

ASSOCIATION OF IOWA ARCHAEOLOGISTS
Business Meeting Minutes
Office of the State Archaeologist
Iowa City, Iowa
June 7, 2008
10:30am – 3:00pm

- 1.) The meeting was called to order by Chair John Doershuk at 10:35am.
- 2.) A short tribute was made to the career of Art Hoppin. A number of members provided remembrances of Art's professionalism, sense of humor, and guidance in their careers.
- 3.) Approval of the Minutes of the 2007 Meeting.

Minutes were approved as submitted. m/s/c.
- 4.) Membership Applications

Mathew Donovan, Jean Krewson, Melody Pope and Branden Scott were applicants for Fellow membership in attendance at the meeting. The prospective members were asked to leave the room during the voting process. The members were accepted into membership. m/s/c.
- 5.) Secretary/Treasurer's Report (John Hedden)

As of the meeting the AIA has \$1,242.88 in its bank account. The organization is in good financial condition. A complete financial report will be made available after June 30, 2008, the end of the fiscal year. Dues for the fiscal year 2008-2009 and earlier are due.
- 6.) Board of Directors Elections

President-Elect: Nurit Finn was nominated for this position. m/s/c. Nurit's term will run from 2008-2011.

Member-at-Large: Lowell Blikre was nominated for this position. m/s/c. Lowell's term runs from 2008-2010.
- 7.) Call for a motion of thanks for service to Joe Thompson, Past-President and Chris Schoen, Member-At-Large. m/s/c
- 8.) Bylaw change

A motion was made to change the bylaws of the organization to name the Iowa Office of the State Archaeologist (OSA) as the formal repository for records and documents related to the Association of Iowa Archaeologists (AIA). As accordance to the bylaws the proposed change was submitted in writing to the membership for their consideration 60 days before a regularly scheduled meeting. The proposed change to the bylaws, which appears below, was emailed to members on April 8, 2008.

ARTICLE I NAME & LEGAL STATUS

Section 1. Name. The name of this organization shall be the "Association of Iowa Archaeologists," herein referred to as the "AIA." **The principal office and place of business where the records of the association are to be permanently reposed shall be the University of Iowa Office of the State Archaeologist, Iowa City, Iowa.**

Discussion questioned whether the Office of the State Archaeologist was named as the repository in the original Articles of Incorporation of the AIA. A motion was made to accept the change in the bylaws with the condition that the Articles of Incorporation be checked to see if the OSA was already named as the repository m/s/c.

Secretary Note: A check of the Articles of Incorporation indicates that no mention was made concerning the OSA as the permanent repository for records related to the AIA.

9.) Location/Date of the 2009 Meeting

Randy Withrow stated that as of now there was no location reserved for the meeting but hoped for a centrally located venue. The Neil Smith Wildlife Refuge in Jasper County was named as a possible location. The meeting is scheduled for Saturday June 6, 2009. More information will be provided as the date approaches.

10.) Office of the State Archaeologist Report

John Doershuk reported all of the programs at the OSA are very busy this year. The Burials Program is working on a major project in Dubuque, the Contract Programs are working on large projects throughout the state and also in Missouri and the GIS program is finishing up the geoGLO project. Lynn Alex stated it had been a pleasure working with John during his first year as State Archaeologist. Lowell Blikre commented positively on the continuing additions to I-Sites.

11.) Iowa Archaeology Month

Lynn Alex thanked the AIA for the continuing support of Iowa Archaeology Month and provided a handout with a summary of last years activities. Lynn provided information about this year's primary outreach endeavor, Archaeology on the Road-Team Archaeology on RAGBRAI. Lynn described the activities planned for the overnight stops and the goals of this inaugural event. A motion was made to provide \$500.00 in support of the 2008 Iowa Archaeology on the Road program. m/s/c.

12.) Committee Reports

Historic Contexts- Committee members: Randy Withrow, Lynn Alex, Mike Finn, Leah Rogers, and Doug Jones. Randy reported that the committee did not meet during the past year but a meeting is scheduled for July 19, 2008 at the offices of Louis Berger in Marion. Goals of the meeting include developing historic contexts for the state, focusing on specific site types, i.e. historic farmsteads, lithic scatters, etc. The committee will look into funding sources and methods to develop and disseminate the information. Discussion included the possibility of using contexts developed for various reports across the state and a call was made to provide Randy with any specific examples that members feel would be helpful. A suggestion was made to develop a wikipedia type web page where professionals could add to developed historic contexts and the information would be available for viewing by the public.

Digital Documentation- Committee members: Joe Artz, Steve Lensink, Bill Whittaker, and Doug Jones. Doug reported that the SHPO has started converting archaeological reports to searchable .pdf files. All nominations to the National Register have been scanned. They are still not sure where the documents will be put for access. Some possibilities include I-Sites or the Historical Society website. SHPO is not mapping recon surveys anymore. You must search NADB for recon survey information. Approximately 2 % of the state has been intensively surveyed. Chad Goings asked about submitting reports in .pdf format and Doug said they are working on standards that are needed before they can start accepting them. Steve Lensink reported that all Contract Completion Reports (CCR) and OSA Research Papers have been scanned and they are currently working on the Project Completion Reports (PCR). Site forms are also being scanned. For now access to these files is only available at the OSA but hopefully in the near future access will be available through I-Sites or elsewhere for off-site use. Doug is looking into the SHPO copies of site forms to see if additional data is in their files that may not be at the OSA. Lane Shields noted that he has found numerous errors and typos in the NADB database and recommended everyone check for projects they have done to make sure there are no errors. Doug stated that all corrections should be brought to his attention. Also any Dissertations or Theses that relate to Iowa Archaeology that are not in the database should be brought to Doug's attention.

