

ASOR Spring Board Meeting  
OISE Bldg (252 Bloor Street W), Rm 3311,  
Toronto 9:00 AM-12:30 PM,  
April 21, 2012

PRESENT: P.E. MacAllister, Chairman, Tim Harrison, President, Susan Ackerman, Gary Arbino, Jeffrey Chadwick, Stevan Dana, Jennie Ebeling, Ann-Marie Knoblauch, Sten LaBianca, Jimmy Hardin, W. Mark Lanier, Beth Alpert Nakhai, Orlyn Nelson, Joe Seger, James F. Strange, Secretary, Andy Vaughn, Executive Director, Ed Wright, Randall Younger, Sheila T. Bishop, Lawson Younger, Lydie Shufro, Ray Ewing.

ABSENT: Nili Fox, Lawrence T. Geraty, Robert Massie, Laura Mazow, Carol Meyers, Robert Mullins, Robert A. Oden, Jr., B.W. Ruffner, Weston Fields, Jane Evans, Sheldon Fox (treasurer), Barry Gittlen, Christopher Rollson, Audrey Shaffer, Susan Sheridan.

VISITORS: Richard Coffman, Assistant Treasurer Nominee.

1. Call to Order by Chairman.
2. Approval of Minutes from the November Meeting (November 20, 2011). Moved to accept as submitted
3. Approval of Agenda--approved by consensus.
4. Officers Nominations Committee Report (G. Arbino). Richard Coffman is our nominee for Assistant Treasurer. If approved, he will succeed the outgoing Treasurer, Sheldon Fox.

BE IT RESOLVED that the board elects Richard Coffman as Assistant Treasurer for a term beginning immediately and ending December 31, 2012. It is understood that he will succeed Sheldon Fox, outgoing treasurer, for a three-year term beginning January 1, 2013. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board elects Sharon Herbert as Vice President of ASOR. This is a three-year term, and all officers' terms begin in January. She would thus serve until Dec 31, 2015. There was some discussion of her other administrative duties, as she will be the new President of the Albright in Jerusalem. She is resigning as Director of the Kelsey Museum at the U. of Michigan. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY WITH TWO ABSTENTIONS.

5. Board Nominations Committee Report (B. Alpert Nakhai). New member, Lawson Younger was approved for committee by the Board in November.
6. Proposed Bylaw Revisions (T. Harrison). Tim Harrison mentioned that the proposed revisions of the Bylaws are the result of the CCC attempts to remove mostly non-substantive changes to the By-Laws that amount to clean up of inconsistencies and clarifications. One substantive change is in Article 3, Section 3 to make Honorary Trustees non-voting. The rationale is that this is an honorary position and does not presuppose they would deliberate and vote. It was asked whether the Honorary Trustees were consulted. The President did not consult with them, but he communicated with

them all, sending them the proposed changes.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board accepts the proposed changes to the by-laws. This is a motion and second from the Chairs Coordinating Council. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

7. Report of Items approved by the Executive Committee (A. Vaughn). Andy Vaughn reported that the EC voted to give the Director a 3% raise and extend his contract another year.

8. Treasurer's Report (S. Fox). Andy Vaughn read Sheldon's written report as he had to leave just before the meeting. Through the end of Feb 12, a period of three years, the endowment has generated 5.03% earnings. Our performance has been good.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees adopts the proposed budget for 2013. This comes as a motion and second from the Finance Committee. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Executive Committee commends Sheldon Fox for an excellent job dealing with budgets and financial matters and therefore offers special commendation for him. Sten LaBianca moved; Eric Meyers seconded. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

9. Foundation Campaign Report (Tim Harrison in the absence of R. Oden). Tim asks that we emphatically endorse the campaign. The third fiscal year will be June 30, 2014. The campaign goals include growing the endowment to reach the \$1 million threshold. Another goal is to build research and training support, which includes increases to the Platt fund and the Heritage fund. We offered three scholarship the six years ago, but we are offering forty-two this year. A third long term goal is to build up ASOR's online presence for scholars and the general public. Sten LaBianca suggested that some applicants' paragraphs be printed in the Newsletter. We already print their reports after the experience. The Annual Fund budget goal is a key part of the campaign. Progress to date includes the "March Madness" effort, which netted seventy-four new donors, who gave about \$9,000 for nine new fellowships. So far we have received 210 pledges or gifts just under \$117,000 for the Annual Fund. We have \$409,000 in commitments toward our 1.3 million dollar goal for the campaign.

10. Chairs Coordinating Council and Committee Reports (T. Harrison). The CCC has met twice in the past two years at the Annual Meeting. The times between have been conference calls approximately monthly. The CCC deals with program issues as they arise, for instance lack of coordination between committees. This is being addressed. There is resolve to achieve two goals of (1) services to the professions represented and (2) outreach to a more general population. Minutes of the conference calls are posted in the ASOR web page. Trustees can follow all discussions and decisions in those minutes. The CCC appears to be meeting its desired function.

The Board of Trustees accepts the recommendations of the following appointments to the Annual Meeting Program Committee:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Executive Committee recommends the endorsement of Morag Kersel, April Nowell, and William Caraher as new members for the class of 2014. PASSED UNAIMOUSLY.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Executive Committee recommends the endorsement of the following appointments to COP for the NEA Editorial Board: Book review Editorial: Stephen Russell (Princeton Theological Seminary), Editorial Committee: Class of 2012: Susan Ackerman (Dartmouth College), Lynn Swartz Dodd (University of Southern California), Bethany Walker (Missouri State); Class of 2013: (Brown University), Class of 2014: Michael Harrower (Johns Hopkins); Class of 2015: Richard S. Hess (Denver Seminary), Nadine Moeller (Oriental Institute), Jason Ur (Harvard University). PASSED UNAIMOUSLY.

