Southwestern Historical Association

Business Meeting, October 12, 2018

Orlando, Florida

Minutes

1. Meeting was called to order at 5 pm by SWHA President Jeffry Hankins.
2. Minutes from 2016 Meeting (Austin, Texas)
   1. Motion to approve minutes—Eddie Weller (seconded by Shelly Lemons)
   2. Minutes APPROVED
3. History Program Chair Report: Rowly Brucken
   1. History had 18 submissions, 15 were accepted to the program
   2. 1-2 went into the Interdisciplinary panels
   3. The remaining 15 papers and the film showing of “The Battle of Algiers” made up the History Program for the 2018 meeting.
   4. For the future
      1. More sessions with fewer papers would be ideal. For example, one session this time had four papers presented, and that was too many.
      2. Undergraduate papers were on this year’s program, and they went quite well.
      3. There were few if any cancellations or no shows this year.
      4. The program was small, but the quality was good.
4. SSSA Executive Council Report: Jeffery Hankins
   1. Geography will join in the Austin 2020 meeting
      1. Geography used to be an affiliate group, but they are not anymore.
      2. Likely that in about two years, they will be back as an affiliate.
      3. Projected to bring about 150 additional participants to the annual SSSA meeting.
   2. Experient
      1. Being used to help plan the annual meeting
      2. They are a company that looks at sites in selected cities on behalf of the organization.
      3. Seems to be going well. SSSA is getting more hotel bids in selected cities.
      4. There is no cost to the SSSA for this service. Instead, hotel corporations pay them for their work.
   3. MIT Press discounts are available for SSSA members of 30% off.
   4. Overall conference numbers are way down this year.
      1. About half of the total numbers in Austin
      2. Moving away from base areas (TX, OK, LA, etc) have hurt conference attendance.
      3. \*Florida is NOT in the southwest.
   5. Recruitment
      1. International Relations has people who work year-round, even if not in officer positions, to promote and recruit to the meeting. There’s a core of people who always do that, and it shows as their numbers are the best looking of all the affiliates.
      2. 2019 is in San Diego, so there should be recruitment at California, particularly Southern California, schools.
   6. 2020 in Austin will be the 100th meeting, so History should make a BIG push that year anyway.
      1. Recruitment and CFP
         1. Eddie Weller will plan to recruit Texas schools for the 2020 meeting in Austin.
         2. Another target group will be Honors Programs and PTK organizations
         3. Community Colleges is another area for outreach and recruitment
         4. Steve Sewell will draft an email and CFP that others can also use
      2. The SWHA will offer support for presenters to attend the conference. (\* See Old Business in these minutes.)
   7. SSQ
      1. Journal of SSSA is now completely online.
      2. It is healthy, and gets more submissions than they could publish in the paper format.
      3. They will now be publishing 8-10 issues a year with the online only format.
      4. There will be a quick turnaround time for submission/acceptance/publication. The estimate is about 28-30 days, and authors will be able to track the process electronically.
   8. The SSSA Website
      1. The look and design is much better. It is welcoming and visually attractive.
      2. We can add affiliate information by sending it to SSSA Jeff Justice, Communications Director.
         1. A Past Presidents list should be added. Eddie Weller will work on the list at least back to 1985.
         2. The SWHA minutes (that have been approved) should be posted on the website.
         3. Highlights as “current news” from the most recent meeting can also be added.
   9. SSSA is looking for volunteers
      1. Review of Procedures
         1. following the move from Texas to Oklahoma for tax purposes.
         2. Need to review language in documents to make sure it matches
         3. Craig Walker is in charge of this.
         4. Jeffry Hankins has expressed interest in volunteering for this.
      2. Update to Privacy Policy
         1. Jeff Justice is likely in charge and would be the contact.
         2. If interested, let SWHA officer know.
   10. Budget and Finance Committee—Sharon Sewell
       1. Fees will increase for professionals next year by $5.
