

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE BOARD
THE ASSOCIATION FOR LIVING HISTORY, FARM & AGRICULTURAL MUSEUMS
GLORIETA CONFERENCE CENTER, GLORIETA, NM MAY 30, 2007
EL RANCHO DE LAS GOLONDRINAS, SANTA FE, NM JUNE 1 & 5, 2007

Members present and a quorum: Lynne Belluscio, Judith Sheridan, Michelle Dondo-Tardiff, Bruce Henbest, Ed Schultz, Manuel Lopez, Charles LeCount, John Caramia, and Mike Beckett, Jim Mattson. Incoming board members: Bob Powell, Franz Klingender.

Wednesday, May 30, 2007

No quorum was present at 6:00 PM, the announced starting time of the meeting. Discussion was general with announcements by conference chair, Susan Hanson. Pizza arrived at 7:00 PM. At 7:45 PM Beckett and Caramia arrived and a quorum was present. President Lynne Belluscio called the meeting to order at 7:45 PM in a meeting room in Holcomb Hall. Belluscio said that we would try and do as much business as possible since time was short. The minutes of the November 2006 meeting in LeRoy, NY were approved by e-mail and submitted to the website for publication. Sheridan reported that there was \$16,042.85 in the checking account at the start of the board meeting. The dues increase is now in effect and is making a difference in income. The first quarter financial report was issued and e-mailed in early April. A motion to file the treasurers report for audit was made by Mattson, seconded by Beckett. Motion passed. The 2006 990 IRS tax return was filed. A copy was given to the board for review.

AD HOC COMMITTEE REPORTS.

2007 CONFERENCE. Susan Hanson, conference chairman, presented some of the numbers for the conference. 152 full registrations and 25 partial registrations have been received. There will be 54 workshops and sessions. A new feature this year was the sale of ads in the conference program. Individual sponsor support was also requested and their names were also listed in the program. The Paloheimo Foundation donated \$16,000.00 to help defray conference costs. Lopez expressed our thanks to Hanson, G. Paloheimo and Amanda Crocker for their unstinting hard work to make this a special conference.

2008 CONFERENCE. Henbest reported on progress for the 2008 meeting in Canada. The call for papers is on the website and if a submission is received before October 31, the submitter will receive a conference free T-shirt. A final budget will be presented at the November board meeting. There will be no vendors and no tote bags. It is assumed that a valid passport will be needed to enter and leave Canada. The lodging will be at the University of Ottawa in new dormitories. Registration will be about \$425.00.

2009 CONFERENCE. The Future Sites Committee has received an offer from Old Salem to host the 2009 Conference. John Caramia would be conference chairman. All events would be held at Old Salem so no busses would be needed. A conference hotel within walking distance would be the lodging site and the conference would be reduced to 3 days. Dondo-Tardiff moved we accept this offer. Mattson seconded.

Motion passed.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE. Caramia announced that the new board members were Bob Powell, Franz Klingender and Barbara Corson. He noted that a better way to inform the candidates of the results was needed. A short discussion also took place about ways to inform the membership of the results of elections in a more timely fashion, rather than at the annual meeting.

AUDIT. Beckett referred to a written report that a review had been done in March at the Mid Atlantic regional meeting by several past and present board members and all was well.

AUCTION. The committee is ready to handle this year's auction. Belluscio has prepared a list of helpful suggestions for holding a successful auction.

ARCHIVES. Caramia's presidential papers are being reviewed prior to sending them to the Old Sturbridge Village archives.

The board temporarily adjourned at 9:30 PM.

BOARD MEETING II, Thursday, May 31, 2007

The board meeting resumed at 9:15 at El Rancho do las Golondrinas.

FELLOWSHIPS & AWARDS. Schultz announced the Schlebecker Award winner for 2007 would be Dr. Edward Hawes. He will be honored at the annual business meeting. There were 12 fellowships granted for various amounts. The board fellowships were given to Roy Brigden, Peggy Barchi, Cameron Saffell and Randy Dack. Regions sent Lane Sample (WE), Sarah Rice and KB Inglee (MA), Dawn Bondhus (MW), Georganne Kelly and Joe Avent, (SE), Katie Hill (NE). MOMCC supported David Hoth. At the November board meeting, Schultz will have recommendations for refining the procedures and criteria for fellowships.