11. Membership Committee Report (J. Ebeling). We now have a record of 1509 members. Membership has increased substantially compared to other similar sized societies. Facebook and our blog (asorblog.org) are presenting ASOR to a younger generation. There was discussion of the matter of individual vs. institutional membership. We had a forum for institutional representatives, but only a few would come. We will continue in November to see whether institutional representatives respond.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees approves the combination of the individual and institutional subcommittees of the Membership Committee. PASSED UNAIMOUSLY.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees accepts the following new Membership Committee members: Gary Arbino (Class of 2012), Teddy Burgh (CLASS OF 2013), Britt Hartenberger (CLASS OF 2012), and Randy Younker (Class of 2013). PASSED UNAIMOUSLY.

12. Status of Women Report (Beth Alpert Nakhai). Beth received a very strong response from ASOR members on the question of the status of Women in ASOR. There was a strong interest in the question. Large numbers responded anonymously. One theme unrelated to gender is that it is hard to figure out how to get involved. One suggestion was that we have a “volunteer” tab on our website. Many complained about the expense of getting to meetings, and many women are in lower paying jobs. Many thought that their university or their discipline valued ASOR less than other involvements. Many responded that archaeology as a discipline values men over women especially as dig directors. The issues of child rearing and women starting older as a consequence of child rearing were raised. ASOR is in a position to discuss the issue of women in archaeology and ancient Near Eastern and what it means to be a dig director or other roles. Most of our women who are secondary school teachers do not feel that ASOR fully engages them. Some want childcare at meetings or other venues. ASOR should promote gender equity actively everywhere. Provide mentoring opportunities of junior women with senior women. This is a preliminary report, so there will be more to come. There was a suggestion that Beth Alpert Nakhai make a preliminary report at the Annual Meeting. It

was mentioned that SBL has some resources in this area, and Beth reports that she has consulted with them.

13. AIAR Report. Ed Wright acknowledges those with whom he has worked: Sy Gittin, Joan Branham reports that AIAR has awarded more than 200 fellowships over the past six years. Lydie Shufro has exercised leadership in fund-raising more than 5.7 million. Vivian Bull has managed the portfolio, which has slightly less than doubled. AIAR has had more than eighty events including a field trip to ACOR. AIAR had sixty-four fellows this year. This is an international program with more than half from many countries abroad, including one group of Chinese fellows. AIAR has encouraged collaboration between Israeli universities and Palestinian universities. Most fellows lecture at Israeli universities, and the video conferencing programs have included AIAR fellows. This year AIAR sent fellows directly to the West Bank to lecture at Palestinian universities. Sy Gittin lectured at the Weitzman in Rehovot on the application of the sciences to archaeology. Sy has been invited to lecture at Beijing University. Seven hundred and twenty objects from Babh-edh-Dhra were shipped to Jordan and are now being exhibited. The Shechem pottery is now in the possession of the archaeological officer of the West Bank. The El-Jib plans have been found. Copies will be sent to the ASOR Archives in Boston. AIAR in cooperation with the Nelson Glueck School is publishing *Gezer VI*. Six volumes of Tell Mikne will appear in 2012. *The Ancient Pottery of Israel and its Neighbors* will appear June 2013. *The Goddess of Ekron* appears soon in a Tübingen Conference Publication.

14. CAARI Report. (Ray Ewing). The CAARI Director has worked as Director for one year.) CAARI engaged with some Cypriot businessmen to raise money for CAARI. Cyprus as a member of the EU faces some of the same attention as Greece. A key question is how to move forward on the CAARI library project.

15. ACOR Report. (Sten LaBianca). There is a transition in the Board of ACOR, and now Randy Old is the new Chairman of the Board. ACOR has a five million dollar endowment, and now the discussion is how best to use those funds. CAORC is undergoing review in the US Senate, and ACOR was chosen to represent the twenty or so centers abroad who work with CAORC. ACOR received two ambassador grants from the US State Department, including the ACOR-Petra project. Bert Devries has received a similar grant for his restoration work at Umm el-Jemal. ACOR has two components in their Board, half of which is American and half of which is Jordanian. The Jordanian element has been helpful in fund raising. In Jan of 2013 the World Archaeology Congress will meet in Jordan. ACOR is part of coordinating the conference. This raises the question how ASOR could showcase its work at this conference. The ACOR President already sits on their Board.

16. Executive Director's Report. Andy Vaughn asks the Board members to think of two friends to approach with brochures for the campaign. We are well on our way, but we all have a story of ASOR that we believe in. This campaign promises to transform what we are doing in a big way.

17. President's Report. Tim Harrison reminds us that over the next year there will be a key leadership transition. We need to be thinking about people for new leadership positions. In November Tim was asked to convene a search committee to find a Chairman, which includes defining the job. Tim has convened such a committee and plans to render a report at the November meeting: Ann Marie Knoblauch, Susan

Ackerman, James Hardin, and Orlyn Nelson.

18. Chair's Report. P.E. MacAllister regaled the Board with a story of recruiting a new President from the perspective of the successful candidate. He also introduced other illustrations to apply historical lessons to ASOR's affairs.

19. Old Business--none.

20. New Business--none.

21. Announcements--none.

22. Adjourn: 12:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

James F. Strange, Secretary