

Minutes of the 19th Annual Meeting of the Board of Directors of
The World Atlatl Association
Cahokia
Collinsville, Illinois
September 8, 2006

The meeting was called to order by President Ron Mertz at 7 p.m. Friday, September 8, 2006.

Officers present – President Ron Mertz, Vice President John Whittaker, Executive Secretary Courtney Birkett, Executive Treasurer Richard Lyons; Directors present – Gary Fogelman, Anita Lukes, Margie Takoch, Bill Tate.

Gary Fogelman moved to approve the 2005 minutes. Anita Lukes seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Executive Treasurer Richard Lyons presented the Financial Report. Beginning Balance as of July 1, 2005 was \$3,873.84. Ending Balance as of June 30, 2006 was \$4,121.55. Finances have improved largely due to merchandise sales and savings on the price of awards.

The number of T-shirts with the old WAA logo left was discussed. Richard Lyons moved to reduce the price to \$10 in hopes of reducing inventory. Margie Takoch seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Gary Fogelman moved to approve the treasurer's report. Anita Lukes seconded the motion. Motion carried.

There was discussion of having new T-shirts made with the new WAA logo. Gary Fogelman will talk to Chris Pappas about having these shirts printed. No motions made.

Gary Fogelman brought up the issue of allowing non-members to be listed in WAA records. If people can compete and be recognized without being members of the WAA, there is no incentive to join. In addition, it is difficult to contact people who have no address listed with the WAA. Bill Tate thought the best atlatlists should be recognized regardless of membership. John Whittaker suggested offering membership as a reward for high scores. There was some discussion about recruiting top throwers, about non-members holding ISACs, and about better self-promotion. It was decided to poll the membership for advice on these issues. Possibly participation could remain open to all, while Grand Champion awards would only be given to WAA members. No motions made.

The issue of the Community Zero website was brought up. At present it costs approximately \$450 a year, and few people use it. The need for guidelines was also discussed, to prevent the site from becoming a place for personal communication rather than for atlatl discussion. It was suggested that we could try to beef up the WAA site instead of relying on Community Zero. Richard Lyons suggested giving CZ one more year to become self-supporting. The idea of having discussion as part of the WAA site was brought up, as well as the possibility of combining discussion with Dennis Lantz's Atlatls 'n' More site. Anita Lukes moved that due to the cost and lack of WAA members using the site, the WAA no longer fund Community Zero but pursue sites or links to WAA for communication purposes. Margie Takoch seconded the motion. Discussion ensued, and the motion was amended to read, "Due to the cost and lack of WAA members using the site, the WAA will no longer fund Community Zero after December 31, 2006, but will pursue

sites or links to WAA for communication purposes." This would allow for some time to look into ways for CZ to become self-supporting. Anita Lukes moved to accept the revised proposal. Margie Takoch seconded it. Motion carried with one opposition from Richard Lyons.

The draft CZ guidelines were considered, since several months were left for them to be put to use. John Whittaker moved to accept the guidelines. Gary Fogelman seconded the motion. A change was made to the wording of one guideline, from "affiliated with atlats or related" to "affiliated with or related to atlats." Motion carried.

The success of voting by mail was discussed. Suggestions were made about possibly having pull-out ballots in the future, or having the back of the ballot blank if it was printed on a page of the newsletter. It was agreed that it was worth continuing the option of voting by mail.

Richard Lyons would like to see more pizzazz on the website and color on the front page of the newsletter. No motions made.

Margie Takoch wondered if we could give shirts with new memberships. Ron Mertz wondered if there could be a separate category of youth membership. No motions made.

Gary Fogelman wanted to know what had been done to sanction a former WAA member who disparaged the WAA. No motions made.

Anita Lukes suggested having targets printed with WAA promotional material, and having informational posters for display at events. No motions made.

There was discussion of state organizations and WAA membership. John Whittaker would like to see the states be chapters of the WAA instead of separate entities. Gary Fogelman would be happy to have the Pennsylvania organization be a WAA chapter. There was some discussion about what the local chapters would get from such an arrangement, such as chapter news in the newsletter. The chapters could also collect WAA dues. No motions made.

John Whittaker would like to add to the organizers' cover letter that writeups of events for the newsletter would be appreciated. No motions made.

John Whittaker moved to authorize Margie Takoch to investigate the cost of a color page for The Atlatl. If the costs are reasonable, the WAA will pay for it. There was general agreement that it would be good to spice up the newsletter. No motions made.

