

[Minutes of the General Membership Meeting](#)
[The Association of Applied Paleontological Sciences](#)
[September 10, 2018 – Crown Plaza Denver Airport](#)

The meeting was called to order by President John Issa at 7:06 PM in the theater of the Crown Plaza Denver Airport Hotel.

Members Present included:

1. Sandy Ludlum – Secretary
2. George Winters – Administrative Director
3. Craig Kissick – Board Member
4. David Kronen – Board Member
5. John Issa – President
6. Neal Larson – Past President
7. Tom Caggiano – Board Member
8. Kirby Siber – Board Member
9. Tracie Bennitt – PaleoBond
10. John Bennitt – PaleoBond
11. Becky Boyce – J.B. Fossils
12. Japheth Boyce – J.B. Fossils
13. Doug Baker – Bacchus Art Sales
14. Luke Larson – Larson Paleo
15. Jay C. Ladin – Earthly Endeavors

Others Present

1. Katharine Taylor - Guest
2. Rick Rolater - Guest

The minutes of the recent board meeting (Denver 2018) and general meeting (Tucson 2018) were read by secretary Sandy Ludlum and approved. They may also be found on the AAPS website.

The Treasurers report is available on our website. Although we show a current net loss of \$8,700 this does not include outstanding dues and guide advertising payments which historically come in late in the year. We are anticipating a deficit again this year and the Board is working on measures to ameliorate this.

Reports

Director's Report

Administrative Director's Report
AAPS Board Meeting
9/10/2018

Fossil Ivory Update:

Illinois has become the 9th state to pass ivory legislation that includes mammoth ivory in the legal description of banned material. The ban goes into effect on January 1st, 2019.

This current legislation defines "Ivory" as any tooth or tusk composed of ivory from any animal, including, but not limited to, an elephant, hippopotamus, mammoth, narwhal, walrus, or whale, or any piece thereof, whether raw ivory or worked ivory, or made into, or part of, an ivory product.

AAPS Records:

Everything has been much status quo for the past several years. All documents including, invoices, receipts, check copies, bank statements, advertising contracts, membership applications and records are scanned and stored in the Dropbox files accessible for review by the executive board (President, Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary).

The documents are reviewed by the Treasurer who records the final entries in QuickBooks and confirms entries.

All membership applications are reviewed by the AAPS board for approval. Each new member is contacted by mail and sent a current membership card.

We do need to discuss and develop a protocol for all records over 7 years old, the length of time we need to keep records for both our non-profit and IRS requirements. Any records that are released, should be securely destroyed (shredded) to prevent account and membership information being accessed.

Dropped Members:

Following the annual board and membership meetings in Tucson, invoices still owed, with a cover letter were mailed to all members still in arrears. This was followed up with a final email on June 12th. As of August 1st, 2018, 25 members were dropped for non-payment of dues, or resignation. All members dropped were made inactive in our Book Keeping files and they were removed from the business members' page

Members that did not pick up their membership cards in Tucson, had them mailed after the shows.

2019 Elections:

Nominations are open for the following officers and board members that are up for re-election. Any member of AAPS in Good Standing can accept a nomination or nominate themselves if they would like to run for an office. Term limits were voted out, so any board member can run for reelection or seek a different office. Nominations close the third Saturday in January before the annual meeting so that ballots can be prepared;

Ed Rigel, Vice President
Jane Murray, Treasurer
Sandy Ludlum, Secretary
Rick Hebdon, Board Member
Craig Kissick, Board Member
David Kronen, Board Member
Aaron Miller, Board Member

2019 AAPS Guide:

I'm hopeful we can expand our guide with additional advertising. If anyone has any leads, please contact me as soon as possible so that I can mail contracts and make an initial phone call.

2019 Tucson Meeting:

We need volunteers at the welcome tables and the payment tables following the auction.

Ballots will be handed out at the welcome table and collected by a single volunteer during the meal.

We can improve the member's ability to vote and pick up his or her membership card by having membership cards and ballots available at the AAPS booth the week before the meeting. Members can pay their dues, complete the ballots and receive their membership card at the booth. A schedule will be set up and posted at the booth so that the material can be available at least 4 hours a day.

Auction Donations – Donations need to be encouraged and collected from day one of the shows. We cannot wait until the day of the auction to pick up auction items. We will remind members in the Newsletter from October through January to deliver their donations to the AAPS booth at the Hotel Tucson City Center. A meeting will be scheduled in advance of the show with the volunteers that collect auction items and payments to discuss any new policies.

Credit Card Payments – We need at least four volunteers who will need to have a smart phone (Android or iPhone) or an iPad. To man the Payment table during the auction and until all payments are collected. This year, those volunteers will have their own receipt pad.

Websites and Facebook:

Both the AAPS and Journal websites are updated almost daily. Current paleo related issues are posted on the association's Facebook page.

Newsletter:

The AAPS newsletter has been emailed approximately every 6 weeks to the membership and those that signed up on our website to receive it. When problems arise such as a bounced email are discovered, the recipient is contacted for an updated address or removed from the mail server.

Scholarship Report

Neal reported on the research activity of last year's scholarship awardees. He also reaffirmed that we have to get the word out to those we know in the academic community about the availability of our scholarships. You can get information about our scholarships and grants on the website.

Old Business

A. Youth Fossils

- a. Gary Olsen was unable to attend this year's show but we assume he again asks for the donation of large quantities of small fossils such as crinoid stems, small shark teeth, petrified wood chips, and small invertebrates.

B. 2018 Show Guide

- a. Our guest speaker this year will be Lance Grande. We are coordinating with the publisher to have several signings of his book.

New Business

A. Sternberg Award

- a. The board unanimously agreed on a recipient for the Sternberg Award to be awarded at the 2019 banquet.

B. By-Law Changes

- a. The proposed changes to Article III, Code of Ethics were presented and passed. The newly revised code can be found on our website.

C. William Mason Preparation Grant

- a. Neal Larson and Tracie Bennitt will work on the implementation of the grant.

D. Miscellaneous New Business

Japheth Boyce Volunteered to spearhead the implementation of various silent auctions prior to the banquet in an effort to increase revenue. All interested in assisting should contact him.

Tom Caggiano suggested that we individually solicit letters from fiends in the academic community talking about advantages working with commercial collectors.

Neal Larson moved that the meeting be adjourned and seconded by Tracie Bennitt. The motion was carried by acclamation.

President Issa closed the meeting at 8:53 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Nathaniel 'Sandy' Ludlum, Secretary – November 5, 2018