

UTAH STATEWIDE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Minutes for the Spring Quarterly President's Meeting

Museum of Peoples and Cultures, BYU, Provo, Utah

Saturday, March 26, 2016, 10 am

Attendees

Margene Hackney-USAS Parliamentarian
Dr. Jim Allison (USAS Advisor/UPAC Liaison)
Charmaine Thompson (USAS Advisor/UPAC Liaison)
Bethany Wurster-Utah State University Graduate Student
Mark Stuart- Promontory/Tubaduka Chapter President
Joe Harline –Promontory/Tubaduka
JoLynne Harline- Promontory/Tubaduka
Lawrence Guymon-TAAS President
Roland Heath- Uintah Basin Chapter President
Heidi Essex- USAS President, CVAS member
Sara Stauffer- CVAS President, USAS Recording Secretary

Welcome

Heidi welcomed everyone to the meeting and everyone introduced themselves.

Minutes

Sara reviewed the minutes and no changes were made. Margene made a motion to accept the minutes and Jim seconded. The minutes were accepted, the motion carried.

Newsletter Report

There is still a need to find someone to do the newsletter for USAS. The newsletter contains business, chapter reports, convention updates.

Treasurers Report

Chanel was not able to attend so Heidi read the treasurers report. Dues were received from the Salt Lake and Provo chapters. Additionally the USAS Pecos Conference money was obtained and will be used for the grant program. A separate bank account will be set up for the grant money and Charmaine Thompson agreed to be a signer on the account with Chanel.

There was a short conversation on edits needed to the grant application. Heidi said she would take a look and send out her edits to the group.

New Business

Bethany Wurster- Research on Bud Peterson: Bethany Wurster is a graduate student from Utah State University. She has approached USAS about getting access to the USAS archives and came to the meeting to present this to the executive committee. Part of her graduate program is to complete an assistantship. She is working with a collection donated to the museum at USU by Bud Peterson who played a role in the founding of USAS, among other things. She would like access to the USAS archives to do research on Bud Peterson. Mark Stuart mentioned that he knew Bud and would be a good resource also for her.

Sara made a motion that Bethany has access to the USAS archives conditional on her reporting back to USAS and potentially present her findings to the local chapters. JoLynn Harline seconded it.

State History: Lori Hunsaker is no longer with State History and Chris Merritt is now our advisor to State History. He is very responsive and supportive of USAS.

USAS as Consulting Party: There are several projects that USAS has become involved in either as a consulting or interested party. These include the Trans-West Express Transmission Line and the BLM Class I and Class II in Eastern Utah. USAS may potentially be involved in the Uintah Basin Benefit Utah Oil Shale Project, Gate Canyon, and the BLM Richfield Field Office Class I which may mainly involve Jeff Roberts.

There was a discussion on the role of USAS as consulting parties. Jim brought up that many of the requests are an effort to make State History happy and to show that they have reached out to potential interested parties. USAS does not have to be involved in every single request, only those that are relevant to the USAS mission. He suggested creating some basic guidelines as to when to get involved so that USAS is not overwhelmed by the requests but can make quick decisions. Charmaine also added that UPAC is also on some of the same projects as a consulting party. If it involves places that are important to USAS then we should jump on it. It is up to the chapters and the whole group to decide what projects we should be involved in.

The Promontory Chapter has done an excellent job of being proactive. They have identified areas of importance and made a significant effort in protecting those areas by recording sites, talking to land owners, and going to the city about archaeological issues. USAS members have more power than we know and provide an expertise that the professionals don't have. They live in the areas and are familiar with the archaeology and know what needs to be done.

It was suggested that the Promontory Chapter take some time during the upcoming convention to talk to everyone about what they do, how they do it, and how they keep their chapter members informed.

USAS needs to create a clear role on the types of projects that they want to be consulting parties on and what they want to get out of the process as well as the outcome for big expensive projects. What type of public benefit would we want to see such as funding for a website or interpretive signs. Do we need a

policy that will help us with our role as consulting parties and to fully mitigate the impacts of the project?

ACTION ITEM FOR THE NEXT MEETING: Take this information about consulting back to the Chapters and with the members discuss 1) When does USAS/chapters want to get involved with being a consulting party? 2) When should it be statewide or chapters or both? 3) What are our goals and when do we want to advocate as consulting parties? 4) What are areas of interest or importance for each chapter (e.g. the foothills and canyons of the Wasatch for the Promontory chapter; Nine Mile Canyon and the San Rafael Swell for the CVAS chapter)?

Archaeology Conservancy Agency: Randy Griffeth is in charge of the Smith Property, an area located near Utah Lake with a high concentration of rock art. USAS has been invited to attend tours of the rock art. Additionally the Utah County Chapter has been getting involved. Tours are limited about to only 20 people.

