

Spring 2012 WAPA Minutes—Gillette, WY, April 27, 2012

Lynn Harrell called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone. The Spring 2012 meeting was a business meeting followed by a ceramics discussion lead by Michael Page, OWSA.

Fall 2011 Minutes—copies were handed out at the meeting and they are available at the WAPA website. There was a motion to accept the Fall 2011 Minutes as written.

Treasurer's Report (presented by John Laughlin):

Checking: As of 4/24/2011 the WAPA checking account had \$4048.55 in funds. Of this, \$215.58 belongs to the BLM's Project Archaeology program, thus making the WAPA checking balance \$3832.97.

Putnam: The Putnam account gained \$882.29 during the first quarter of the year, but has lost \$282.82 in April making for a grand total of \$13673.44.

WAPA funds grand total = \$17506.41

Expenditures since the fall meeting total \$926.82 and consist of:

- \$13.85 – purchase of the book "Folsom" by David Meltzer for silent auction donation
- \$500 – Brad Humphrey travel award (to be awarded on 4/28/12 to: Mac Blewer-UW Geography, Nick Freeland-UW, Jennifer Black-UW, Jordan Stapley-CWC, William Hovendick-CWC.)
- \$200 – Yearly WAAM Donation
- \$87 – USPS/stamps for dues mailing
- \$25.97 – Kinko's/dues mailing
- \$100 – Donation to Wyoming Dementia Care in memory of June Frison

Membership stands at 140 people, with six of those consisting of "Honorary Members." Of the 134 paying members, only 20 people have yet to pay.

There was no award at Wyoming History Day in 2012 because of a lack of archaeology-related entries.

New Members (presented by Joe Daniele)

11 new members have joined WAPA since the Fall 2011 meeting.

New Business:

1. Denise Tugman with Gillette's WAS chapter told membership about the planned field trips on Sunday, weather permitting. The first option is to meet and go to the Daly Ranch and the Sorensen Ranch to see several prehistoric sites. The tour will be led by Jon and Mavis Greer. The second option in case of inclement weather is to go to the Rockpile Museum, which will be open between 9:00 and 11:00 am on Sunday.

2. Mary Hopkins, SHPO: The Preserve Wyoming Event will be in Pinedale May 17th through 19th. The free Landscape Workshop will be led by Barbara Wyatt, Landscape Architect, and Nancy Brown, ACHP Council Member and Landscape Architect. Early registration ends today (4/27/2012).
3. Memorials: Recent losses included Jim Miller, Bob Edgar, and Patrick Mullen. Discussion about a permanent memorial fund:
 - Danny Walker—the Frison Institute has established a Memorial Fund for Patrick Mullen and June Frison. When Bob Kelly arrives at the meeting he can tell members about this effort.
 - Ranel Capron—WAPA could transfer the Project Archaeology funds to start off the memorial fund (\$215.58); this money is not BLM money
 - Mark Miller—It is unlikely that WAPA can afford a new memorial for each colleague; we should check with Bob Kelly about the Frison Institute Memorial Fund; WAPA could make donations to the Frison fund “in memory of” any members that pass away.
 - Scott McKern—WAPA should make the Brad Humphries Travel Fund the seed of memorials money—i.e. money should go into the fund “in memory of” individuals and then be used by the fund.
 - Mary Hopkins—WAS has a memorial for Dave Reiss
 - Bill Eckerle—there is an opportunity to have a memorial page on the WAPA website—it was pointed out that there is already a memorial page that can be added to
 - Dave Vlcek—the Brad Humphries Fund could be changed to a general Memorial Fund
 - It was decided to table the discussion until Bob Kelly arrived and could tell the membership about the Frison Institute Memorial Fund
4. Dave Vlcek attended the SAAs which were boycotted by the University of California. Dave suggests that books be picked up on Amazon (Across Atlantic Ice by Stanford and Bradley).
5. Mary Hopkins—posters for Historic Preservation and Wyoming Archaeology Awareness Month are available
6. Fall 2012 meeting will be in Pinedale along with the Mountain Man’s Symposium, scheduled for September 5th through 8th, 2012.
 - WAPA will meet September 7, 2012, in Pinedale.
 - Dave Vlcek will organize and get a block of rooms at a local hotel
 - Membership decided that instead of having a topic of discussion for the Fall 2012 meeting, we will instead attend papers at the Symposium after the meeting adjourns.
7. Mary Hopkins—SHPO mailed out revised Class II and III Report and Photo Standards. Comments are due to John Laughlin by June 15, 2012
 - SHPO/WYCRO student interns to organize the ceramic data is still on the task list.

Interlude:

Ceramics Discussion led by Michael Page, OWSA

New Business continued:

