The Board of Directors of the Near East Archaeological Society met at the Hilton Atlanta hotel in Atlanta, Georgia on Wednesday, November 18, 2015.

**Vice President Clyde Billington called the meeting to order**

Edwin Yamauchi opened with prayer. Clyde Billington welcomed attendees and made opening remarks.

**Minutes of the 2014 NEAS Board Meeting by Chris Jakway**
- Printed copies were provided to Members who were present.
- Minutes presented by Secretary.

**Treasurer’s Report by Suzanne Lattimer**
- NEAS is in good shape financially and all bills are paid.
- All money received through December 2015 will be a surplus.
- PayPal is available and working well on NEAS website.
- An Administrative Assistant fee of $500.00 was paid in 2014.
- Treasurer’s Report appears below.
## NEAR EAST ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Andrews University  
Berrien Springs, Michigan 49104

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Current Membership</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>121</td>
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### Individuals  
### Institutions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Notes</th>
<th>Completed 2014 Budget</th>
<th>Notes</th>
<th>Current 2015 Budget</th>
<th>Proposed 2016 Budget</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Income/Deposits</td>
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<td>$5,833.60</td>
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<td>Uncommitted Funds</td>
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<td>Yearly Profit/Loss</td>
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Prepared by Suzanne Latimer, NEAS treasurer
Nominating Committee Report by Don McNeeley
- Mark Wilson will be replaced by Boyd Seevers for 2018.
- Nominating Committee Report appears below.

NEAR EAST ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY
Annual Meeting, November 17-19, 2015
Nominating Committee Report

Hilton Atlanta
Atlanta, GA.

Nominating Committee Report: Donald McNeeley
The Nominating Committee offers the following for consideration for affirmation. Most are incumbents, but one is tendered to replace one Class of 2015 member who has requested to be removed.

We have one nomination presented for the Publications Committee Chair and another one to replace.

- The Executive Committee has set these conditions as determinants for renewal of Class participation: willingness to serve actively, NEAS dues paid up to date and attendance at the meetings at least once in three years.
- The Nominating Committee herewith designates the Class of 2015 as the Class of 2018 pending Membership approval.

NEAS OFFICER CANDIDATES & Chairs 2013/2014

President: Charles Aling
Vice President: Clyde Billington
Secretary: Chris Jakway
Treasurer: Suzanne Lattimer
Program Chair: Don McNeeley
Publications Committee Chair: James Borland
Nominating Committee Chair: Don McNeeley

Nominees:

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Class of 2016
Doug Petrovich Randal Price
Gordon Franz Paul Ray
Chris Jakway Robert. W. Smith
Henry Smith Merilyn Copland
Donald McNeeley
Class of 2017
John D. Wineland
Edwin Yamauchi
Efrain Velazquez II
Sara Fudge
Seth Rodriguez
Charles Aling
Adeeb F. Mickahail
Gary Byers
R. Adam Dodd

Class of 2018
Suzanne Lattimer
Clyde Billington
David Graves
Boyd Seevers
Steve Collins
Bryant Wood
David Chapman
Eric Mitchell
S. Cameron Coyle

Tenures for Officers
President & Vice President: three years with possible re-appointment for an additional three years
Secretary: five years
Treasurer: no stipulated length of term due to need for a steady and reliable address

Committee Chairs:
Program Chair: no stipulated length of term
Nominating Committee Chair: three years with renewal
Publications Committee Chair: no stipulated length of term

Charles Aling, President: nominated, 2013
Clyde Billington, Vice President: nominated, 2013
Chris Jakway, Secretary: nominated, 2013
Suzanne Lattimer, Treasurer: nominated, 2011
Don McNeeley, Program Chair: nominated, 2013

Nominating Committee Chair: Don McNeeley, nominated, 2012
Publications Committee Chair: James A. Borland
Publications Committee Member: Terry Hofecker

NEAS EDITORS
TBD, Chair-- Publication Committee
Near East Archaeological Society Bulletin
Paul Ray, Editor; Sara Fudge, Associate Editor
Near East Archaeological Society Newsletter: Artifax
Gordon Govier, Editor

