

Southeastern Archaeological Conference
Quarterly Meeting of the Executive Committee
24 April 2023

In (remote) attendance: Kandi Hollenbach, Jane Eastman, Jon Marcoux, Ramie Gougeon, Carol Colaninno, Lindsay Bloch, Shane Miller,

With: Scott Jones, A Brooke Persons, and Morgan Smith

[R Gougeon, reporting]

President Hollenbach opened the meeting at 9:02am (Central) and then turned to the Chattanooga meeting organizers for an update. Scott Jones estimated that the annual conference may cost approximately \$87,000. He reported feeling confident that they could raise the funds and use registration fees to cover this amount. The high cost was due in part to higher than typical expenses – the AV fees were running approximately \$27,000 alone. The organizers projected there will be 600 registrants and called for a fee structure that included \$75 for students, \$125 for early registrants, and \$150 for late/on-site registrants. Treasurer Marcoux noted that a \$140 fee would represent a loss for SEAC. The Executive Committee proposed instead to make the fees \$75 (students), \$140 (early), and \$165 (late/on-site).

Jones proposed including a ‘check-box’ on the registration form where registrants can indicate whether they want a paper or digital program. Fewer paper copies would equate in money saved. He also said the app developer they were using has ideas about ways to increase engagement, make social media tie-ins, etc. Gougeon requested a more formal statement of what the app developer is proposing.

Jones, Persons, and Smith toured the conference center in the previous week and reported that everything looked to be in order. Marcoux requested a timeframe for deposits, payments, etc. to the conference center. Jones estimated this would begin in September.

Two items related to registration included a needed vote by the Executive Committee on this issue: SEAC will add a “check box” on the annual meeting registration page, whereby registrants must agree to abide by the SEAC Annual Meeting Code of Conduct in order to register. This was unanimously approved by the seven of ten voting members at this meeting. The second item was a reminder to include a check-box indicating that a paper or poster contained images of funerary objects so this could be indicated in the program, and that there were to be no images of human remains.

The Chattanooga team was dismissed at 9:30am.

President Hollenbach gave an update about the attempt to host the 2025 annual meeting in Baton Rouge. There are already concerns about expenses related to food and beverages. The possibility of a conflict with the LSU football season was also raised.

The Executive Committee returned to the issue of the image policy. A discussion about whether two versions of the journal – a regular and a redacted version – is feasible. Editors past and present anticipate that SEAC will have problems with the publishers if we propose two versions of the journal. The Executive Committee also discussed holding a referendum on the petition to rescind the image policy. The petition would be presented to the membership as written. President Hollenbach proposed a

special newsletter to put statements from supporters of the image policy and petitioners before the membership.

Editor Bloch voiced a desire to develop a “how to” around the new image policy and suggested asking SEAC’s NAGPRA Community of Practice to help develop this program.

In the last minutes of the meeting, President Hollenbach gave several updates. The next issue of the journal was coming along. SEAC’s DEI task force requested to become a standing committee. The Native American Affairs committee reboot needed a check-in, as did the Nominations committee.

Meeting was called to a close at 10am (Central).