Richard Lyons reported on his efforts to obtain tax-exempt status for the WAA. These efforts were successful, but he was unable to obtain non-profit mailing rates for the newsletter.

Bill Tate asked about the status of payment for the WAA domain name. Ron Mertz wanted to ensure that there was a boundary between the organization and individuals in these matters, so individuals don't pay what should be organizational costs. John Whittaker assured the board that everything was up to date with the domain name payment.

The question of the cost of printing new T-shirts was raised. Gary Fogelman will look into the costs and get back to the executive committee.

Ron Mertz stated his intention to appoint the candidate who came in second in the following day's election to a one-year position on the Board of Directors, filling the position vacated by Trena Pikyavit.

Anita Lukes and Gary Fogelman were appointed to the tally committee for the upcoming election.

Gary Fogelman moved to adjourn the meeting. Margie Takoch seconded it. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 9:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Courtney Birkett
WAA Executive Secretary

9/30/2006

Minutes of the Nineteenth Annual Meeting of the WAA Membership
Cahokia
Collinsville, Illinois
September 9, 2006

Voting took place as members arrived at the meeting. President Ron Mertz announced that the candidate for board member receiving the second highest number of votes would be appointed to serve until the next election. Election results were as follows: President Scott Van Arsdale, Board of Directors Member Andy Majorsky. Douglas Bassett was appointed to the Board of Directors.

The 2005 minutes were summarized. It was moved to accept the minutes. Bill Tate seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Richard Lyons gave the treasurer's report. The starting balance on July 1, 2005 was \$3,873.84. Income during the fiscal year was \$7,119.14 and expenses were \$6,871.43. Ending balance as of June 30, 2006 was \$4,121.55. He mentioned that the money goes back into the membership, as it covers the expense of such things as printing and distributing the newsletter, the First Place Awards, Top Ten Awards, Grand Champion Awards, and support of the WAA web site. At the time of the meeting there were approximately 380 members of the WAA. Douglas Bassett moved to accept the treasurer's report. Gary Fogelman seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Ron Mertz described the meeting that had been held by e-mail earlier in the year.

Ron Mertz asked how many people used Community Zero. Approximately four people raised their hands. He explained the high cost of maintaining the site and the small number of people who use it, and stated the Board's decision to stop funding Community Zero after the end of 2006. In the future the plan is to have a portion of the WAA site devoted to discussion.

Richard Lyons summarized his efforts to obtain tax-exempt status for the WAA, which was successful, although he was unable to obtain non-profit mailing rates for the newsletter because the classification we have with the IRS for tax exemption is not one which is eligible for non-profit mailing rates with the Post Office.

There was a question from the floor about the possibility of e-mailing the newsletter. Margie Takoch stated that it would be possible, but she doesn't want to do it herself because of the extra effort involved. There is also the problem of keeping up-to-date with members' e-mail addresses.

The membership applauded Margie for all her work on the newsletter.

Ron Mertz asked if anyone wanted to talk about state organizations. Douglas Bassett reported on progress in New York. Linda Brundage reported that divisions of the New York organization compete amongst themselves. Gary Fogelman summed up the state of affairs in Pennsylvania, where the organization hopes to imitate the competitive practices of New York. He summarized the efforts in Pennsylvania to legalize the atlatl for hunting. The game commission was in favor, but concerns arose about public image. Although things look good, it is unknown when the issue will be resolved. Len Riemersma reported on efforts in Wisconsin to legalize the atlatl. Ron Mertz summarized the successful effort to legalize it in Missouri. Although there is no desire to see the WAA become mainly a hunting organization, that aspect of atlatl use should not be ignored.

Ron Mertz announced that the meeting location for 2008 would be Valley of Fire, Nevada. Douglas Bassett said a few words about plans for the 2007 meeting in New York.

Richard Lyons announced that many Board positions will be open in 2007 and that members should consider running. Ron Mertz reminded everyone that with the honor of being on the Board comes responsibility.

Anita Lukes thanked Ron Mertz for his leadership during the past two years.

Douglas Bassett proposed to establish a cup to honor top ISAC records, to be called the Keefer Cup. This cup would go to men scoring 95 and above, and a comparable cup would be established for women. Douglas Bassett will find out the expense involved for these cups and report at the next meeting.

Mary Riemersma asked how many mail-in votes had been received. Anita Lukes said that none had come from Europe, but that some had come from people who were attending the meeting in person and some from members who were absent.

There was a brief discussion of the nominations process.

Frank Takoch asked if grant money was available to the WAA.

Ron Mertz declared the meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Courtney Birkett
WAA Executive Secretary

October 16, 2006