**Taos Archaeological Society Officers Meeting Minutes**

**February 13, 2022 9am**

**ZOOM ID 545 842 9500**

**In Attendance: Phil Aldritt, Debbie Espie,**

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Chris asked first if he could confirm officer’s contact info, names etc, so he can complete the tax filing for the organization. He sent updated financials this morning.

1)Approve minutes from January 23, 2022 motion to approve by Cassandra, seconded by Chris, approved unanimously.

2) ASNM Meeting Update from Feb 5 meeting Virtual Phil contacted speakers, he has 6 confirmed for virtual presentations. Phil sent a message to the membership via email recently asking if folks wanted refunds. He has had 6 responses saying they would just donate the money to the virtual meeting, and zero folks have requested refunds. Chris asked if we would still be splitting proceeds with ASNM. Phil confirmed. Man people who had registered for the meeting 2019 realize are ASNM members and know that ASNM gets half the proceeds, so many will likely be OK with “paying forward” the registration fee to a virtual meeting. Phil talked about a person who is a scholar re: Native American slavery, Diane Archuleta. Director of Pueblo, she will be a speaker. Chris asked if we were paying speakers. Phil said no, but we will send them something as a thank you gift. Steven Lexen, Catrina Whitley, Patricia Crown, Diane Archuleta, Dean Wilson,

Jeff Boyer agreed to be on a panel, Phil asked if Cassie was interested in being on the panel. This is so there are local folks listening to the presentation, then answer questions, and have a brief dialogue about the presentation.

The online auction will happen. Phil wants to start it around April 7, have folks put in bids for a month, and then on May 7, the auction will be over by noon. And the winners will be announced at the end. They can mail in their check, money order. TAS will arrange for shipping/delivery. TAS keeps all of the funds from the auction. Chris asked if online auction will allow people to see the last bid. Phil said if they don’t know what the price is, they might bid more. Phil will be investigating online auction formats.

Re: Sagebrush, Phil asked if they could move our $500 deposit to a Potluck/Buffet event on the patio over the summer so we don’t lose the deposit and we can have an in-person event that is outdoors. Phil asked about mass gatherings at Sagebrush, they said they don’t have an upper limit on people. Phil mentioned that Sitewatch is holding their meeting virtually, so it is not just us.

3) Speakers for ASNM contacted, see above Item 2. Still needs speakers for Thr May 5. 2-4:30 Thrs 12noon-4:30 Friday 12 noon -4:30 Saturday. They will be recorded, 45 minute presentations with 10 min for questions. There will be a land acknowledgment at the beginning, then there will be an indigenous blessing. Phil not sure if live or recorded. Seth Bowles has a contact, Richard Vermejo? Then go into speakers. Day 2 Diane Archuleta, Dean Wilson, Patty Crown on Friday. Saturday Sev, Catrina Whitley, Steven Lexon? After the 3 talks on Saturday, we will announce auction winners and there will be an awards ceremony. ASNM awards scholarships, those recips are normally invited to the ASNM meeting, all paid. That can’t happen so there will be time set aside for a ceremony. Also they will announce the BICE award winners, and that will be the end of the conference. Phil is up in the air about a virtual field trip. At the MesoAmerican conference they did not have anything extra like a field trip. If we did not do anything Sunday, which is Mother’s Day, that is fine. Or we could put out a couple of recordings for Sunday, think about that.

REGISTRATION: Phil thinks it should be free with option of a donation. Sending the membership/affiliates an email with a registration form. If they want to donate, they can mail a donation in. Ultimately, that will be split with ANSM. Debbie asked Phil if he had many more contacts he could email the registration to, bc we could potentially reach many more people since this is online only. He said definitely, international, Susan Boyle and Patty Crown (cacao, Macaws, connection between MA cylinder jars) Mike Methiowicz, connection to Central America. Crow Canyon talk Corn, beans and beyond. Phil is trying to get him.

