

2020 NEAS Board of Directors Meeting

The Board of Directors of the Near East Archaeological Society met virtually over Zoom on Wednesday, November 18, 2020.

- Board Members in Attendance:
 - Gary Beyers, Clyde Billington, Adam Dodd, Mark Hassler, Ralph Hawkins, Suzanne Lattimer, Chris McKinny, Donald McNeeley, Douglas Petrovich, Randall Price, Chet Roden, Seth Rodriguez, Robert Smith, Scott Stripling, Boyd Seevers, and Tom Vann.
- Others in Attendance:
 - Melody Bogle, Rex Geissler, Gordon Govier, Chris Jakway, Steven Rudd, and Charles Savelle.

Call to Order

- President Clyde Billington called the meeting to order.
- Vice President Scott Stripling opened with prayer.
- Clyde Billington welcomed attendees and made opening remarks.

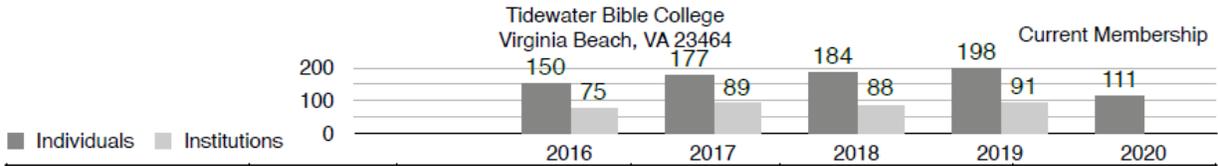
Minutes of 2019 NEAS Board Meeting by Seth Rodriguez

- Printed copies (prepared by Chris Jakway, 2018 Secretary) were provided to board members who were present.
- Motion to accept by Boyd Seevers.
 - Seconded by Randall Price.
 - Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report by Suzanne Lattimer

- There has been no change in the financial status of the society. The society is currently financially sound. In fact, the society saved money this year because the conference was held virtually instead of in person.
- The specific numbers of the Treasurer's Report were not presented at the meeting but were supplied later. They are reproduced below.

NEAR EAST ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY



Activity	Notes	Completed 2019 Budget	Notes	Completed 2020 Budget	Proposed 2021 Budget
Beginning Balance	Jan. 1, 2020	\$28,349.32	Jan. 1, 2020	\$21,928.29	
Income/Deposits		\$3,892.26		\$6,077.04	
Interest		\$2.86		\$1.66	
Expenditures		\$7,114.55		\$6,577.11	\$6,305.00
Obligations - NEASB		0	(paid out in 2021)	\$0.00	\$1,500.00
Obligations - Artifax		\$2,152.36		\$2,202.34	\$2,200.00
Bank Fees		\$0.00		\$0.00	\$0.00
Miscellaneous		\$1750.00	Moving	\$3985.89	\$250.00
Program Expenses	booth & honorarium	\$2,037.44		\$0.00	\$600.00
Web hosting		\$174.75		\$174.75	\$175.00
Administration	Asst, editor, agent	\$500.00		\$729.87	\$1,080.00
Student Scholarship		\$500.00		\$500.00	\$500.00
Uncommitted Funds					\$15,123.22
Yearly Profit/Loss		-\$3,222.29		-\$500.07	
Current Balance		\$25,127.03		\$21,428.22	

Prepared by Suzanne Lattimer, NEAS treasurer

Nominating Committee Report by Mark Hassler

- The Class of 2023 for the Board of Directors will be the same as 2020 with only a few changes:
 - William Attaway and Sara Fudge no longer continuing to serve.
 - Chris McKinney added to this class.
- Efain Velazquez and Adeeb Mickahail expressed a desire to continue to serve, however they have not met the qualification of attending at least two of the last three meetings.
 - Velazquez was in unable to participate in one meeting due to a hurricane.
 - Mickahail was unable to attend the current meeting due to an unreliable internet connection.
- Motion to make an exception and allow Velazquez and Mickahail to continue to serve by Clyde Billington.
 - Seconded by Donald McNeeley.
 - Motion passed.
- Scott Stripling wanted the following entered into the meeting minutes: Stripling warned the board to be careful about going down a “slippery slope” by making exceptions for board members who do not meet all of the qualifications. Those qualifications were put in place for a reason.

- Clyde Billington noted the warning, but decided to treat this meeting a “neutral” year regarding attendance due to the unusual circumstances caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The full Nominating Committee Report appears below.

Annual Report of the Nominating Committee

Near East Archaeological Society
Online National Meeting, November 16–20, 2020

Prepared by the Chair of the Nominating Committee
Mark Hassler (mhassler@vbts.edu)

Board of Directors

The executive committee established three conditions for renewal of board membership: willingness to serve actively, payment of society membership fees, and attendance of at least two of the last three meetings. The nominating committee recommends the following names for the Class of 2023.

