

MINUTES of the SOCIETY OF MINERAL MUSEUM PROFESSIONALS
Board & General Annual Meetings, 11 February 2016
Tucson, Arizona

BOARD MEETING

Board members present: Virgil Lueth, Anna Domitrovic, Penny Williamson, Jean DeMouthe, Terry Ottaway, Tony Kampf, Julian Gray, Alan Hart, Katherine Dunnell

3:32 pm called to order by President Penny Williamson (PW)

PW said that it has been suggested that, in place of “meet the curator” at the Denver show there be a “sneak peek with the curators” after set up on Thursday night. Or a meeting where people could meet the curators sometime during the public show, possibly on Friday.

PW announced a symposium on curators and collections to be held at the Ste. Marie meeting on 24 June 2016. The SMMP will meet, after which the symposium will be moderated by Eloise Gaillou.

Tony Kampf (TK) reported that we need to pay for the renewal of the SMMP domain name. He also said that there are 31 members on the list who have not paid dues since 2010. These people will be notified by email and removed from the membership, if dues are not forthcoming.

TK discussed the possibility of an SMMP Facebook page, and possibly a link to our web site from the Minerant.org site and others.

Julian Gray (JG; vice president) suggested that next year’s program be devoted to conservation & collections care.

Board meeting adjourned at 4:05 pm.

The agenda for the general meeting includes a budget report & committee reports.

TK brought up the listserver archives and will begin a conversation on this in the general meeting.

GENERAL ANNUAL MEETING

Meeting called to order at 4:07 pm by President Williamson who welcomed visitors and asked everyone present to sign the attendance log being circulated during the meeting. Individuals introduced themselves around the room.

Attendance: 62 people, from 39 different institutions in 11 countries (USA, Canada, France, Italy, Scotland, England, Russia, Germany, Australia, Belgium & Norway).

PW called for a vote on the Denver minutes, which was moved, seconded, and unanimously approved without corrections.

Anna Domitrovic (AD) gave the treasurer's report. As of 11 February, there was \$70.00 in the savings and checking accounts, and \$4,611.12 in the money market account. All accounts are at the Pima Federal Credit Union in Tucson.

AD reported that there are about 180 paid members, only 73 of whom are current with their dues. SMMP will grant amnesty for those who are seriously in arrears, if this year's dues are paid now.

TK urged people to check the list on the web site to make sure their information and current contacts are correct. He also said it would be good to post some photos and short reports from members, and urged the group to send him these. He also encouraged members to make use of the listserv.

Jean DeMouthe (Education Committee) reported that the SMMP case at the show looked great and was very well received. The title is "Orange is the New Blue," in keeping with the Blue Minerals show theme.

She asked for suggestions for the SMMP Denver exhibit, where the show theme will be "African Minerals." Next Tucson (2017) theme will be "Minerals of the Mid-West."

Peter Davidson reported on the SMMP Europe meeting in Munich. He said that the discussion of M&M8 was difficult and rancorous; the meeting had been cancelled because the Chinese organizers were not able to obtain official government permissions. In 2017, a site for a replacement session will be sought. M&M9 is scheduled for 2020 in Bulgaria.

Frederico Pezzotta (FP) said the IMA Commission on Museums (CM) asked the Japanese if they were still interested when the Chinese meeting was cancelled, but they were not. Now the CM is asking for proposals for a 2017 interim meeting. This whole situation has showed the CM the need for a written policy for the development and production of M&M conferences.

PW noted that some SMMP members had already made arrangements to go to China, and would lose money and time as a result of the cancellation.

FP said that, in response to questions after the fact, it was found that any public event in China must be approved in advance by their government. The show committee lost their contacts in the gov't and no approval was possible.

PW discussed the upcoming symposium and SMMP meeting at the Ste. Marie meeting in June.

There was general discussion of "meet the curator" alternatives for the Denver show (see board minutes). It was agreed that a change is desirable, and that if the current format for meet-the-curator is continued, the Denver show committee must make an effort to advertise.

Jim Parrish moved that we proceed with discussions with the Denver committee toward changing the meet-the-curator, preferably to a single event. Vote was all ayes, no nays.

Bruce Geller mentioned possible exchanges with the museum in Kosovo. It was suggested that Joylon Ralph may know who to contact.

JG brought up the 2017 Tucson program topic, suggested his idea for 3 or 4 speakers on collections care, and asked for suggestions.

Election:

Board members whose terms are expiring: Katherine Dunnell, Tony Kampf, Jean DeMouthe

Nominated: Eloise Galliou, Tony Kampf, Jean DeMouthe, Katherine Dunnell

Elected: Galliou, DeMouthe, and Dunnell

Following the general meeting, officers were chosen from among the board. Board terms are from February to February, with elections always held at the Tucson meeting. Board members' terms are for three years.

Penny Williamson	president	2014 - 2017
Virgil Lueth	past-president	(until PW no long president)
Julian Gray	vice president	2015 - 2018
Jean DeMouthe	co-secretary	2016 - 2019
Katherine Dunnell	co-secretary	2016 - 2019
Anna Domitrovic	treasurer	2015 - 2018
Alan Hart	board member	2015 - 2018
Terry Ottoway	board member	2014 - 2017
Eloise Galliou	board member	2016 – 2019
Tony Kampf	web master	(indefinite; non-voting)

Meeting adjourned at 5:09 pm by president Williamson.

Lecture program: Museum Loans

Speakers: Julian Gray, Bruce Geller, Les Presmyk