

Southeastern Archaeological Conference
Meeting of the Executive Committee
20 July 2023

In (remote) attendance: Kandi Hollenbach, Jane Eastman, Deanna Byrd, Ramie Gougeon, Rob Beck, Shane Miller, Karen Stevens, Tony Boudreaux

[R Gougeon, reporting]

President Hollenbach opened the meeting at 1:06pm (Central) with updates: the statements about the image policy (pro and con) are in preparation and will be sent to Newsletter Editor Matthew Rooney for publication in mid-August. Discussion then turned to how exactly the panel discussion before the referendum would be conducted. A proposal was made to have petitioners, image policy task force members, and Tribal representatives hold a moderated discussion. Ground rules for this discussion would have to be agreed upon in advance. Another proposal was made to create a Google document for members to post their own questions and comments anonymously in advance of the discussion, and possibly also in real-time. Proposed times (and lengths of time) for the policy discussion finally landed on 10-11:30am so that participants could then have a lunch break to continue talking or clear their heads.

Other image policy related topics of discussion included what might happen if policy changes are needed but the referendum doesn't pass. A wide-ranging discussion of the merits of disclosing perceived perils of changing procedures if the referendum passes also occurred. President Hollenbach noted that changes to the policy can and should happen. As noted by one committee member, the petitioners were calling for a return to the negotiating table, so some form of an image policy was coming "one way or another."

The petition centers on two issues: limits on how/when the Executive Committee may make changes to journal policies and secondly, rescinding the policy itself. The meeting participants discussed ways to address these issues even if the referendum fails. How can the policy be improved through feedback from the membership? Should the membership be asked to consider the 'costs' of taking away the Executive Committee's ability to make policy on behalf of the organization?

D Byrd offered to draw up some guidelines for forum participants.

Meeting was called to a close at 2:38pm (Central).