

Council of South Carolina Professional Archaeologists September 10, 2021 Meeting Minutes

The September 10, 2021 meeting of the Council of South Carolina Professional Archaeologists (COSCAPA) was held on the Zoom videoconferencing platform. The meeting was convened at 10:00 by President Tracy Martin. The following individuals attended the meeting:

Name	Status	Affiliation
Tracy Martin	President	SCDOT
Rebecca Shepherd	Vice-President	SCDOT
Keith Stephenson	Treasurer	SRARP
James Stewart	Secretary	New South Associates
Bill Jurgelski	Member	SCDOT
Adam King	Member	USC Columbia
Ansley Lester	Guest	USFS Intern
David Anderson	Member	University of Tennessee, Knoxville
James Newhard	Member	College of Charleston
Jason Moser	Member	USFS
Josh Fletcher	Member	HDR
Kelly Higgins	Member	New South Associates
Gail Wagner	Member	USC Columbia (ret)
Martha Zierden	Member	Charleston Museum
Nena Powell-Rice	Member	SCIAA
Nina Schreiner	Guest	USC
Ramona Grunden	Member	TRC
Robert Morgan	Member	USFS (ret)
Katie Seeber	Guest	New South Associates
Roberto Munoz-Pando	Guest	SHPO

ACTION ITEMS from the September 10, 2021 Meeting:

All members should submit topics of interest for the precontact ceramics workshop to Jason Moser.

Secretary's Report:

No comments on the previous meeting minutes. The minutes were approved by unanimous consent.

Treasurer's Report

As of our last meeting on June 11, 2021, our account balance was \$4,779.56. Quarterly expenditures consisted of \$6.75 PayPal fee and quarterly income consisted of \$150.00 in annual dues payments via PayPal. This brings our account balance to \$4,922.81.

Of the 56 active COSCAPA members for 2021 (52 Full Members and 4 Associate Members), 44 have paid this year's dues for a total of \$840.00, leaving 12 members with a collective outstanding balance of \$240.00.

COSCAPA Account Activity Since the Previous Meeting.

Description	Income	Expenses
Income		
Membership Dues	\$150.00	

	Total Income	\$150.00
Expenses		
PayPal fee		\$6.75
	Total Expenses	\$6.75
	Balance	\$4922.81

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Membership Committee:

No report

Native American Liaison Committee: Chris Judge

Chris Judge submitted the following comments via email

Colleagues: Attached are my comments regarding the August 26, 2021 NRC Public Comment Webinar on a request for a 40 Year License to operate the Westinghouse Fuel Fabrication Facility (WFFF) on Bluff Road, in Lower Richland County. Comments due to NRC by September 20th, 2021.

Below are my specific comments on the 40 year license:

Regards Archaeological and Historical Resources:

1. Extend the comment period deadline until after the Intensive Archaeological Survey of WFFF is completed, reviewed by SHPO, and made available to the public for review.
2. Expand the Area of Potential Effect (APE) to include Green Hill Mound (38RD4), an important archaeological resource, Native American cemetery, and a significant ancestral site to local Native American populations including the Pine Hill Tribe.
3. Discontinue the installation of test wells in proximity to Denley Cemetery, a historic African American (and possibly Native American) cemetery. Consider that as yet unidentified and unmarked graves are likely to exist at the cemetery. Consider that the ground is disturbed not only by the drilled hole, but the machinery needed to drill the holes.
4. All ground disturbances at WFFF should be monitored by a professional archaeologist.
5. Consider the effect of actions by WFFF on cultural resources in the built area and maintained grounds area of WFFF. Spanish explorer Hernando DeSoto trekked through and camped in this area in Late April of A.D. 1540, just prior to visiting a Native towns known as Aymay (at junction of Congaree and Wateree Rivers) and Cofitachequi (centered near Camden on Wateree River). The history of the Spanish in South Carolina has been marginalized by a greater emphasis on British colonization that occurred over 100 years later in time. The area was also home to the Congaree Indian Tribe whose scant historical documentation could be greatly augmented by archaeological research. Their villages are thought to be located in this vicinity. If these areas at WFFF cannot be accessed safely for archaeology, creative mitigation measures should be considered in consultation with SHPO.
6. Seriously consider the fact, mentioned by most who commented during the webinar, that a 40 year license is far too long of a period of time, for the operation of this facility. This is an issue of public health.

The most pressing concern is the excavation of test wells near the Denley Cemetery. With the normal pattern of interment, there is a strong likelihood that additional graves are located outside of the visible boundaries. Dr. Leader pointed out issues with the webinar that the CFFF used to provide a hearing/public information forum.