Topics: Catrina probably talking about Bacu, artifacts from Nevada, unknown obsidian, Phil not sure what her talk will be about but it will be a Bacu update. Dean talking about his current work, Lexen Cahokia, Patty Crown cylinder jars/cacao, Sev 15th century ceramics at Picuris. Susan Boyle Camino Real and trade.

4) New speakers for 2022-2023

Kit Carson status, we can have a Monday timeslot, KC has already booked up Tuesdays.

Phil thinks it would probably need to be some local people to get started. Everyone wearing masks. Phil has signed the contract with KC, first Monday of every month September 2022 through May 2023. We don’t pay for this, so if something changes we can cancel without any loss of funds.

5) New speakers for 2021-2022/Online 2022?

6)Insurance for Ceramic activities Update /SMU status We are waiting for a quote from a company, Gallagher. Contacted Phil this week to let him know they were still working on it. Mike Adler thought we’d be able to get back to SMU campus to work on ceramics, but he is not in a position to ask the board about it. He said it’s more likely that if we have insurance, the board would be more amenable to allowing us there. There is no one else out there, at SMU, right now, campus is closed.

7) Bears Ears 2022 Update Still only 3 people paid to attend, need 8. If don’t fill it by May 1, it will be cancelled and monies refunded. Chris talked about deposits of $600.00 for this trip. $200.00/person, so there was a $400 deposit which was to cover 2 persons.

8) Scholarships 250.00 x 2/ Cassie Chris didn’t receive any scholarship info in mail. Still trying to find students to give scholarships. Cassie asked if this scholarship goes direct to students, and not through school. Phil confirmed direct to student.

9) Conduct a feasibility study review to switch banks. Nancy still has checks. There will be an online option to make a donation for the online conference, this was just a brief conversation so Chris is prepared if funds start appearing. These donations would be tax deductible, so registrants would need to be informed of this and they may need letters stating this.

10) TAS Officer Position Confirmation. Phil sent the email around, all officers have agreed to maintain current positions. At some point it would be good to switch it up, Phil suggested Cassie might have an interest in being PRES, Phil would switch to webmaster, and we could let VPres slide for a bit. Phil can still do many of the things he has been doing, and a new PRES would just preside over the meetings, etc. Chris mentioned that bc we are officers, the org has a PRES, Secretary and Treasurer, every other position is VPres by default. We should have an At-Large officer, but we didn’t have any nominees. Phil thinks folks are still pretty disengaged from taking on things, etc. Colorado Society went for 2 year w/o leadership. Historical society is meeting, garden club is meeting, so things are slowly moving back to better. Phil is OK with continuing to do the monthly meetings, etc for the time being.

11)Investigate less expensive website option Price has been increasing

12) Membership drops needed, we have a maximum of 250 members and have 237 members. Many of them have lapsed over the last couple of years. CJ had thought we should not drop them from the membership list. That was pre-COVID, now it does seem we should continue to extend a grace period to some people. We are not paying anymore funds to maintain lapsed members, but if we would go over 250 members then we would have to drop some lapsed members.

13) Samples from Newman Dome Survey for analysis. Phil asked Cassie if she wanted to get them together, they could be sent to Shaklee, Phil said TAS would pay for the analysis. Cassie will not be at BLM anymore, she will be at Forest Service. Chris, arch at BLM, has no interest in continuing NDS. Cassie wondered if the Fieldwork committee is interested in taking this on to complete paperwork, etc. Jeff Boyers name was raised as being the Principle Investigator, Cassie could be the permitted archaeologist. Phil said TAS wants him to develop a lab, and there was a brief discussion of a pedestrian survey.

14) Other Next meeting Sunday March 20, 2022 9am
Motion to adjourn Chris, seconded Cassie unanimously approved

Gretchen asked if we are considering having a hybrid monthly meeting for folks who live far away. Phil said not hybrid but he will record live speaker and run a ZOOM that is being recorded. It would be a lot of extra work but it’s possible and we’ll be considering all options.