

**Wyoming Association of Professional Archaeologists
Plains Hotel, Cheyenne, Wyoming
October 24, 1997**

Executive Committee Meeting; 10:00 A.M. - 12:00 P.M.

Due to winter weather conditions and closed highways not all executive committee members could attend. There was a short informal discussion among those members present. Topics of discussion included rescheduling the WAPA business meeting for the Plains Conference in Boulder; the Treasurer's report; a proposal to develop a WAPA scholarship; by-laws, terms of office, and the possibility of developing an officer's nominating committee; generating a mailing list to distribute the WAPA Newsletter to appropriate places and people in addition to the membership; and the business meeting agenda.

In the afternoon featured speaker, Heyward Schrock, Curator of the Wyoming State Museum, presented a slide show "Bastions of Manifest Destiny" and Rick Bryant spoke and presented slides on F.E. Warren Air Force Base to a very small (mostly Cheyenne residents) audience.

The WAPA Business Meeting, originally scheduled for Saturday, October 25 in Cheyenne, was postponed due to the weather. It was rescheduled for November 19, 1997 to be held in association with the Plains Anthropological Conference in Boulder, Colorado.

**Wyoming Association of Professional Archaeologists
Minutes of the Fall 1997 Business Meeting
University Memorial Center Room 157
University of Colorado, Boulder, Colorado
November 19, 1997**

PRESIDING: Russ Tanner, President

CALL TO ORDER: 4:15 P.M.

The MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING were distributed to the membership and time was allowed for everyone to read them. A motion was made for approval of the minutes as written with no changes. The motion was seconded and carried.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Distributing the notice about the change in the WAPA business meeting date and location via e-mail to those who have an e-mail address saved money in copying and postage charges. If anyone has an e-mail address but has not yet provided it to WAPA, please do so.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Julie Francis distributed copies of the WAPA Financial Statement as of November 19, 1997. The money market and mutual fund are doing well because of the growth of the stock market. A BLM Assistance Cooperative Agreement has been set up and signed for the purpose of maintaining a separate account for Project Archaeology funds. A discussion was held about the possibility of establishing a scholarship account in the name of Brad Humphrey. There should be enough funds in a few years to start awarding money for a scholarship. However, a mechanism and committee structure is needed for the scholarship award. An announcement will be placed in the next WAPA Newsletter to further discuss the issue. A motion was made by Mark Miller to approve the Treasurer's Report. It was seconded by B.J. Earle and passed by the membership.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT: One new application for membership was discussed. Ian Ritchie is the archaeologist for the Douglas Ranger District of the Medicine Bow-Routt National Forest, having taken over Brad Humphrey's position. Julie Francis made a motion to accept Ian into WAPA membership. B.J. Earle seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

NEWSLETTER EDITOR/COMMITTEE REPORT: Craig Smith stated that the WAPA Newsletter needs to go out about a month before the next scheduled meeting. Everybody is urged to submit items and submit them early. Audrey Shalinsky has thanked WAPA for the money given to the University of Wyoming Department of Anthropology. Her letter will be reprinted in the next Newsletter. Mark Miller will summarize in the next issue the state statute about the protection of cultural resources on state lands that was passed in the last legislative session. A comment period for new rules governing management of state lands has just ended. Russ stated that WAPA needs to keep pushing for some level of archaeological work to be done on state lands. Mark replied that with the forthcoming reorganization of the Department of Commerce, it could be a volatile issue. A discussion was also held regarding the need to get the Newsletter out to a wider audience such as county libraries. Craig Smith indicated that it is already sent to the heads of each Wyoming Archaeological Society chapter. Over 100 of the last issue of the Newsletter were mailed out via first class mail. We would need to find out if bulk rates would apply if the Newsletter is also sent to all county libraries.

OLD BUSINESS

Meridian Project: Russ Tanner stated that the BLM's Meridian Project is still unresolved. The Pinedale Resource Area Manager has yet to provide information in writing about the status of the site that was disturbed and is awaiting mitigation. Judy Wolf indicated that it has been three years with no resolution, and the site is still just covered with plastic. Dave Vlcek, Pinedale Resource Area archaeologist, stated that Bill Current has completed a magnetometer study of the site. He also reported that a new company has taken over the lease and jurisdiction of the site mitigation. Ultra

Petroleum has indicated they want to do something positive for the site. The company may provide funding for more proactive management of the site with excavation rather than just stabilization possible. WAPA will receive a copy of the data recovery plan when available. Russ said that since WAPA is a consulting party, we should continue to push for resolution. Chris Arthur moved that WAPA needs to write another letter of inquiry about the issue. Julie Francis seconded the motion and it was carried.