8. Bob Kelly gave a short presentation about the Frison Institute's Memorial Fund:
 - UW will match up to \$100K collected over a 5 year period; the Institute has currently raised \$62K
 - There are three funds within the Memorial Fund; several gifts have been given in the names of June Frison, Bill Terrell, and Patrick Mullen
 - 3 ¾% of the endowment can be spent, so need a minimum of \$13K for an endowment account
 - There was discussion about tabling this idea and sending out something to the membership before making a decision in Fall 2012.
 - Julie Francis—we could add a line to dues slips stating “do you wish to make a donation to the Brad Humphries Fund?”
 - Richard Currit—all of these ideas should be presented for the full membership via the list serve and get a wider discussion on it, before a final vote at the next meeting.
 - BJ Earle—a write up for each person being memorialized should be posted somewhere; Lynn pointed out that the website would be the place for this.
 - Julie Francis—include the names of students that have been awarded money in the past on the website as well
 - Julie, Jon, and Dan will write up a “Brad Humphries” biography for the website
 - John will do an analysis of the financial impact of maintaining a separate memorial fund versus using the Brad Humphries fund versus donating to the Frison Institute Fund
 - Mary Lou Larson—should get an agreement in writing from the Institute if WAPA chooses to donate to the Institute Memorial Fund
 - Bob Kelly—there would be such a document if WAPA chose to donate to the fund
 - Paul Sanders—We should also ask the membership how much WAPA wants to donate
 - Julie—do we want to separate out current memorials or do we want to wait until we decide on this issue?
 - Richard Currit—motion to donate the Project Archeology money to the Brad Humphries Memorial in memory of Jim Miller, Bob Edgar, and Patrick Mullen. Motion passed.
 - Bill Scoggin—Bob Kelly doesn't distribute the Institute Funds, the board reviews all requests and dispenses the money; WAPA would have an agreement with the Board.
9. Nominations for Fall Election
 - Lynn Harrell has to step down as President.
 - A Nomination Committee composed of Michael Page and Danny Walker will bring names to the Fall 2012 meeting.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted 5/18/2012, Ardy Hahn

Contractor's Reports (two submitted via email):

**WAPA REPORT FOR YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK
Elaine Skinner Hale RPA
April 18, 2012**

The 2011 field season in Yellowstone was very productive with the completion of several big projects. The Office of the Wyoming State Archaeologist completed field excavations for data recovery at two sites associated with obsidian procurement from Obsidian Cliff NHL, 48YE201 and 48YE128. The sites were previously bisected by the 1930s alignment of the Grand Loop Road and a data recovery plan was developed in consultation with the WYSHPO. Next step is to analyze the artifacts and write the reports.

The Office of the Wyoming State Archeologist had completed the draft data recovery report for three similar Obsidian Cliff related data recovery excavations at sites 48YE116, 48YE357, and 48YE406. I have not had time to review the results and will report more on these projects later.

The University of Montana has finished another year of work documenting and testing sites on the south and east shores of Yellowstone Lake. In 2011 they surveyed over 1,046 acres on the east shore and visited 49 sites, of which 34 were previously recorded. On the south shore over 600 acres were covered and 83 sites, including 79 previously identified but with no NR testing, and 4 newly discovered sites. There is one more field season for the south shores of the lake after which the project will be over, all but writing the last reports. Reports on the 2010 lake shore work have been completed and are being sent to the WYSHPO for DOE's.

The University of Montana also completed some NR testing at several well known but poorly documented sites, one at Sheepeater Cliff, and several more on Swan Lake Flats. They also did some subsurface testing in NR eligible site 48YE357 to identify an area with no buried archeology to access Obsidian creek with heavy equipment to return the creek to its original creek channel.

Dan Eakin, OWSA, finished the last project on the Nez Perce Trail work by rewriting a very rough draft from the first season work completed by Lifeways of Canada. Thanks to Dan, we now have a first year report to accompany the second, third, and fourth years' archeological work.

Robin Park, working through the University of Montana, completed several small sections of power line survey prior to major vegetation removal and heavy equipment access to the power line corridors. These corridors were not surveyed when originally constructed in the 1950s and the park is working on a way to get ahead of the two-story, big, scary "slashbuster".

The park is currently working on several NR road nominations.

Office of the Wyoming State Archaeologist

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OWSA is continuing to do a number of archaeological projects for WYDOT and the National Park Service. Michael Page will continue to lead another crew at the Game Creek site south of Jackson, this summer starting June 11 for eight 10-day sessions. He will be mostly digging on the west side of the highway where a dense burned rock layer was encountered last year. Diagnostic artifacts indicate occupations from Late Prehistoric to possible Early Archaic at the bottom. A bison horn core was found last year along with other faunal remains. Also happening this summer is a monitor of the Casper West Belt Loop which will cut through a dune field that is not far from the Paleoindian age Casper bison kill site that was located at the bottom of a sand dune. So it will be interesting to see if the monitoring uncovers another sand dune bison kill. Last year Dan Eakin finished his report on the third year of his investigation along the Nez Perce Trail in Yellowstone, and also completed an update and rewrite of a report on the first investigation of sites along the Nez Perce Trail by Lifeways of Canada. We are working with the NPS on finalizing an investigation this summer or next year to tie up some "loose ends" on some other potential Nez Perce campsites. In addition, we have completed a draft report on preliminary data recovery excavations at three obsidian lithic workshops/campsites along the Mammoth to Norris Junction Road, and have started the analysis of the data recovery excavations from the past two years for two other similar sites along this same road. Ages for these site range from Late Prehistoric to Early Archaic periods.

Attendance List:

Lynn Harrell, President
Joe Daniele, Vice President
John Laughlin, Treasurer
Ardy Hahn, Secretary
Kierson Crume, Member at Large
Nathan Fleming
James A. Lowe
Patrick Walker
Natasha Keierleber
Jim Brechtel
Scott Phillips
Tara Hamilton
Mary Hopkins
Carmen Clayton
Bill Scoggin
Dale Wedel
Cher Burgess
Julie Francis
Dave Vlcek
Michael Page
Danny Walker
Ranel Capron
Richard L. Currit
Orrin Koenig
Bill Eckerle
Mark Miller
Steve Sutter
Dan Bach
David Wolfe
Judy Wolf
Gene Munson
Jeff Rust
Denise Tugman