

The Society for Pennsylvania Archaeology, Inc.

Board of Directors DuBois, PA

Minutes April 11, 2025

Call to Order—The meeting was called to order at 6:07 pm. with president Chuck Williams presiding. A quorum was present. Attendance attached.

Minutes—The minutes of the last Board of Directors meeting were accepted as distributed on a motion entered by Amanda Valko, Seconded by Kurt Carr. PASSED

Treasurer's Report—Ken Burkett presented an oral and written treasurer's report. The treasurer's report was accepted on a motion entered by Roger Moeller, seconded by John Nass. PASSED See below

The 2024 SPA Annual Finance Report ended with and income of \$39,425.43 and expenses of \$27,217.87 producing a profit of \$12,207.56

Ending Balances included	Checking =	25,048.24
	Savings =	20007.03
	CD =	<u>30127.79</u>
	Total Assets =	75,183.06

The 2024 IRS statement was filed, and all 2024 sales taxes reports and payments are complete.

Bonding for the Treasurer is current through 2025.

Current assets as of March 31st consist of	Checking	\$ 32,672.44
	Savings	\$ 20,007.03
	CD	<u>\$ 30,135.38</u>
Total current assets =		\$82,814.85

Current encumbered funds include: Cowin Fund - 985.53

Keystone Grant = 6586.57 (1/2 which will be reimbursable upon expenditure)

As of this report, the SPA membership currently includes:

67 Life Members

190 Individuals

40 Family

22 Sustaining

6 Students

37 Institutions

2025.3 Financial Report Attached along with the anticipated 2025 budget

Old Business

Financial: Elmer Erb Permanent Fund Report/Elmer Erb Research Grant Program—Chair Kurt Carr presented an oral and written report. See below:

Elmer Erb Permanent Fund, first quarter report, April 1, 2025

For the first quarter, the fund grew by \$1862.79, for a total value of \$124,062.02. Considering the record-breaking drop in the stock market, this is very good.

There was one application for the Elmer Erb Research Grant. It is being revised and will be reconsidered. Respectively, Kurt W. Carr

**Elmer Erb Permanent Fund – April 1, 2025 report
Activity for 1/1/25 –4/1/2025**

Balance as of 1/1/2025

Mutual Funds

Macquarie High Yield Opportunities Fund	\$20,464.99
Macquarie Value Fund	\$28,812.03
T. Rowe Price Equity Fund	<u>\$55,026.68</u>
Mutual funds total	\$104,303.70

Certificates of Deposit

Citizen's Bank 3 yr. CD – 3% (matures 2/11/26)	\$6551.11
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Checking Account

Citizens account	<u>\$11,344.42</u>
Total	\$122,199.23

Balance as of 3/31/25

Mutual Funds

Macquarie High Yield Opportunities Fund	\$20,176.79
Macquarie Value Fund	\$28,786.48
T. Rowe Price Equity Fund	<u>\$57,202.90</u>
Mutual funds total	\$106,166.17

Certificates of Deposit

Citizen's Bank 3 yr. CD – 3% (matures 2/11/26)	\$6551.43
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Checking Account

Citizens account	<u>\$11,344.42</u>
Total	\$124,062.02

Elmer Erb Permanent Fund, annual report, December 31, 2024

Despite expenditures of \$4329.50, the fund grew by \$2394.93 in 2024 for a total value of \$122,199.23. Our mutual funds were performing very well, so in April, \$25,000 was moved from our checking account into mutual funds. After the election, some of them dropped significantly.

- The Elmer Erb Permanent Fund was able to support two carbon 14 awards totaling \$399.50.
- There were no applications for the Elmer Erb Research Grant, Respectively, Kurt W. Carr

Elmer Erb Permanent Fund – annual report, December 31, 2024.

Activity for 1/1/24 –12/31/2024

Beginning balance as of 1/1/2024

Mutual Funds

Delaware High Yield Opportunities Fund	\$19,524.84
Delaware Value Fund	\$12,497.17
T. Rowe Price Equity Fund	<u>\$40,559.39</u>
Mutual funds total	\$72,581.40

Certificates of Deposit

Citizen's Bank 3 yr. CD – 3% (matures 2/11/26)	\$6548.98
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Checking Account

Citizens account	<u>\$40,673.92</u>
Total	\$119,804.30

Transactions and Activity in 2024

3/12/24	check - General fund for 2023 68 Lifetime Members	-\$2040.00
4/10/24	transfer from checking to Delaware Value Fund	+\$15,000.00
4/10/24	transfer from checking to T. Rowe Price	+\$10,000.00
4/13/24	check – General fund for 2024 63 Lifetime Members	-\$1890.00
4/14/24	check – John Nass, Carbon 14 award,	-\$225.00
9/2/24	check – Francis Dorrance Chapter, Carbon 14 award	-\$174.50

