

FRIENDS OF THE OFFICE OF STATE ARCHAEOLOGY, INC.
MINUTES OF THE 10th ANNUAL MEETING

January 27, 2007

Smith Middle School Auditorium
Glastonbury, CT

Present:

Board members Roger Thompson President, Cynthia Redman Vice President, Dreda Hensley Treasurer, Paul Scannell Secretary, Gary Nolf, James Trocchi, Bonnie Beatrice, Kenneth Beatrice, Mike Raber, Frank Pearson

Also present: State Archaeologist Nick Bellantoni, FOSA members, Connecticut Archaeology Center members, ACS members, guest speaker Dr. Douglas Scott and general public.

Exhibit Tables:

>Photo albums by FOSA photographer John Spaulding of field projects performed by the Office of State Archaeology assisted by FOSA volunteers.

>FOSA membership and volunteer information with tee shirts and tie tacks available for purchase.

>Books written by guest speaker Dr. Douglas Scott: "They Died with Custer: Bones from the Battle of the Little Bighorn" and "Archaeological Perspectives on the Battle of the Little Bighorn" on display for purchase from UCONN's CO-OP Bookstore.

FOSA Business Meeting:

Called to order by President Roger Thompson at 1:05pm.

Secretary's Report: By Paul Scannell

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Treasurer's Report: By Dreda Hendsey

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Treasury account balance \$7,634.40

C-14 Account \$2,355.70

Office of State Archaeology (OSA) Report:

By Dr. Nicholas Bellantoni State Archaeologist

Nick expressed his appreciation for all of the FOSA members who have contributed time in the various projects throughout the past year, including the high profile archaeological dig at the Venture Smith gravesite.

The Radio Carbon Dating is now under the name of Douglas Jordan, who died this past year.

Connecticut Archaeology Center:

The grand opening of the Archaeology Center will be on April 29, 2007. New classroom space will be available. This project is still a work in progress and will continue for the next few years.

Nick mentioned he will be looking to FOSA members to volunteer as docents at the Center. Orientation will be provided. The coming year promises to be an exciting one, but very busy.

Election of Officers:

Presented by Mike Raber.

Mike reported that there are 10 members of the Board of Directors, each appointed for a term of two years. This year, Dreda Hendsey, Gary Nolf, Jim Trucchi, Paul Scannell and Cynthia Redman have agreed to serve an additional two years on the Board. There were no nominations from the floor.

No officer positions to be elected this year.

Year in Review:

Presented John Spaulding FOSA photographcr

John presented an excellent Power Point presentation, featuring photographs of projects on which FOSA assisted the Office of State Archaeology during 2006. Most of the photographs were taken as jpeg images with a Nikon Digital Single Lens Reflex camera.

Volunteer Field Work 1959 Hours

Volunteer Office Time 795 Hours

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Achievement Awards:

Prscentd by Bonnie & Ken Beatrice.

Awards given to:

Mike Raber -past president, contributions to financial planning, etc. professional archaeologist.

Gary Nolf - first president of FOSA, avocational archaeologist for many years, special interest in history of the atlatl.

Meeting adjourned at 1:58pm.

Introduction of guest speaker:

By Dr. Nicholas Bellantoni.

Dr. Douglas Scott, a battlefield and forensic archaeologist, has a long-term interest in the archaeology of the Great Plains and Rocky Mountain areas. Retiring from the National Park Service after 30 years, he was awarded the US Department of the Interior's Distinguished Service Award for his innovative research in battlefield archaeology that began at the Little Bighorn Battlefield National Monument, Montana.

2:00pm Dr. Scott presented a lecture entitled "Little Bighorn Archaeology, Some New Insights into Custer's Last Stand".

**Friends of the Office of State Archaeology
Secretary Report Summary for 2006
January 27, 2007**

Secretary Petty Cash:

Starting Balance: January 28, 2006	\$ 42.57
Check from Treasurer	100.00
Postage	- 24.09
Office Supplies	- 16.12
Ending Balance: December 31, 2006	\$ 102.36

Membership 2006-

As of 1-20-07, there are approximately 159 memberships, which include current dues paying members and honorary lifetime members.