Political Action Committee: Jon Leader

The Minority Affairs Commission has started meeting at the USC Lancaster Native American Studies Center. The Waccamaw are seeking federal recognition. National realtor groups are interested in developing workshops to better engage with cultural resource management practices.

Workshop Committee: Jason Moser

Planning for a one-day workshop for precontact ceramics has been shelved until the COVID-19 epidemic clears up.

ASSC Committee: Jessica Cooper

Fall Field Day has transitioned to a month of online events. The 2020 journals will be mailed out this week. The society will also set up a table at SEAC Durham. The 2020 Antiquities Issue has been completed but they have not been disturbed due to technical issues. Two applicants for the Grant-in-Aid are under consideration

STATE AGENCIES:

SCDNR:

No Report.

SCIAA: Adam King

Maritime Research Division have a grant to search for the Housatonic. They completed the Port Royal Survey. The Applied Research Division are working on projects in Mississippi, Alabama, and Florida. The Santa Elena collections re-analysis is ongoing. Steve Smith published a new book on Francis Marion and the Snows Island Community (available at Amazon). Additional plans for Mulberry remote-sensing and excavation are progressing. SCIAA is also sponsoring a table at SEAC. SCIAA also received a NEH grant to increase participation and inclusivity in the state's archaeological research. Applied Research Division is working at Goodwill Plantation. John Fisher has another grant to work at Pickney Island.

Office of State Archaeologist: Jon Leader

Emergency Management Division work with Charleston flooding and the Columbia Canal. Keith Derting is recovering from his health issues. The state's curation facility is located within an area that USC is planning to redevelop. The discussion about where the curation facility will be re-established is on-going.

SRARP: Keith Stephenson

Forest surveys are the only focus for fieldwork at the current time.

SCDOT: Tracy Martin and Rebecca Shepherd

Bridge replacement and sidewalk projects for fieldwork. Tracy is coordinating the reburial of interments from the Stack Cemetery at Columbia's Elmwood Cemetery. Hiring for the SHPO DOT liaison position will begin soon.

SCDAH: Roberto Munoz-Pando

Business as usual.

SCPRT: No Report Given

The Charleston Museum: Martha Zierden

Addressing some NAGRPA requests. Work at the Nathaniel Russell House has encountered a very dense faunal deposit. Ron Anthony will retire on October 1, 2021.

University of South Carolina Department of Anthropology: Gail Wagner

Gail has encouraged other department members to join COSCAPA so they can participate in the COSCAPA meetings. Part of this year's analysis will include the examination of ceramics with SnowVision. Adam King and Eric are looking to improve the experiential learning within the archaeological profession. Johnny Dodge has obtained radiocarbon dates from the Mulberry Site Mica House that could help temporally place the artifact deposit.

Coastal Carolina University: Carolyn Dillian

The Waccamaw exhibit is traveling across museum and libraries. The exhibit will return to the CCU library in November. There are plans for a field school beginning in May.

College of Charleston: James Newhard

The College will dedicate the 63 1/2 Coming Street project in late October. Facility for historical landscapes are looking to improve the programmatic agreement between the College and the SHPO. Cultural resource assessment of the Russel Plantation. The College is also assisting in the Anson Street Burial memorial.

University of Tennessee, Knoxville: David Anderson

David has an article coming out on in the 2020 SC Antiquities Issue. He is also working on the later precontact components from the Topper site. There are also requests for material to be used in Bob Morgan's SEAC session.

FEDERAL AGENCIES:

USFS: Jason Moser via email

There is a new programmatic agreement coming out soon. A fireline survey has been award and the tar kiln study continues.

PRIVATE AGENCIES:

HDR: Josh Fletcher

US-301 over Savannah River project is commencing. They have identified a possible historic earthwork.

New South Associates: Natalie Pope

Stack Cemetery re-burial is in progress. New South submitted a cemetery preservation plan for the Charleston County Parks and Recreation Commission. New South will also conduct a reconnaissance of Spring Grove and the area surrounding Clemson's Woodland Cemetery later this year. The historic context study for the Goodwill Plantation (SCDNR-owned) project is also ongoing.

TRC: Ramona Grunden

Industrial site certifications and a survey for a North Carolina lithium mine. The Mt. Dearborne assessment will begin in November.

OLD BUSINESS: none

NEW BUSINESS:

Natalie, Ramona, and Jessica will form the election committee for the next leadership cycle. Nena provided a heartfelt eulogy for Tommy Charles. The next Legacy issue will have a tribute to Tommy's career.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

**The 2021 SECSHA Conference and Fall Field Day have been cancelled – Please check the ASSC Facebook page for details on their virtual Archaeology Month events in October.

The next meeting will be held in person at the Cayce Museum Visitors Center
on **Friday, December 10** at 10:00 AM.

Pending

The meeting was adjourned at 11:09 AM.