The Nominating Committee would like to invite your suggestions for eligible Board candidates to be considered for the Near East Archaeological Society in the future. A candidate needs to be a member of the NEAS and willing to sign the Society’s Statement of Faith. If you have a suggestion for a candidate, please send the following information to Donald McNeeley.
Don McNeeley
don@cbrgroup.org

Near East Archaeological Society Bulletin Editor’s Report by Paul Ray
- The upcoming issue of the NEAS Bulletin Volume 60 is ready and will be sent to members soon.
- This issue features three articles.
- Paul Ray resigned as NEAS Bulletin editor (letter appears below).
- Edwin Yamauchi thanked Paul Ray for his seventeen years of service as editor of the NEAS Bulletin.
- Clyde Billington stressed the importance of getting book reviews done within six months for publication.
- The Table of Contents for Volume 60 appears below.
Letter from Paul Ray

Dear NEASB Board of Directors:

After 15+ years of housing both the NEASB editorial offices and the NEAS subscription services, we at the Institute of Archaeology at Andrews University/the Horn Archaeological Museum respectfully ask that we be relieved of these responsibilities.

Specifically, I am asking that the current issue of NEASB (vol. 60, 2015), which is almost finished, be the last one that I edit, and that the NEAS subscription service be terminated as soon as possible, when another venue is found.

In terms of my own reasons, my responsibilities have changed significantly in the last couple of years, with considerably more teaching and graduate dissertations and theses committees, as well as the fact that Institute of Archaeology has been moving into a heavy publication mode in terms of our excavation projects, and so there is a need to refocus our energies in other directions.

In addition, I have had some health-related issues in the last couple of years or so which has complicated things a bit. Although I have tried to push forward with the editorial responsibilities under the current circumstances for the last couple of years, the pressure of doing so is making life overly stressful, and I fear the consequences of continuing to do so.

Therefore, I ask that at this week’s board meeting, alternate arrangements be seriously pursued.

I have sincerely enjoyed my involvement with the editing of the journal for all these years and hope that God will continue to bless both the society and the journal as it moves into its next phase of existence.

Sincerely

Paul Ray
Vice President Clyde Billington gave Editor Gordon Govier’s Report on *Artifax*

- *Artifax* continues to grow at a rate of around twenty-five readers per year.
- *Artifax* is in good shape financially.
- The advertisement in *Biblical Archaeology Review* led to ten new subscriptions to *Artifax*.
- Gordon Govier was acknowledged for his fine work as Editor of *Artifax*.

Program Chair Report by Don McNeeley

- The ETS theme for 2016 meeting in San Antonio is “The Trinity.”
- One possible NEAS theme mentioned for next year was archaeology relating to acts of worship.
- Contact Don McNeeley for suggesting an idea for next year.
NEAS New Business
- NEAS Board of Directors decided to allocate $500.00 – 750.00 for a special speaker at the annual meeting, and an additional $500.00 for a student dig scholarship.
- Douglas Petrovich will chair a committee, which will include Boyd Seegers, Edwin Yamauchi and Clyde Billington, to evaluate applications for student dig scholarships.
- Requirements for scholarship recipients will include NEAS membership, the submission of an article to NEAS Bulletin or Artifax for publication, and/or attendance at the annual meeting to present a paper.
- Clyde Billington announced that he wrote a history of the Maccabees for a Messianic Jewish group, and an Orthodox Jewish group appreciated it and plan to distribute it to their people.

Excavation Report by Bryant Wood
- The Khirbet el-Maqatir dig is endorsed by NEAS.
- Scarabs found at the site closely parallel Amenhotep II scarabs.
- The political situation in the West Bank has made it necessary to cancel the December 2015 dig.
- The May-June 2016 dig at Khirbet el-Maqatir remains uncertain at this time.
- The Associates for Biblical Research team has been invited to excavate at Shiloh as an alternative.

Vice President Clyde Billington closed the meeting
- Bryant Wood closed in prayer.

Minutes by Chris Jakway, Secretary
Send corrections of minutes to jakwayc@kellogg.edu