

Minutes of the Board of Trustees of ASOR

November 24, 2013

Baltimore, MD

ATTENDEES: B. W. Ruffner (board chair), Tim Harrison (president), Andy Vaughn (executive director), Lynn Dodd (secretary), Susan Ackerman (president elect), K. Lawson Younger, Jimmy Hardin, Barry Gittlen, Gary Arbino, Larry Geraty, Sidnie White Crawford (AIAR rep), Stevan Dana, Sheldon Fox, Eric Meyers (past president), Jim Strange, Carol Meyers, Sheila Bishop, Øystein LaBianca (ACOR), Jennie Ebeling (VP for membership), P. E. MacAllister (Board Chair emeritus), Ann-Marie Knoblauch, Jane DeRose Evans, Ray Ewing (CAARI rep.), Joe Seger, Bob Mullins, Beth Alpert Nakhai, Richard Coffman, Sharon Herbert (Vice President). Weston Fields.

Guests: J. Edward Wright, Steve Ortiz, Sy Gitin, LeeAnn Gordon, Barbara Porter, Vivian Bull, Andrew McCarthy

1. Call to Order at 8:13am by Chairman B.W. Ruffner.
2. Approval of Minutes from the Spring, 2013 Board of Trustees Meeting.

BE IT RESOLVED TO accept the Minutes of the Spring, 2013 Board of Trustees Meeting. Motion seconded and passed by unanimous consent.

3. Approval of the Agenda.

BE IT RESOLVED TO accept the agenda as proposed. Seconded, passed by unanimous consent.

4. Memorial Moments. The President read the names of those who had passed away during this past year were read and a memorial moment was held for Robert Bull, Ernest S. Frerichs, Harva Sheiler, Basil Hennessey, **Willer (name?)**

5. Board of Trustees Nominations Committee Report (Ann-Marie Knoblauch). An election was held at the ASOR Members' Meeting on Thursday, November 21, 2013. Edward Wright was elected as an Institutional Trustee with a 2 year term. Steven Ortiz and Michael Hasel were elected as Institutional Trustees with a 3 year term. Rachel Hallote and Hanan Charaf Mullins were elected as Individual trustees.

Half of this committee is rotating off the Board so that several seats on this important committee need to be filled.

6. Board of Trustee Appointments (see EC minutes).

BE IT RESOLVED, that the slate of candidates presented by the President be duly elected to ASOR's Board of Trustees. The slate of candidates is Shiela Bishop; Larry Geraty; Robert Odine, Vivian Bull. Timothy Harrison shall become Past President; Eric Meyers shall moves from Past President status into the board slot that B.W. Ruffner vacated when he became Chair. Motion seconded and approved by unanimous consent.

7. Report of Items Approved by the Executive Committee.

None.

8. Treasurer's Report (R Coffman)

The Treasurer presented a "Big Picture Fast Facts at a Glance" report that provides a view of the overall health of the organization with 4 year history back to 2010. The bottom line FY 2013 increase in unrestricted assets available for operations (i.e., unrestricted net income from operations) is \$16,171. ASOR is on an upswing moving into FY 2014. ASOR's FY 2013 investment results were solid once again. ASOR Fellowship Accounts generated collective investment income of \$74,211.63 (+18.3%), while the Endowment Accounts generated collective investment income of \$77,351.93 (+17.6%). By way of comparison, the S&P 500 was up 20.6% for the same twelve month period.

Registered attendance at the Annual Meeting in Baltimore was higher than the 2012 Annual Meeting in Chicago.

Discussion: Collectively we are slightly short of the S&P 500 index.

The Treasurer delivered the report of the Finance Committee.

a. Approval of the auditor's report.

BE IT RESOLVED, the Board approves acceptance of the Auditor's Report. Seconded and unanimously approved.

b. Approval of language in Appendices I and II of the ASOR Investment and Spending Policy

Investment and Spending Policy. On November 18, 2012, the Board of Trustees considered and approved the ASOR Investment and Spending Policies. The proposed amended Appendices to the Investment and Spending Policies include the newly created MacAllister Fund and certain minor edits to make the terminology consistent. The McAllister Fund Allocation was added to Appendix I. The McAllister Fund annual spending percentage of 5% was added to Appendix II.

BE IT RESOLVED: to approve the language changes noted above to Appendices I and II and to Investment & Spending Policy made by the Treasurer. Motion seconded and unanimously approved.

FY 2014 Journals Escrow Recommendation. Historically, direct production costs of the journals have ranged from 29.4% to 47.3% of memberships and subscriptions revenue (with an average of 37%), with FY 2011-FY 2013 at about 30% due to lower costs resulting from competitive bidding. To be conservative, the Finance Committee recommended that 40% of the FY 2013 deferred journal income be escrowed for FY 2014.

BE IT RESOLVED: that ASOR continue with the 40% reserve that has historically been held in Journal Reserve. Motion seconded and unanimously approved.