Avocational Archaeology: There was a discussion on where the group wanted to see the avocational archaeology program go. Whether to start it up again or to dismiss it. On the USAS website there is information regarding the program. It was decided that that information will be removed from the website and that USAS, for the time being, will not have an avocational archaeologist training.

The BLM has received money to kick start a site stewardship program. It is a statewide effort and something that USAS should be and will be involved in. Information about the program will be placed on the USAS website. It is important as a group that we get involved at the local level and continue to develop our relationship with local agencies. The site stewardship program should provide many opportunities for USAS members. Additionally, there are always other volunteer opportunities at local museums, etc.

Archaeology Month: Reminder that Archaeology month is coming up in May and that there will be many activities across that state that USAS members can be involved in and volunteer at.

Website

The USAS website is hosted by Xmission and every year the domain name must be paid for. This should be an easy thing to do however, USAS does not have a debit card to make payments easier. Lawrence made a motion that two debit cards be authorized for the treasurer and the president of USAS. Mark seconded the motion. All agreed and the motion carried.

Positions Opening Up

There are three positions that will be available by the Convention. They are recording secretary, parliamentarian, and newsletter editor. If you are interested or want to nominate someone else, let Heidi or Ryan know. It might be a good idea to think about filling these positions with newer members.

Chapter Reports

CVAS-Sara Stauffer: In January Tim Riley, Price Prehistoric Museum curator spoke to the group about some incised stones that were donated to the museum a few decades ago and research he completed on those. In February the scheduled speaker could not make it so Sara did a presentation on ethics of visiting an archaeology site and how to record a site. In March Joe Bryce, a graduate student at BYU, presented some of his work on experimental archaeology. In April Charmaine Thompson will be presenting.

Uintah Basin-Roland Heath: The Uintah Basin Chapter has on average 40 members. They will be hosting two field trips with the BLM during archaeology month and hope to attract a younger generation. They have had several professionals come and give lectures. The BLM seems revitalized and they are working with them on the site stewardship program. The chapter decided to change the length the chapter president is in office for two years in order to maintain consistency. They no longer have a vice president. Jeff Rust, the advisor for the chapter will also help maintain consistency. Roland will be chapter president until the end of next year, after they host the 2017 USAS Convention.

TAAS-Lawrence Guymon: The chapter has been on hiatus lately. They have two new members from out of state, via the USAS website. Dealing with a variety of issues including the possibility of a new National Monument being formed (the Bears Ears) and also the Public Lands Initiative. There is concern about if a National Monument is established on where the funding will come from and would access to sites change. There has also been an increase of site visitation and looting from visitors outside of the area. There is definitely a need for more site stewardship. There are two site stewardship programs running in the area however there is a lack of communication to the locals of when meetings and trainings are. Most local people do share an interest in protecting sites in the area.

Promontory/Tubaduka-Joe and JoLynn: The continue to work on recording sites in the Willard Canyon area including a rock art site and rockshelter located above a large quarry. Talked to the city and found out that there are no plans to continue to use the quarry. There are about 15 to 20 members that come and there are often new faces. There are regular speakers from the fall to the spring and they usually go on a field trip at least twice a year.

CONVENTION UPDATE: Mark Stuart handed out the convention schedule and registration. There are a couple of edits that need to be made and then it will be mailed to the chapter presidents and also posted on the USAS website. The convention will be held June 3 and 4. There are several events happening in Ogden/Brigham City at the same time so make motel reservations as soon as possible. Costs were kept low.

Utah Chapter-Jim Allison: In January Tim Riley, the curator of the USU-Eastern Prehistoric Museum spoke, February was a tour of the Museum of Peoples and Cultures, and in March Dr. Mike Searcy did a presentation on the Hinckley Mounds. April Joe Bryce, a grad student from BYU will present on experimental archaeology. As of right now there is no president, just a treasurer and a newsletter editor. Attendance varies from 3 to 30 people. The months with big attendance is when students come

who are not formally members. Jim and Charmaine will continue to help the chapter until the Fall when the issue of not having a president will be addressed.

Old Business

Update the By-Laws: Margene discussed the need to finalize the edits to the by-laws that were made a few years ago. Everyone agrees need to take a look at it and it will be discussed at the June business meeting.

Audit: It has been four years since the last audit. The audit is done by executive committee. It was decided that the audit will take place by Heidi and Ryan during the convention and will cover the last four years.

Archaeology Southwest: Recently an issue of Archaeology Southwest magazine was issued that Dr. Jim Allison was the editor on and the issue is all about the Fremont. Only costs \$5.

Wolf Village: There are days during the convention with a set time that volunteers can come however volunteers can come at any time over the course of the excavation. Jim hopes to establish a Facebook page for Wolf Village where you will get daily or weekly updates on what is happening there.

Motion to Adjourn

Joe Haline motion to adjourn, Mark Stuart seconded it. Motion was passed and the meeting adjourned.

Next Meeting will be held on June 4, 2016 from 4 to 5 pm at the Uintah Town Park.