Archaeology Month: Russ Tanner stated that this year's Wyoming Archaeology Month was very successful, with one of the best posters ever. Judy Wolf stated that she has some ideas for 1998 but still needs to call the Archaeology Month committee together to discuss next year's activities. She will continue to chair the committee and assumes the same people will continue to work on the committee. A discussion followed that WAPA needs to have an official representative on the committee to help get the word out when help is needed. Russ volunteered to be the representative. The membership also decided to continue to support Archaeology Month activities by donating money. Mark Miller made a motion to match the \$200 given last time for next year. Chris Arthur seconded and the motion was carried.

Society for Historical Archaeology 1999 Conference: Russ Tanner has continued to discuss with Mike Polk the role WAPA will have in assisting with this conference to be held in Salt Lake City. One possibility Mike mentioned is for WAPA to sponsor one of the coffee breaks during the conference. Coffee centers will be set up in the halls to provide refreshments in the mornings and afternoons. The cost of one coffee break has been set by the hosting hotel at \$1000 each. Sponsors get to distribute literature and have signs and other information about their organization. A discussion followed about whether WAPA could afford \$1000 and whether we could co-sponsor a coffee break with several partners such as WAS or possibly WAPH (Wyoming Association of Professional Historians). Another possibility for assisting at the conference would be to work the registration desk or arrange a symposium on historical archaeology in Wyoming. Russ will keep in touch with Mike Polk and will prepare an article for the next Newsletter. Some decision may be made at the next WAPA meeting in the Spring.

Length of Terms of Elected Officers/Amendment of WAPA By-Laws: Judy Wolf reported that she, Mark Miller, and Julie Francis met to discuss a number of issues revolving around changing the by-laws to reflect longer terms of office for elected officers. Three primary issues were identified. 1) By doubling terms of office, the president could potentially serve six years which is a big time commitment. One proposal was to eliminate the ex officio status. 2) For members-at-large, we could stagger the vote every two years and vote for one or two positions. 3) The vice-president could be appointed to head up a committee to find people who are willing to serve as officers. These issues will be discussed in the next issue of the WAPA Newsletter and further discussion will take place at the next meeting. In the meantime, Russ, as WAPA president, appointed the new vice-president to head up the new committee assigned to find members to run for office. Richard Currit was appointed to serve on the committee as was the newly elected member-at-large.

Wyoming Site Forms: An open floor discussion was held about the new Wyoming Cultural Properties Form which has recently been finalized for testing by the SHPO Cultural Records Office. Several people indicated they were having trouble getting the format off the internet. Mary Hopkins has said that a more computer friendly version should be available by the end of the year. Tim Nowak from the BLM Wyoming State Office said that a CD rom program is being considered, but money is needed for it. Judy Wolf stated that everyone is supposed to start using the new form January 1, but it will be tested for a year before finalized. Some members indicated they feel the new form will result in a substantial increase in paper; others said much fine tuning will be needed. Julie Francis said the problems with the form have mostly to do with the word processing element and not the information or content of the form. Dave Reiss thought that no one has complained about the content of the form because it has not been used a lot yet.

Contribution to University of Wyoming Anthropology Department: Russ Tanner opened a discussion about further WAPA contributions to UW. Several options were raised including donating money for a display case, providing money to a graduate student for a stipend to attend/present a paper at a professional conference or for research in Wyoming archaeology, and a scholarship fund. This broadened into a discussion about how WAPA can gain more recognition as a professional organization. Mark Miller suggested sending the WAPA Newsletter to each faculty member in the Department. Mike Metcalf suggested talking to the Colorado professional archaeologists organization (CCPA) about their scholarship fund and how it has worked. Julie Francis wondered whether we should limit these activities to the University of Wyoming or should consider other schools such as Western Wyoming College. She suggested that a scholarship committee be developed to look into these issues. Chris Arthur moved to forward these discussions to the scholarship committee. Russ Tanner seconded the motion. Mike Metcalf will send the established guidelines from Colorado. Julie Francis will serve as Chair, Chris Arthur and Kevin Thompson will serve on the committee. The motion was carried.

A break was taken to allow time to count ballots.

Paul Sanders was elected vice-president. Bill Current was elected member-at-large. The offices of Treasurer and Secretary remain the same. Gary DeMarcey, as new president, called the meeting back to order at 5:45 P.M.