Andy Vaughn acknowledged Richard Coffman's efforts and thanked him for joining the Board. Also, he extended the Board's thanks to Sheldon Fox for his consultation.

9. Foundation Campaign Update (Tim Harrison) Reported that ASOR is in the middle of campaign designed to build resources for three areas. Report on FY13 Fundraising. \$550,000 was the amount planned for General Endowment programs and this remains a challenge to be met. ASOR has been more successful on other challenges, specifically regarding scholarships and research grants (target is \$200K); online digital media (target is \$250K). Both these targets were exceeded. We were able to deploy these funds into the following areas: ASOR TV; ASOR Resource Page; E-Newsletter, ASOR resource section of website. End date for this campaign is June 20, 2014. We have 7 months to raise \$300,000. We will announce a legacy gift of \$450K with a \$200K challenge in an effort to broaden the base of people who contribute. Our goal is to reach 300 contributors by January 31, 2014. If we meet this challenge, then we will likely exceed the goals set by the June, 2014 campaign end date.

He acknowledged Steve Dana and PE MacAllister and the Lanier Library as having given transformative gifts. Also, he acknowledged the Kershaw Family Trust and the newly launched e-Newsletter. The PE MacAllister Endowment launched at the gala in Indianapolis is now over \$100K.

Remaining challenges:

- a. Anonymous gift of \$475K Legacy Gift with challenge: raise \$200K by Jan 31, 2104.
- b. Reach 300 individual contributors by Jan 31, 2014.

10. Strategic Plan Review and Discussion (Tim Harrison)

Discussion ensued on ASOR's role in public outreach, in advocacy. Regarding review of Strategic Plan, Tim Harrison says that he spent time listening and talking to stakeholders and he is convinced of the value of the process. We have some data now to evaluate the strategic plan. Steve Dana offered that the Finance Committee could write about a financial management system going forward, so strategic plan can be put into numbers, to enable linkage of financial targets with strategic plan. Vivian Bull commented on a need for an assessment process.

11. Chairs Coordinating Council Report (Sharon Herbert)

An effort has been underway to rationalize the structure of the standing committees. A retreat was held in April 2013. Everyone came and presented Action Reports. Most media and outreach will come under Membership (and Outreach) Committee. ASOR will regularize committee terms so that two, three-year terms will be allowed, to be followed by a term as Chair. For the Program Committee, it is likely that the nominating committee will try to find a one-term member to serve as Chair, rather than a two-term member (to avoid 12 year service). The Members' Meeting currently is chaired by membership committee. It was the CCC's opinion that the President chair the meeting and set the agenda. Two of the ad hoc committees (Honors and Awards and Junior Scholars) will become standing committees and will be part of CCC. CCC now represented Chairs of ASOR's Standing Committees.

- a. Approval of BASOR Editor

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board appoints ERIC CLINE and CHRIS ROLLEFSON as co-editors of BASOR. Motion seconded and unanimously approved.

- b. Approval of CAP Chair

BE IT RESOLVED that the board appoints TOM LEVY to be next CAP chair on January 1, 2015. Seconded. Unanimously Approved.

c. Approval of Program Committee Chair

BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE Board appoints GEOFF EMBERLING to be Program Committee Chair effective January 1, 2014. Motion seconded and unanimously approved.

BE IT RESOLVED: to amend agenda to put 11D after 13. Motion seconded and unanimously approved.

12. Membership Report (Jennie Ebeling)

We have 1500 individual members – ASOR is larger than ever before. We have approximately 88 institutional members.

Thank you to Jennie Ebeling for many years of service.

13. ASOR Bylaw Amendments (Tim Harrison)

Included by reference: handout of the proposed bylaws change. The changes to the By Laws includes new language developed to recognize the creation of a standing Personnel Committee and to recognize the newly rationalized structure of ASOR's standing committees. There will be a small change to the capitalization and justification to be consistent throughout the By Laws. Add "and awards" before the period at the end of the first paragraph to make the reference consistent with the name of the committee (Honors and Awards).

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board approves the changes proposed here to the ASOR By Laws. Seconded and unanimously approved.

15. Approval of Membership Chair

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board approves the appointment of RANDY YOUNKER to be Membership and Outreach Committee Chair as of Jan 1 2014. Motion seconded and unanimously approved.

16. Status of Women Committee Report (Beth Alpert Nakhai)

The Women in ASOR map is live with 300 or so entries already. Mentoring is a concern for all. LeeAnn Pace is doing a citation study of BASOR. The committee is undertaking a study of Women Safety Issues in the field.

17. ASOR Ethics Policy Review Update (Lynn Dodd)

A process for the development of the draft ethics policy was proposed, to yield a draft for the May, 2014 meeting.

