

AIA WMass Annual Business Meeting Spring 2021 Minutes—May 5, 2021

Attendance: Eric Poehler, Keffie Feldman, Rebecca Worsham, Brian Shelburne, Laetitia La Follette, Tim Hart, Simon Oswald, Maggie Knapp, Becky Seifried, Shannon LaFayette, Tony Tuck

Minutes from last time approved unread (sorry!)

Reports from the Officers:

Eric: Big appreciation for everything that we've done this year. Successes: 2 Lectures via Zoom Bridget Sandhoff with 71 folks, Patty Gerstenblith with 69 folks. Lots of emails about recording, connecting, great interest beyond local society. International Archaeology Day Event (thanks Tony!), reprised for CANE.

Main piece of work: What should we do next year, and who will enact that? Thanks to the nominating committee (Tim, Shannon, Becky). Transitioning to new opportunities, new leadership.

Keffie: Great successes, definitely a silver lining

Brian: 2290.78 still, same as at the end of last year. Transition from Scott in fits and starts—bank still sending things to Scott. We are due a membership rebate, still following up with Samantha. Having to avoid the account to go into inactive status

Laetitia - \$500 agreed to commit to public outreach event next year to fulfill requirements for this grant—So maybe 1690 to do something with, lots of money for no activity.

Rebecca: Membership is holding steady at around 53 folks, about 48 of whom have email addresses.

Nominating Committee Report

Becky: consulted with bylaws, no new folks want to run for office, but 9 folks for 7 positions on the “at large” council

Tim: good response rate

Becky: Google Doc with who was contacted

Voting Discussion

Eric: Discussion on the officers. Eric will stand as President, Keffie as VP, Rebecca as Secretary, Brian as Treasurer. How should we deal with narrowing the field for the Council?

Laetitia: Every college should be represented, if possible.

Eric: Tony has done a lot, so can be released and willing to step down.

Shannon: Also willing to step down, and will be happy to return in the future.

Nominees are voted in! Council is now: Tim Hart, Barbara Kellum, Liz Klarich, Maggie Knapp, Laetitia La Follette, Rebecca Seifried, Geoff Sumi

Lectures for next year:

Leticia Rodriguez: Sept. 30

Debate between talks on **Mother Goddess/Kybele** vs. Cyprus and Repatriation.

Mother Goddess Talk selected

Heather Lee McCarthy: March 3

Ramesside Women's Tombs

UMass will probably host

Eric looking into where to host the Fall Lecture. It should not be UMass.

Lehmann Lecture

Had decided not to do during Covid, but should also start thinking about Spring 2022

Outreach Grant

Laetitia: Background for the outreach event at Amherst Cinema. Held March 9, right before shutdown. \$250 from local society to cover, and \$250 from grant. So we should do a second outreach event. This society is very heavily academic, although there is interest in the Valley. Maybe something about the Monument Lab, go out and look at a monument. Different activities than just lectures, experiences vs. information.

Becky: Hubbub about the roundabout project, opportunity for talking to the public, collaboration with 5 College Native American and Indigenous group?

Tony: Had the main archaeologist for the international archaeology day. He is under a gag order, so couldn't speak directly about that. Would be happy to reach out for this.

Shannon: Working with Becky on remote sensing data from the Dana Township Survey and remains under the Quabbin Reservoir. Any local remains would be great.

Brian: Anything having to do with the Quabbin is usually a crowd favorite.

Tim: Guided tour of the ruins in elementary school. Could a tour still be done?

Eric: Intentional drowning of towns for benefit of one urban center could work together with climate change topics, etc. We should explore this further:

Can we get someone to Chair or Co-Chair an Outreach Subcommittee. Reach out to Eric. Follow up with this on Fall Meeting.

Laetitia: Could we look at what Becky and Shannon did with the class? Could this be two things, a tour and a talk?

Shannon: Students looked at particular grid squares with remote sensing data, what could be seen/not seen, etc.

Becky: The map is not viewable outside of UMass, but was shared onscreen during the meeting (and is lovely). Has anyone been there? Is there a monument to the town of Dana?

Maggie: Definitely foundations out there, which are visible.

Becky and Shannon: A walking tour with an archaeologist would be fun.

Other New Business:

No new business

Meeting is Adjourned