possibility exists that someone could hurt themselves on the Heim Mound land. The committee will research liability insurance costs to be discussed at the next meeting.

WASRA and Awards Committee

By Mark Dudzik:

An announcement about the WASRA research award has been made to the Society members. However, the word still needs to be spread to non-members, particularly to undergraduates. The research award is really intended for students and avocational archaeologists, not professionals.

Boszhardt announced the resignation of James Clark as Chair of the Lapham and Ritzenthaler Awards Committee, and relayed a proposal from Mark Dudzik that the WASRA, Lapham, and Ritzenthaler award tasks be subsumed under a single Awards Committee.

Vicki Twinde-Javner motioned to restructure the three awards committees into one, seconded by Mark Dudzik, and approved by the board. Mark Dudzik is provisionally the committee chair.

Web/Facebook

There was one issue over the summer where a private company was using the Society Facebook page as a venue for selling their products. The Society has since formed a policy about that prohibits that type of use of our web and Facebook pages.

Mark Dudzik suggested that the Society may want to consider placing on the Society Facebook page specific wording about all content being copyright of the Society.

Other

Jaremy Cobble brought up the possibility of the Society having a table at the Badger State Show in Monticello on October 25. Jaremy will be heading that project. This would be an opportunity for the Society to educate the public about responsible archaeology.

Kurt Sampson announced the Archaeology Fair at Milwaukee Public Museum March 9 and 10, 2012

Spring 2012 Meeting

The spring 2011 meeting was hosted by the Charles E. Brown chapter at the Wisconsin Historical Society in Madison. Kurt Sampson suggested that the spring 2012 meeting be hosted by the Rock River chapter at the Horicon Wildlife Refuge.

Meeting adjourned at 10:53 am.

The meeting was followed by a rededication ceremony of the Sentinel Ridge mound group at 11:00am, adjacent to the meeting location. The ceremony had speakers Kurt Sampson (Wisconsin Archeological Society Membership Coordinator), Robert Boszhardt (Wisconsin Archeological Society president), Robert Birmingham, Joseph Tiffany (Mississippi Valley Archaeology Center), Merle Frommelt (Effigy Mounds National Monument), Mark Cupp of the Lower Wisconsin River Valley, and Bruce Klang (Friends of Wyalusing State Park), and Rob Nurre. The speakers commented on the history of the park and of the mounds' preservation, the early preservation efforts of the Society, and current preservation efforts within the park and in the Wisconsin River valley.

A Wisconsin Archeological Society-sponsored cookout followed the rededication ceremony. Later in the afternoon there was a tour of the Sny Magill mound group in Effigy Mounds National Monument in Iowa. The Society had reserved a group campsite in Wyalusing State Park on Friday and Saturday nights and had a good turnout of campers. Despite chilly, damp weather, the weekend was a success.