

**Minutes of SARA Board Meeting
2 July 2007, Green Bank WV**

Members present: Paul Shuch, Vice President; Tom Crowley, Treasurer; Hal Braschwitz, Secretary; Directors: Jim Brown, John Mannone, Terry Smith, Bruce Randall, and David Fields. Absent were President Charles Osborne, Director Gordon Meldrum and Director Emeritus Jeffrey Lichtman.

The meeting was called to order by Vice President Paul Shuch at 1930 hours in the absence of President Charles Osborne.

The minutes of the previous year's meeting was read by the Secretary Hal Braschwitz. A typo in the spelling of Mannone was corrected and the minutes were then accepted as read by a unanimous vote.

Treasurer, Tom Crowley presented the Treasurer's report. Annual income was reported as \$4,202 with annual expenditures of \$3,639.01. Conference expenses amounted to \$1,271 and Journal expenses came to \$1,808. Currently our checking account includes \$7,241.73; savings account shows \$2,000.32; a Certificate of Deposit has a balance of \$5,271.43 for total cash on hand of \$14,513.48. The Treasurer's report was accepted as presented by a unanimous vote of the Board.

Committee reports followed which included:

A report by Paul Shuch that a new web server had been selected and was currently in operation by Verizon at \$10 per month. Paul also reported on the status of this year's Conference.

Kerry Smith reported on the status of the Navigator Program that we operate in conjunction with the NRAO.

John Mannone discussed the latest information regarding the Journal and his International Liaison endeavors.

OLD BUSINESS:

Paul Shuch discussed his problems with getting Conference presenters to furnish written papers in a timely way to allow inclusion in the Conference Proceedings. At Paul's request the board voted 5 to 2 to require a timely submission of a written paper as a prerequisite to making an oral presentation at the Conference.

Tom Crowley discussed the need to increase SARA membership to maintain the vitality and perhaps the survival of the Society. Several ideas were discussed. First and foremost was the regular and timely publication of the Journal. This was considered most important as the only contact that about 80 percent of the membership has with the Society is the receipt of the Journal.

Paul Shuch moved with a second by David Fields that starting next July that we go to only an electronic distribution of the SARA Journal. After some discussion this motion was withdrawn and replaced by one submitted by Tom Crowley with a second by Bruce Randall that the dues become \$30 per year for a hard copy of the Journal along with \$20 per year for the electronic distribution of the Journal effective next July. This motion passed unanimously.

Tom Crowley stated that a Paypal account had been established to accept such dues payments.

The mentor program was discussed. Since Jeff Lichtman and Charles Forster had not provided the Board with any reports on progress it was decided to hold this item over as old business for the next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

It was decided to hold 4 conference calls in the upcoming year by this Board to discuss SARA business. These calls will be held in September, December, March and June. Dave Fields will implement the policy.

Tom Crowley asked John Mannone to coordinate with the Journal printer to establish an acceptable Journal format to satisfy new Post Office requirements.

At the Treasurer's option Tom Crowley will set the fees for next year's Conference. Also to be included will be a deadline for Conference registration including remittance. A late fee penalty of 15 % will be included. Acceptance of the meal plan will be included with the registration fee.

Jim Brown will direct a project to prepare, with NRAO approval, a memorial to honor the deceased Carl Chestnut. He was authorized to spend up to \$ 100 on this endeavor.

Paul Shuch will discuss the resurrection of the Regional Meeting concept at the general membership meeting.

A need to update our brochure was discussed. John Mannone stated that he would support a volunteer in this endeavor but did not have the time to chair such a project.

The Vice President will appoint a door prize chairman to solicit door prizes for the next Conference.

A question of the availability of the 40 foot telescope for our unimpeded use was brought up. Tom Crowley will discuss the conflicts with Sue Ann Heatherly to attempt to achieve a resolution of the problem.

The Board thanked John Mannone for getting the Journal back on track as to content and regularity of publication.

With no further business being brought forward the meeting was adjourned at 2143 hours.

Hal Braschwitz, Secretary