COOP. Belluscio attended AAM in Chicago. Only 6 groups were at the Council of Affiliates meeting. Ford Bell is the new AAM CEO. AAM intends to work with the theme "Museums Matter". Caramia reported on the meeting of Open Air Museums in Sweden. He was a speaker. Caramia also participates in the Outdoor History Forum facilitated by AASLH. AASLH handles their e-mail list and planning logistics. The forum consists of CEO's and marketing people. He asked the board to consider the question "What ALHFAM sees as its future role in the museum field?". He also noted that NAI is pushing cultural and living history interpretation in their programs. Boardman is on the Interpretation Committee and will keep the board updated on NAI.

Beckett moved the acceptance of the Ad Hoc Committee reports, Mattson seconded. Motion passed.

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE REPORTS.

PUBLICATIONS. Katz-Hyman is now the committee chair. The 2006 Proceedings are published and will be mailed next week. Carol Kennis and Cliff Jones will edit the 2007 Proceedings. Co-editors for the 2008 Proceedings are being approached. The committee will meet during the conference and report to the board at the Sunday board meeting. Dates for publishing the Bulletin have been adjusted to reflect better timing with holidays and the annual meeting. Mailing costs have increased. An application for an IMLS grant to index all past Bulletins is being considered. The Replica Resource List is now available on the member's only section of the website. Sheridan will copy that and mail it if the person requesting it is not a member. There was some concern about the accuracy of the listings. Several people have contacted Sheridan to tell her that contact information was not current. Rules for participating in the alf-l will be posted on the list twice a year. Four hundred three members have signed on to the member's only section of the website. Most are looking at the jobs section. Caramia moved that the cost of publications be increased from \$12.00 to \$15.00 for members and \$15.00 to \$20.00 for non-members. Mattson seconded. The pub committee has had online discussions about this increase and is divided. The motion passed.

We left for lunch at a nearby restaurant at noon and returned at 1:30 PM.

FUTURE SITES & CONFERENCE SUPPORT. Henbest said we should be getting commitments from sites 3 and 4 years in the future so that adequate planning can occur. Mike Beckett was added to the committee. Belluscio has asked Mark Texel to work on updating the Conference Planning Guide.

CORN. LeCount is seeking someone for new regional rep in Western Canada. Tom LeClair has taken over Atlantic Canada. Del Taylor needs to send the mid Canada regional treasury to Diane Gallinger. Regional information will be shared between New England and Atlantic Canada and Western Canada and Mountain Plains or the Western region. The SPAM committee needs to keep working on packets for regional membership chairs.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE. Caramia discussed the challenges of getting regionally diverse candidates for the board seats. He said a nominating form should be in the Bulletin and on the website asking for suggestions from members.

REPLICA RESOURCE LIST. The website now includes the RRL in a members' only section. Henbest moved the acceptance of the Administrative Committee reports. Schultz seconded. Motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS

BYLAWS. Henbest received feedback from 8 members after the proposed bylaws were mailed to all members in February. He responded to all of the inquiries and incorporated several minor changes. Two members mentioned in their comments our statement of purpose. This was felt to be a separate issue and was not within the scope of the bylaws committee. A new committee will be named to review the mission

statement and statement of purpose. The amending procedure was clarified to better reflect the intentions of the committee. Members who voiced concerns have received the latest version of the bylaws and there has been no further feedback. Copies with these changes will be made available at the Town Meeting and the business meeting. Following the business meeting copies will be mailed to all current members along with a ballot. A nominating committee would be appointed for one year to recommend candidates for the board. After that nominating committee members would be elected by the membership. Henbest was thanked for the hours of work he devoted to the bylaws project. Henbest moved the revised bylaws draft dated April 24, 2007 be discussed at the business meeting and that the board establish a committee to review the mission statement and statement of purpose. LeCount seconded. Motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS. Belluscio received a letter from Rick Musselman resigning from the board. Sheridan moved that we accept the resignation and appoint Tom Kelleher to fill the remaining part of the term. Seconded by Beckett. Motion passed.