NEW BUSINESS

New Mexico Archaeology Council: Gary read a letter from the New Mexico Archaeology Council which discussed an initiative to gather state professional organizations together at the 1998 SAA Conference in Seattle. They requested that WAPA designate a voting delegate to attend and participate in the gathering. The goals of this initiative are not clear and there has been no follow up information provided since that letter. A discussion was held and it was noted that Craig Smith, Mike Metcalf, and Julie Francis would be going to Seattle for the conference. Russ Tanner made a motion to nominate Craig Smith as WAPA's official delegate. There were many seconds and the motion was carried.

National Historic Trails Interpretive Center: Russ Tanner opened discussion about the new facility and asked if the membership wanted to endorse the Center with a letter of support. There was a general positive response and Julie Francis moved that Russ draft the letter of support. The motion was seconded and carried.

WAPA Representative on the National Register Consulting Committee: Craig Bromley, who has served six years as WAPA's representative on the National Register Consulting Committee, has resigned his position stating he would like for others to have the opportunity to serve. Judy Wolf explained the process and what is involved in being a member of the Consulting Committee in terms of duties and time commitments. Russ Tanner and Tim Nowak both expressed interest in being WAPA's representative. In order to decide, a coin was tossed and Russ won the toss. His name will be submitted to John Keck, State Historic Preservation Officer.

BLM National Programmatic Agreement: Tim Nowak provided an update of the status of the national PA which defines how the BLM will meet its responsibilities under the National Historic Preservation Act. The PA was signed May 23, 1997. Its focus is to strengthen the partnership between the agency and the State Historic Preservation Office and to reduce the role of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation. The Wyoming Statewide PA served as a pilot for the nationwide PA. While the national PA is general, it has stipulated that each state will develop its own protocols to define the administrative relationships and the cultural resource review process. Tim, Judy Wolf, and a protocol team have worked to develop the protocols for Wyoming which has essentially refined the process and cleaned up the language from the Statewide PA. They are on the fourth draft now. When the SHPO, BLM, and protocol team feel comfortable with the language, the document will be sent out to the BLM resource areas and to contractors for comments. The team will then look at those comments and make revisions to the protocols as appropriate. Training for BLM and SHPO staff has been set for April 15 and 16. Separate training for contractors will follow, although it was made clear that the protocols focus on the process followed by the BLM and the SHPO and that the identification and evaluation process will be much the same as it is now. Other existing agreements will be reviewed and it is anticipated that many will continue in place as they are responsive to special needs of specific projects. One proposed change with the new Wyoming protocols would eliminate unevaluated sites in a specific survey area. That is, with the exception of geophysical projects, all sites in a survey area must be evaluated for the National Register of Historic Places. A lengthy discussion about this issue followed. It was decided that since it will be difficult to reach a consensus among WAPA members, everyone should comment about the Wyoming BLM protocols as individuals rather than have an official WAPA response. Gary DeMarcey indicated he would prepare a letter that states WAPA has an interest but will not comment as a group. Rather, individual members would review and comment on the document. Tim Nowak requested a copy of the WAPA membership list so that each member can receive a copy of the final draft protocols.

OTHER BUSINESS

WAPA has received a request from Cheryl Burgess for a contribution for the Island in the Plains conference to be held February 14-15, 1998 in Belle Fourche, South Dakota. WAPA has provided

\$150 in the past for the conference. A motion was made to continue this donation of \$150 this year.

The motion was seconded and passed.

B.J. Earle brought up the subject of Native American consultation for projects requiring tribal input, in particular large coal projects under the jurisdiction of the Office of Surface Mining. She indicated that Native American consultants often do not have the financial ability to travel to project areas and

wondered if there are any state grants or money available to assist them. Judy Wolf said emphatically that the state does not have the funds to administer any sort of travel reimbursement. Chris Arthur stated that it is the responsibility of the industry project proponent to pay for consultant services. A discussion followed. One suggestion was to solicit assistance from Kathy Karpan, former Wyoming Secretary of State who is now the Director of OSM in Washington D.C. Russ Tanner indicated he would help B.J. draft a letter regarding this matter and Gary DeMarcay will review.

Brian Waitkus inquired about whether there are any official agency opinions about surveys conducted in winter time when the angle of the sun is such that the light is not conducive to identifying artifacts on the ground. After discussion it was concluded that other than snow cover stipulations, there are no restrictions on winter time surveys. The issue was tabled for further discussion in an informal setting.

SPRING MEETING

The Wyoming Archaeological Society is having a joint meeting in early May 1998 in Billings, Montana with Montana and possibly South Dakota societies. WAPA has been invited to join. The membership agreed this would be an appropriate venue for the Spring WAPA meeting. The date and time is to be announced.

ADJOURN: The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 P.M.