       2. Membership fee will be $70
       3. Conference registration will be $85
       4. \*However, rates will not increase for 2019 for students
   11. Site Policy Committee—Kale Haywood
       1. San Diego hotel rates will be $199
       2. After that, hotel rates will be $239-$249 per night at next several locations.
       3. Future Meeting sites
          1. San Diego—Manchester Grand Hyatt, Oct 31-Nov 2, 2019
          2. Austin—Hyatt Regency, Oct 29-31, 2020
          3. New Orleans—The Monteleone, Oct 7-9, 2021
          4. San Antonio—Hyatt Regency, Oct 6-8, 2022
          5. Fort Worth—The Omni, Oct 26-28, 2023
   12. Resolutions—Jeff Hankins
       1. No resolutions were brought forward.
   13. Membership—Steven Sewell
       1. No report
   14. Editorial Policies—Shelly Lemons
       1. See the SSQ report above
   15. Nominations—Eddie Weller
       1. Three nominees for the At-Large Vice President spot were interviewed.
       2. Israel \_(?)\_ from International Relations was selected.
5. Treasurer’s Report: Alex D’Erizans
   1. The affiliate is not spending much.
   2. We did not award paper prizes at the last two meetings.
   3. We did not have a reception in Austin.
   4. We did co-host with Women and Gender Studies for 2018 in Orlando. (cost $200-300)
   5. BUT: we did have a loss of almost $2500 due to fraud.
      1. Police have been notified and are investigating,
      2. But not likely that any monies will be recovered.
      3. These scams happen frequently, so the SWHA will need to be vigilant in the future and maintain clear communication between treasurer and officers of expenditures.
6. Election of SWHA Officers for 2019
   1. President
      1. Shelly Lemons nominated Rowly Brucken to serve as 2019 President. (seconded by Kale Haywood)
      2. Nomination accepted and APPROVED. Congratulations, Rowly.
   2. Program Chair
      1. Eddie Weller nominated Sharon Sewell to serve as 2019 Program Chair. (seconded by Steve Sewell)
      2. Nomination accepted and APPROVED. Congratulations, Sharon.
7. Old Business
   1. Motion—The SWHA will award two paper prizes for $200 each beginning in 2019, one for a professional and one for a student who presented at the conference. The funding will come from the SWHA, and the selection of prize winners will come from a paper prize committee comprised of a representative from each of the content areas traditionally recruited for the conference (i.e. US/Canada, Latin America, European, and Asia)—Eddie Weller (seconded by Steven Sewell)
   2. Motion APPROVED.
8. New Business
   1. 501(c)3 status
      1. Was done in hopes of donations to the SWHA journal.
      2. That didn’t happen, and now there is a $400 annual expense associated with this.
      3. SWHA would like to proceed with dropping that 501(c)3 status.
      4. Jeffry Hankins will let Alex D’Erizans know to begin that process.
   2. The SWHA should also consider setting terms for the Treasurer position. Other officer positions have terms; it might be good to consider that for this one, too. Discussion should follow at the 2019 Business meeting.
   3. For 2019, a luncheon for the business meeting. Program Chair will need to add that into the 2019 program.
   4. Keynote speaker for the affiliate?
      1. Could be done on Friday evening instead of the business meeting (if that’s moved to a lunch)
      2. The SWHA can request monetary support from the SSSA for this.
         1. Provide a speaker name, rationale, estimate of expenses as a request.
         2. H.W. Brands (who is in Austin) would be an excellent choice as a keynote.
            1. Scholarship focuses on presidents (2020 is an election year)
            2. He is an engaging speaker (according to Patrick Barr-Melej and Shelly Lemons)
            3. Patrick is willing to contact Brands on behalf of the SWHA.
            4. And Brands may also be willing to do a workshop on the craft of historical writing as well.
   5. The SWHA and SSSA cannot forget about professionals. While recruiting among graduate students is important, it is ALSO important to remember that professional historians are what will keep the affiliate going.
   6. Rowly Brucken invited the members of the SWHA to recognize Jeffry Hankins for his work as the 2018 President.
9. Adjourn
   1. Motion to adjourn by Steve Sewell (seconded by Eddie Weller).
   2. Meeting adjourned at 6 pm.

Minutes recorded and submitted by Shelly Lemons.