18. ACOR Report.(Barbara Porter)

Trying to rescue temple in center of Petra; it is poorly presented, hardly published. Chris Tuttle now leading the effort. All are invited to coordinate visits so that you can see the place. Newsletter gives you Facebook page (important for grants; efforts). Please “like” us. ACOR has Ambassador’s Fund funding. ACOR takes care of 1992-98 Petra Church worked on by Pierre Bikai. ACOR hopes for future collaboration with Petra Archaeological Park. Petra Papyri II work is 4/5 published. Barbara Porter led a study tour around Jordan – 11 people came; 2 people will become ASOR members. A safe, comfortable, wonderful experience despite news. Plan is to do such trips regularly. ACOR has a hiatus of CAORC fellowships. Print and website media are coordinated; there is a t-shirt, new printed folder; lecture program and more. Next summer, lots of programs...we can have 55 people stay at ACOR; if you are planning to come, give advance warning. June 12 board meeting for ACOR.

19. CAARI report (Andrew McCarthy)

The CAARI BOT met yesterday and approved CAARI’s library expansion program. We now have 8 trustees who are resident in Cyprus. Cyprus rarely makes world headlines but its economy had serious issues; CAARI is pulling through. Financially we are ok. Upside of the downturn is reduced construction costs for our library. Phase I completed (NEH challenge grant). Library is modern, new lights, AC, IT, etc. Our users are happy. Renovations going well and almost every area has benefitted from this. CAARI was visited by various leaders of organizations, including Honor Frost Foundation, CAORC Mellon fellowship. CAARI is in a leadership transition: Ray’s final year as President.

20. AIAR Report: (Sy Gitin)

This year, the Albright has the highest number of Fellows in its history, 68, with 17 stipended. The Albright’s outreach program, which includes lectures by Albright Fellows at Al-Quds University in Abu Dis, has been so successful that the university’s new Jerusalem Archaeological unit in the Old City has requested that the Albright organize another similar set of lectures at this second venue. The Albright also provided direct assistance to 13 of the 31 ASOR-affiliated and AIAR-associated excavation, survey and publication projects, specifically relating to logistics, obtaining excavation licenses, the purchase of equipment, and the identification of possible staff. With regard to finances, the Albright, like the other

American overseas research centers was impacted by the US government sequester, but that loss of funding was made up by special grants which actually enabled the Albright to have a surplus this year. The three-volumes of *The Ancient Pottery of Israel* of which ASOR is a supporting institution, together with the *Israel Exploration Society*, the Albright and the *Israel Antiquities Authority* are nearing completion. As many of you know, I will be retiring on July 1, 2014 and the new Director will be Matthew Adams, Director of the Jezreel Regional Valley Project. I have been granted emeritus status and will have an office at the Albright, where I will continue to work on publications. This concludes my 65th and final oral report to the ASOR Trustees. It has been a pleasure. Thank you.

BE IT RESOLVED TO THANK SY GITIN FOR 33 YEARS OF SERVICE HE HAS GIVEN TO THE ALBRIGHT INSTITUTE AND TO ASOR. Seconded and passed unanimously.

21. Executive Director's Report (Andy Vaughn)

LeeAnn Barnes Gordon is working closely with program committee to carry out goals in the strategic plan. Next year additional program books will cost \$50. The Executive Director gave a personal appreciation of Tim Harrison and spoke to the many ways that Tim contributed to the betterment of ASOR during his two terms as President. At the end of this period, the ASOR Annual Meeting is a focus of ASOR. We moved from 500 attendees to 928 this year. One third are from outside North America. In publications, there have been successful transitions in two major journals: NEA and BASOR. Journals are online. We moved from 118 to 352 donors. Outreach has grown and now includes also a blog and webinars. In leadership, there has been positive change. We reduced the size of board; created the CCC; selected new president, secretary, VP, treasurer, and chairs.

Andy gave a heartfelt thank you to Tim for his friendship and service.

22. President's Report (Tim Harrison)

Tim expressed his thanks to the Board and expressed his conviction that the leadership transition we are undergoing is a reflection of the growth that we have experienced. We have a strong slate of incoming officers: Susan, BW Ruffner, Sharon Herbert, Richard Coffman. Time acknowledged the support of many individuals and he singled out Andy Vaughn for recognition. He acknowledged and thanked those on the Board who will rotate off. Jeffrey Chadwick, Jennie Ebeling, Jane Evans, Weston Fields, Nellie Fox, James Hardin, Bob Mullins, Lawson Younger.

BE IT RESOLVED: the BOT expresses our deepest and most profound thanks to Tim Harrison for his leadership. Seconded and passed unanimously.

23. Chair's Report (B.W. Ruffner)

He would like to shine a spotlight on PE McAllister for setting a tone very well for 20 years. His management skills and experience on many boards has been valuable in terms of having a perspective on how to get things done. The Chair is grateful that PE McAllister continues to give us his wisdom. So far, he has been good at staying out of the new Chair's hair.

24. Old Business

None.

25. New Business

BE IT RESOLVED: Motion to acknowledge the 20 plus years of service of Jim Wienstein as editor of BASOR. Seconded, passed unanimously.

26. Announcements. None.

27. Adjournment. 11:58AM