Sheridan moved that that Belluscio act as the ALHFAM representative to the European Open Air Museums meeting in Holland and Belgium in August and that partial expenses be paid with a grant of \$1,000.00. Dondo-Tardiff seconded. Motion passed.

The federal formula for IMLS grants will be reviewed in 2009. AASLH is spearheading a 3 year lobbying initiative to help make sure museums are given a fair share. Beckett moved ALHFAM support the lobbying effort by donating \$250.00 for 3 years beginning in 2007. Mattson seconded. Motion passed.

The board discussed a proposal from Jamtlands Lans museum to handle the sales of Sten Rentzhog's new book on the past and future of living history museums. We discussed subscription sales, consignment sales, partnerships with AASLH and NAI, sales to university libraries and costs. Mattson moved that further negotiations take place concerning costs and shipping and that the board take no action without further information. Henbest seconded. Motion passed.

Watson shared details of the online auction to be held in November. The 2007 auction would be sponsored by the Mid Atlantic region and the profit would be split between the region and corporate. Bidders would be limited to ALHFAM members. Members could share their entry password with friends to increase the number of bidders. Watson would like to have 500 items donated. The donor also donates the shipping to the winning bidder. There would be a link from the website. He will make a presentation at the business meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

An invitation has been received to host the November board meeting in Weston, WV at WVU's Jackson's Mill. Dean Hardman from that site would handle the arrangements. The meeting would be during the first weekend of November. Sheridan moved we accept this invitation. Watson seconded. Motion passed.

The meeting was suspended at 4:30 PM until June 5 at 5:00 PM at Las Golindrinas.

Respectfully submitted,

Judith M. Sheridan, Secretary

BOARD MEETING III EL RANCHO DE LAS GOLONDRINAS JUNE 5, 2007

PRESENT: LeCount, Belluscio, Sheridan, Schultz, Henbest, Klingender, Powell, Lopez, Becker, Watson, Kelleher, Beckett. Past president Caramia, Outgoing board member: Dondo-Tardiff, Guests: Reid and Katz-Hyman.

LeCount called the meeting to order at 5:05PM. He welcomed the new board members to their first official meeting and thanked the outgoing member for participating in this discussion.

PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE. Katz-Hyman recommended that the Cherry Valley Group continue as editors of the Bulletin for the next four issues at the same price. The publication schedule will change slightly to accommodate holidays and the annual meeting. Henbest made a motion to hire the Cherry Valley Group. Klingender seconded. Motion passed. The board approved a reorganization of the Pub Committee structure as prepared by Hayes and it will now be implemented. Volunteers will be sought to fill out the positions. Woodcock will continue to update the Replica Resource List. It is now available on the website. A check on the current status of participants on the list will be undertaken to make sure they are still in business. Mary Seelhorst will be a copy reader for upcoming Bulletins and Katz-Hyman will also seek others to do that via the alf-l. Each PIG and CORN committee chair will be asked to update their website content. An index of all of the articles in past Bulletins needs to be started. Possible funding is available. At present this material is inaccessible. The Cherry Valley Group will continue to manage web services at the same rate for the foreseeable future. Diane Gallinger and Cliff Jones are possible editors for the 2008 Proceedings.

FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE. Schultz will have a restructuring report available at the November board meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

Reid presented a proposal for marketing the new book on Open Air Museums authored by Sten Rentzhog. She explained how she thought we could sell 360 copies. She asked Caramia to give his views since they had both attended the conference in Europe in April. Caramia felt that this was an opportunity for ALHFAM to play a larger role in the museum world. There was discussion on whether a presale effort could be done to judge possible interest in the book. There was also discussion on the possibility of other organizations joining in marketing/selling the book. A potential contract from the Jamtlands Lans Museum, publishers of the book, was reviewed. Several aspects were unclear and the one stumbling block was the large number of copies that they propose to send to ALHFAM. The cost was also unclear and whether the publisher/museum would be willing to contribute to any marketing costs in North America. LeCount will prepare a list of questions. He will be the contact with the publisher/museum. When the questions are ready, LeCount will sent them to the board for review before passing them on to the publisher/museum. When answers are in hand, the board may do a conference call to discuss the project again. LeCount will inform board members about new committee assignments. The meeting adjourned at 6:30PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Judith M. Sheridan, Secretary