Guidelines- Committee Members: John Doershuk, Randy Withrow, Joe Thompson, Dan Higginbottom, and Doug Jones. John reported that the committee has met three times in the past year. The committee has decided that the guidelines need updating. Some changes are already in effect and the guidelines need to catch up with current practices. Discussions were made concerning how the guidelines were to be revised. This will be done piecemeal, chapter by chapter, and revisions will be sent out via the listserv for comments and ratification. Individuals on the committee will be responsible for assembling the new revision on the different sections and chapters of the guidelines. A discussion ensued on how members would be notified of proposed changes, and how comments and questions were to be addressed. This was discussed at length and a consensus among the members was reached and a motion was made defining the process.

When a committee member has assembled a Section/Chapter/sub-part draft they will issue it via e-mail (showing original language and proposed changes insofar as practical) to the AIA listserv and call for comments with a minimum two (calendar) week period specified for this purpose. Additional time may be allowed for the more complex portions. If an AIA member genuinely needs more time to frame a thoughtful response, they should indicate this (within the initial two weeks) to the issuing committee member who will then announce the extended comment period. Hopefully no more than a month will be needed.

Following the comment period on the draft, the committee member will be responsible for compiling the recommended changes into one or more (as appropriate to the nature of the comments) versions for formal vote. Doing so necessarily means the responsible committee member will potentially make a series of judgment calls. In difficult cases, individual committee members may call on the other members of the committee for advice. Obviously, if the resulting version(s) of a section to be voted on do not substantially reflect a commenter's position then that commenter must alert the listserv and the section may need to be reserved for additional discussion prior to voting.

Assuming the committee person can assemble the received comments into one (or a reasonable number of) effective versions, they will send these to the list flagged as requiring a vote (as opposed to comment) with a two week window. A valid vote will require a quorum of AIA Fellows as per the bylaws for an annual meeting – one-third. Currently there are 48 voting members, so quorum is currently 16 votes. If you are an honorary, adjunct, or student member (check the AIA website if you don't know) please participate in the comment portion but do not vote.

Once a section has been voted on by a quorum (committee members will document the vote) it will be set aside as other pieces are given attention. When the whole package has been given this treatment, it will be provided to the NPS and ACHP for comment and brought before the June annual meeting for formal endorsement. Receiving this, it will be provided to the "public" (broadly defined to include agencies, tribes, historic preservation commissions, etc.) for comment. Once these comments are reviewed by the committee

and shared with the AIA members, we will be ready to either make additional revisions to address the germane public comments or declare the process completed and the “new” Guidelines will replace the 1999 edition. m/s/c.

13.) State Historic Preservation Office

Doug Jones noted there have been a number of staff changes at the SHPO in the last year. A State Historic Preservation Conference is scheduled for September 19-20 in Sioux City. The State Historical museum in Des Moines will host an exhibit on Iowa Stoneware this fall. The state National Register Review Meeting is scheduled for June 13 in Anamosa.

Consultant List- Doug stated there has been much discussion concerning the SHPO list of qualified consultants within the state. The list has grown to unmanageable proportions in the last few years and resources are unavailable to maintain and constantly update this list. SHPO is in discussions about abandoning the list of qualified consultants. A number of members of the AIA indicated that it might be a good idea for the AIA to develop its own list of professional consultants who are recognized by the AIA. Discussions over potential liability of the AIA and how to determine qualifications of potential consultants ensued. After discussion it was agreed that no matter what the fate of the SHPO list of qualified consultants, the AIA should develop its own list to be published on the AIA website. A motion was made for the AIA to create a list of professional consultants that are recognized as qualified to perform archaeological consulting within the state. Requirements for an organization to be included on this list would be that at least one member of the organization must be a Fellow in the Association of Iowa Archaeologists and application to be put on the list must be made at the annual business meeting. m/s/c with two dissenting votes.

14.) New Business

Due to extenuating circumstances Leah Rogers has missed the last three meetings and according to AIA bylaws would have to be dropped from the membership roles. A motion was made to extend her membership for two years m/s/c

Bill Whittaker of the OSA briefly discussed the recent UNESCO World Heritage Site listings, and lamented that Effigy Mounds National Monument was not even nominated, even though it is clearly worthy of listing. The nomination process happens once every 10 years, preparation for next round should begin ca. 2015, with nominations due ca. 2017 for listing ca. 2020. Bill proposed that the topic of nominating Effigy Mounds to the World Heritage List be brought up as an agenda item at every annual AIA meeting until a nomination is completed, and that AIA take a lead role in the nomination process.

15.) The business meeting was adjourned at 3:05pm.

2008 Members in Attendance

Alex, Lynn
Artz, Joe
Ambrosino, Leslie
Benn, Dave
Blikre, Lowell
Collins, Angela
Collins, James
Doershuk, John
Donovan, Matt
Finn, Nurit
Goings, Chad
Gourley, Kathy
Hawkins, Alan
Hedden, John
Henning, Dale
Higginbottom, Dan
Horgen, Dan
Horgen, Sarah
Jones, Doug
Krewson, Jean
Lensink, Steve
Lueck, Edward
Merry, Carl
Meseke, Adam
Nagel, Cindy
Nansel, Blane
Perry, Mike
Peterson, Cindy
Pope, Melody
Ramirez, Eloise
Scott, Branden
Sellars, John
Shields, Lane
Stanley, Dave
Stanley, Lori
Thompson, Joe
Whittaker, Bill
Withrow, Randy

Due to nonpayment of dues for 3 consecutive years Tim Weitzel was dropped from the membership rolls.