Major Events and Volunteer Participation 2006

A. Restructuring of FOSA's Permanent Committees:

1. Outreach Committee would be responsible for coordinating FOSA representation at programs and special events
Members: Ken & Bonnie Beatrice, Frank Pearson
2. Annual Meeting Planning Committee would work with Nick to identify a featured speaker; working out the logistics relative to the date, time and meeting location; and direct the publicity effort for 2007 annual meeting. The event will be co-sponsored by the Museum of Natural History.
Members: Cynthia Redman-chairman, Ken Beatrice, Leanne Harty, Anne Choquette, Paul Scannell, and Nick Bellantoni
3. Membership Committee would be responsible for maintaining a list of Current FOSA members, soliciting membership in FOSA, drafting renewal letter to go out with year-end newsletter, and acknowledging new and renewal memberships.
Members: Roger Thompson, Mike Raber, Frank Pearson
4. Newsletter Committee would be responsible for publication of spring and fall newsletter.
Members: June Cooke, Mae Johnson, Jim Trocchi, and Ken Beatrice
5. Nomination Committee would identify the slate of FOSA board members and officers for the following year.
Members to be determined.
6. Site Committee would be chaired jointly by Dave Cooke and Nick Bellantoni who would work out the logistics of site preparation and informing volunteers as to when and where the "digs" will be taking place.

B. Grant Proposal to the Quinebaug-Sketucket Heritage Corridor:

1. Proposal for \$25,000 was granted to FOSA. The money to be used to pay for multimedia production materials, video equipment rental and still photography along with other related costs associated with the exhibit at

the new Archaeology Center. This project demonstrates FOSA's statewide role in public education about archaeology and historic preservation in our state.

C. Samples of Field Work:

1. Many FOSA volunteers participated in a significant excavation of the Venture Smith burial at the First United Congregational Church's cemetery in East Haddam. Through excavation of the remains and extraction of DNA, family members hoped to trace their roots back to a specific area in Africa. Though unsuccessful in obtaining bone material sufficient for DNA testing, the project did serve to draw attention to Venture Smith and his many accomplishments. Assisting in the project were Dr. Warren Perry, Professor at Central Connecticut University, as well as Douglas Owsley of the Smithsonian.
2. Ongoing archaeological evaluation at Bradley Airport to try and locate crash site of P-40 fighter aircraft piloted by Lieut. Eugene Bradley, who died on August 21, 1941. Over 25 eyewitnesses have been interviewed, and FOSA members have worked with historian, Tom Palshaw, from the New England Air Museum, on several occasions to help locate the site.
3. Town Farm, South Windsor. On May 17th and November 17th GPR (Ground Penetrating Radar) was used on this riverside plot to find evidence of buildings on the site. The November session was a training session for the NRCS staff and FOSA dug to find a foundation and a well identified by GPR.

D. Outreach Program:

1. March 25: Connecticut Grave Stone Network (Paul Scannell, Paul Gobell, Frank Pearson, John Spaulding).
2. April 29 & 30: CPTV Family Science Expo (Gary Nolf, Paul Scannell, Frank Pearson, Ken & Bonnie Beatrice).
3. May 13: Madison Spring Festival (Frank Pearson, Barbara Manstan, Ken & Bonnie Beatrice).
4. September 16: Atlatl & Knapp In Day (Gary & Linda Nolf, Ken & Bonnie Beatrice).
5. October 1: Archaeology Awareness Day (Gary Nolf, Paul Scannell, Frank Pearson, Ken Beatrice).

E. Newsletter:

FOSA newsletter distributed in the spring and fall of 2006.

F. Miscellaneous:

At the December board meeting, FOSA board members approved a donation of \$2500.00 to the building project of the new Archaeology Center.

G. Next board meeting March 4, 2007.

Respectfully submitted,
Paul M. Scannell, Secretary

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