Ending balance as of 12/31/2024

Mutual Funds

Delaware High Yield Opportunities Fund	\$20,464.99
Delaware Value Fund	\$28,812.03
T. Rowe Price Equity Fund	<u>\$55,026.68</u>
	\$104,303.70

Certificates of Deposit

Citizen's Bank 3 yr. CD – 3% (matures 2/11/26)	\$6551.11
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Checking Account

Citizens account	<u>\$11,344.42</u>
Total	\$122,199.23

The annual earnings outcome was better than expected in light of the volatility of the stock market investments. No applications for the Erb Research Grant although there have been inquiries. More advertisement is needed and perhaps a change of deadlines and application cycles. The report was filed.

Grants/Scholarships, Dlutowski Memorial Committee, etc. Discussion—the ongoing discussion of how to simplify the application process, advertise and follow to completion has reached a volume that requires action. Suggestions have been received for Pam Billman, Ben Ford and others. The President has appointed **Pam Billman** as chair of a committee to revise the process and advise the board of a method of advertising to appropriate audiences, i.e. students, chapter members, etc. as well as how to devise an easier timeline and deadlines.

Annual Meeting Committee—2025 DuBois, PA/2026—Carlisle is a likely choice for the 2026 meeting except for the room rate being high at \$161.00/night. Janet will try to investigate a Penn State location as well as try to negotiate the Carlisle room rate. More information will come soon. 2027 will be back at DuBois. Thanks to the committee for ensuring that Annual Meetings continue to happen as scheduled.

Archaeology Month Committee/posters were completed by PAC this year and are available to be distributed to chapters now. The cost of postage is such that picking up the chapter supply her will be a savings. Amanda has 1,000 posters. Contact her for additional supplies or event quantities.

Awards Committee—Awards are prepared and ready for the Awards Banquet presentations.

Education Committee—the poster session has 7 entries all from Indiana University of Pennsylvania. The session will be held Saturday afternoon with prizes announced and awarded at the banquet.

ESAF Representative Report—Amanda Valko reported: The 2024 ESAF annual meeting was held November 7 – 10, 2024 at Salve Regina University Antone Academic Center, 56 Lawrence Avenue, Newport RI 02840. It was a Joint Conference of the Noreen Stonor Drexel Cultural and Historic Preservation Program and The Eastern States Archaeological Federation. I did not attend this annual meeting but did attend the board meeting via Zoom.

The 2025 ESAF 92nd annual meeting will be held November 13 – 16, 2025 at the Fort William Henry Conference Center in Lake George, NY. Room rates are \$160.00 + tax per night for Thursday, Friday and Saturday. Reservations must be made by October 14, 2025 to qualify for these rates. There were no tours listed yet on the ESAF website. The Call for Papers is posted on the web site. Registration for general attendees is \$50 and \$5 for students with current student ID. Registrations can be done via PayPal or snail mail.

ESAF journal AENA Vol. 52 (2024) was delivered to the printer on October 8, 2024 and the printer started mailing them as of October 20, 2024. Printing costs have been reduced since switching to a new printer in 2022. Current officers are President Zachary Singer, President-Elect Mandy Ranslow, Treasurer Tim Abel, Recording Secretary is open and Corresponding Secretary Martha Potter-Otto. Prior Recording Secretary Richard Doyle passed away.

There were no Louis Brennan Award or Ronald A. Thomas Award applications for 2024 which were suspended as an ESAF fiscal measure for several years and re-opened at the Board Meeting in 2023. The Louis Brennan Award is a monetary grant given to a society member to assist in the cost of a professional publication. The Ronald A. Thomas award is a monetary grant for editing and preparation of a substantive cultural resources management report in a format suitable for publication in AENA.

ESAF has approximately 150 members as of November 2024.

Field School Support—SPA/PAC—No action.

Keystone Grants/Petroglyph Projects Update—Ken Burkett—The project is due for completion in September 2025. Fieldwork is complete but the updating will be continual and Ken and Brian will continue to work until they are satisfied. The project report will be presented at the banquet.

