

NWA Executive Board
Meeting Minutes
February 24, 2020 | 10:00-11:00 am
Conference call

Present: Max Johnson (*President*), Anne Jenner (*VP*), Brian Jonson (*Treasurer*), Bryce Henry (*Past President*), Alex Bisio (*Secretary*), Steve Bingo (*Washington Rep*), Andrew Needham (*Oregon Rep*), Sara Piasecki (*Alaska Rep*), Ashlyn Velte (*Idaho Rep*), and Kellyn Younggren (*Montana Rep*)

Absences: None.

1. Roll call and past meeting minutes approval

- 1.1. All board members in attendance.
- 1.2. October's meeting minutes approved.

2. State Representative Reports

- 2.1. Oregon: Max is sending out reminders for WAM meeting coming up in April. The State Archives are celebrating the 100th anniversary of women's suffrage with an exhibit. This month he has a few job announcements to send to membership.
- 2.2. Washington: Steve brings up the Seattle NARA closure, which the board will discuss in detail at the end of the meeting. There have been a few new Washington NWA members recruited.
- 2.3. Idaho: Ashlyn contacted the University of Idaho for state updates. University of Idaho still has no head of Archives due to budgetary issues.
- 2.4. Montana: The Montana Historical Society hired a new photo archivist, and has been granted approval for funding for new building, which will be an expansion and renovation of the existing space. The Montana Historical Society Museum is opening a new exhibit this week on the history of brewing.
- 2.5. Alaska: There is a new archivist at the Alaska History Museum. University of Alaska, Fairbanks is in the process of hiring an assistant archivist. RBMS has been doing live tours of repositories across the country, and recently included a virtual tour of the Artic and Polar Regions Collection at UAF. Like other Pacific Northwest repositories, Alaska grappling with the NARA closure, which will be discussed at the end of the board meeting.

3. WAM Updates (Max)

- 3.1. The program committee is getting the site registration up and running, and is having some difficulties with data. NWA will be giving out \$1,500.00 scholarships, and is the only regional organization giving out scholarships. Early bird registration ends April 1st.
- 3.2. Anne asks how many NWA members have registered. Max isn't sure. Anne asks if we've been pushing attendance. Max says usually it's the only thing membership is interested in.
- 3.3. Anne says we are scheduled for a board meeting on Friday, but she will not be able to make it on that day. Max says we may not have a lot of options to move the

meeting due to room scheduling. Bryce suggests that we just have an informal meeting that does not require the whole board. Max says that's a possibility.

4. NWA 2021 Conference (Anne)

- 4.1. 2021's Northwest Archivist Conference will be held in Olympia, Washington.
- 4.2. The local arrangements committee has been selected. They are looking at three possible venues for the conference. The committee is acquiring some estimates that will help us determine the dates. There is currently only one requested conflict from Oregon. A program committee has yet to be selected.

5. Elections (Bryce)

- 5.1. Last Friday was the closing date for candidate statements. Only one secretary candidate dropped out, which leave the election with four secretary candidates. There are eleven candidates over all, and all races have at least 2 members running, except for Idaho. Ballots will go out sometime this week. Plan is to send out four different ballots so no one votes in the wrong state election.
- 5.2. New webmaster starting on the 1st of March as Rachel Woody is stepping down after 2 years. Alisha Babbstein from the Portland Jewish Museum is starting on the 1st of April.
- 5.3. Elizabeth is stepping down as membership coordinator. There is no replacement as of yet yet.

6. Archives Advocacy (Max)

- 6.1. NARA Seattle: Anne and Max put together resources for people that want to speak to elected officials about the closure.
 - 6.1.1. Steve: Wants to know if NWA should write a statement regarding the closure.
 - 6.1.2. Max isn't sure if we can do that because of our 501c3 status. Anne has an example of a statement form one of the Alaska History Museum that she thinks would be good to read at our annual meeting and to post on our website. Steve wonders if we can put the resources on our website. Anne says what they put together is mostly just for Washington, but it does impact the rest of the region. They'll work on getting that put together. Steve is in favor of having a posted resolution so that individuals have a link to details they can send to elected officials.
 - 6.1.3. Anne wants to make sure we have something preserved in minutes and at the annual conference to make sure the reaction is preserved for posterity.
 - 6.1.4. Bryce is going to take a first stab of a statement draft to post on the website, possibly based on the Alaska History Museum statement. The board is generally in favor of doing this. A vote will be called when a draft has been prepared.

6.1.5. Steve: This closure has a large impact of indigenous communities. NWA may want to target those groups for advocacy outreach. Anne says it is important to state our concern for those groups in our resolution.

7. SAA Elections

7.1. Max gives a background of the SAA council nomination controversy. Wonders if NWA wants to make a statement, but isn't sure that its our place. Other members feel that it doesn't seem appropriate since NWA is not a regional section of SAA. The board's views may not represent the membership.

Meeting is adjourned.