Nominating Committee—President Angie Jaillett-Wentling

1st Vice President—Ben Ford

2nd Vice President TBD—Nomination from the floor, Amy Covell-Murthy

Treasurer—Kenneth Burkett
Secretary TBD—no nomination.
2 Directors (6 year term)—Noel Strattan
Kim Sebestyen

PAC Representative Report—Paul Raber sent a written report:

- PAC will again hold a CRM Expo on Friday evening at the April 2025 joint PAC/SPA meeting in DuBois.
- PAC hopes to work with the SPA to develop an archeological training program for SPA members. The ad hoc committee dealing with this issue initially considered a certification program modeled on those in Virginia and elsewhere but has decided that certification is unworkable. Jonathan Burns and the committee (Sarah Neusius, Casey Hanson, Amy Covell-Murthy, Paul Raber) met in late October and reviewed the information available from Virginia participants and others and has subsequently solicited comments and advice from SPA chapters and individual members. Critical issues include: (1) SPA participation and acceptance, (2) assuring adequate commitments by professionals to the mentoring needs, (3) NAGPRA implications for the handling of collections. The ad hoc committee has worked with the symposium committee to organize a roundtable discussion at the Friday afternoon spring meeting.
- PAC is considering a proposed constitutional amendment to streamline the membership approval process by requiring Executive Board approval of decisions only in cases of non-unanimity of the Membership and Ethics Committee. The amendment has been presented for a vote by the membership.
- PAC approved the allocation of a \$500 budget surplus to the Diversity and Equity Scholarship Fund to underwrite access to archaeological education for a broader population. The goal is \$10,000 and contributions are welcomed. Contact Seth Mitchell.

Pennsylvania Archaeologist, Editor—Roger Moeller reporting:
Pennsylvania Archaeologist For Year 2024

Issue 94(1) for Spring 2024 appeared on time.
Issue 94(2) for Fall 2024 appeared on time.
Issue 95(1) for Spring 2025 is at the printer.
For the first time a completed article is ready for the next issue, 95(2) for Fall 2025

The ms flow continues to be steady.

Sarah Neusius is a very active Book Review editor with a small, but steady stream of reviews.

Roger will be resigning in a year. A new editor and webmaster are needed before that time.

PHMC Marker Committee—Update—Ken Burkett reports that the markers are ready and being delivered although the Sheep Rock marker committee has not been notified of the markers availability or shipment. Dedications will be coming once the markers are ready and in place. New nominations of Pennsylvania archaeological sites are being accepted.

Publications—Paul Raber reporting: The PAC Symposium and Publications Committee has organized a roundtable discussion for the Spring 2025 Friday session on archaeological training programs (see above).

There has been no progress to date on organizing other symposia or editing and publishing the papers from the 2024 symposium on Pennsylvania's moving frontier in the 18th century.

Site Survey—2024 Site report is available for download on the state's SHPO website.

SPA Field Trip 2025—Information on the SPA trip to the Southwest is available on the SPA website and has been distributed to chapters and contacts. Deadline for registration is May 15th.

Website /Web Sales—Roger Moeller reporting:
WEB TRANSACTIONS REPORT FULLYEAR 2024

Rock Art CD	\$24.91
Paper Back Issue Sales	770.96
PDF Back issue sales	943.90
Hopewell Tour	1,350.00

Memberships	3083.00
Annual Meeting	5,540.00
Donations	250.00
Total PayPal Transactions	\$11,962.77

Web site
Total page views: 60,896
Average page views per day is 167.

The most popular pages are Annual meeting, Chapters, Publications
Most likely place (78%) visitors come from are Direct address, Bookmark, or Link in email.
About 16% of the visitors come from search engines.

Outside links are 3.4% with Facebook and PHMC topping the list.

The most popular downloads are:
Summer Field Trip
Historic Markers

Length of stay: 89% were under 30 seconds.
Stays of more than 60 minutes: .2%

Workshops in Archaeology—2025—Meadowcroft and State Museum Workshop information is not available.

New Business:

SPA table Runners for outreach events—The Treasurer will look into having a few SPA banners produced to be lent out for chapter events. Prices in the past have ranged between \$30-\$50.

Archaeological Training Program—Paul Raber and PAC are still working on the program. More information will be forthcoming.

SAA correspondence—Request for Donations—there is no support for donations to SAA at this time.

SAA Ethics Guidelines/Ethics Committee—Action deferred. The SPA has no way to enforce perceived breeches of ethics in archaeology. There is no method in place of judging the ethical behavior of others which might be purely subjective without a clear right of wrong.
It was agreed that a review of the constitution was in order with a mission to bring into compliance the directions of the constitution and actions with the word of the constitution.

Discussion for the good of the Society:

Angie Jailett-Wentling reported that the Education Committee would be working on the poster session to include a display for non student posters as well as student posters.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:50 pm. on a motion entered by Kurt Carr, seconded by John Nass. PASSED

Respectfully submitted,

Judy M. Duritsa
Secretary, SPA