<i>Class of 2021</i>	<i>Class of 2022</i>	<i>Class of 2023</i>
Clyde Billington	Donald McNeeley	Gary Byers
David Chapman	Doug Petrovich	Adam Dodd
Steve Collins	Randal Price	Mark Hassler
Suzanne Lattimer	Robert Smith	Ralph Hawkins
Eric Mitchell	Scott Stripling	Chris McKinny
Chet Roden		Adeeb Mickahail
Boyd SeEVERS		Seth Rodriguez
Tom Vann		Efraín Velázquez
John Wineland		

Executive Officers and Chairs

President: Clyde Billington—term expires in 2022; ineligible for a second term
 Vice President: Scott Stripling—term expires in 2022; eligible for a second term
 Secretary: Seth Rodriguez—term expires in 2024; eligible for a second term
 Treasurer: Suzanne Lattimer
 Program Chair: Don McNeeley
 Nominating Committee Chair: Mark Hassler—term expires in 2022; eligible for a second term
 Publications Committee Chair: James Borland

Near East Archaeological Society Bulletin

Editor: Chris McKinny
 Editorial Board: James Borland (Chair), Sara Fudge, Eugene Merrill, Rodger Young

Near East Archaeological Society Newsletter: *Artifax*

Editor: Gordon Govier

Term Limits for Executive Officers and Chairs

President and Vice President: three-year term; eligible for a second term

Secretary: five-year term; eligible for a second term

Treasurer: term length not stipulated due to need for steady banking

Program Chair: term length not stipulated

Nominating Committee Chair: three-year term; eligible for a second term

Publications Committee Chair: term length not stipulated

***Near East Archaeological Society Bulletin* Report by Chris McKinny, Editor**

- The NEAS website was revised, but the society needs someone to manage it.
- McKinny requested information on how to get previous publications of the society on the website. Suggested that PDFs of past publications be made available.
- The following points on the state of the *Bulletin* were noted by McKinney:
 - Next issue will be released before the end of the year.
 - Considerations are being made to send out a PDF of the *Bulletin* to members.
 - This year there were six paper submissions. Three were accepted. Two of those will appear in the 2020 volume.
 - The peer reviews for the *Bulletin* are being conducted by Israeli scholars.
 - There are already a few papers in the pipeline for next year.
 - The society should consider publishing multiple volumes.
- Don McNeely stated that we need check our agreement with Logos Bible Software to see if we are allowed to send a PDF of the *Bulletin* to members.
- Scott Stripling urged the all the board members to promote the *Bulletin* in our areas of influence.
- Doug Petrovich expressed gratitude to McKinney for his work on the website and the *Bulletin*.
- The *NEAS Bulletin* report appears below.

2020 NEASB Report from editor Chris McKinny

Updated website:

<https://neasociety.wordpress.com/> - has not gone "live" yet still needs updated payment information/paypal. The website is currently "free" but if we want to switch it to .org or something else we will need to setup a plan. I understand that there are funds for the website. I recommend that we finish the process of moving over NEAS, as well as the details of NEASB to this website.

Journal release plans:

2020 NEASB is planned for release before the end of the year. I suggest that we think about sending out a pdf of the journal to all NEAS members (or perhaps put it behind a pay-wall) as soon as each issue goes to press.

Journal submissions:

Overall, we had six papers submitted for publication. Several scholars reached out about possible submissions (e.g., Michael Grisanti on a survey of the dating of the patriarchs) – some of which will hopefully appear be in next year's volume. Out of this year's submitted papers, three were

accepted. Two of these papers will appear in the 2020 volume – these include: Raviv, Stripling, and Farhi on the Hiding Complex at Khirbet el-Maqatir and Seevers on the Iron Age remains at Khirbet el-Maqatir. Both of these papers include very important archaeological data pertaining to Khirbet el-Maqatir. Seevers' paper is an updated version of a preliminary report published in *In the Highland's Depth* a few years ago. In addition to Stripling, Raviv et al.'s paper is co-authored by two up-and-coming Israeli scholars who are very active in the region. Raviv, in particular, is a rising star in Israeli academia as he already has a position at Bar Ilan University which will likely turn into a professorship. An additional paper by Frankie Snyder on the recycling of Opus Sectile from Herodian palaces (e.g., Jericho) will almost certainly be published in next year's volume – it is currently under review by another scholar (see below) as suggested by the initial reviewer.

Peer review process:

Raviv et al.'s and Seevers papers were peer-reviewed by a single reviewer who is very familiar with the data being published ([Aharon Tavger](#)). Snyder's potential publication was reviewed positively by Dvir Raviv – an expert in second temple archaeology – and it is currently being reviewed by [Orit Peleg-Barkat of Hebrew University](#).

Papers not accepted for publication:

Two papers were rejected for publication by the editor – and another paper was sent back for revisions before resubmission.

***Artifax* Report by Gordon Govier**

- *Artifax* has approximately 500 subscribers. Approximately 250 subscribers are from NEAS, 250 are from the Institute of Archaeology list, and 20 subscriptions are international.
- The Spring and Summer issues were delayed by the post office this year.
- Govier requested suggestions and feedback from the board regarding *Artifax*.
- Govier suggested expanding subscriptions through advertising the publication through tourist companies.
- Suggestion about providing a “Top 10” list every year, which could also help with the website.
- Clyde Billington noted that the publication is growing to the point that it could compete with *Biblical Archaeology Review*.
- Govier invited board members to contact him about setting up an interview on his radio program.

Program Chair Report by Donald McNeeley

- Next year's meeting will be held in Fort Worth, TX.
 - The ETS program theme will be “Wealth & Poverty,” so the NEAS theme will match: “The Archaeology of Wealth & Poverty.”

NEAS Old Business

- None.

NEAS New Business

- Scott Stripling suggested using the archaeological exhibit known as “The World of Jesus” in the NEAS booth in a future year. Estimated cost: \$3,000 (including the booth itself).
- Don McNeely pointed out that the Treasurer Report and the Nominating Committee Report are normally approved by the society’s membership at the annual members meeting, however, there will be no members meeting in 2020.
 - Clyde Billington asked for a motion to approve the Nominating Committee report.
 - Mark Hassler was the first on the motion.
 - Seconded by Don McNeely.
 - Motion passed.

Close of Meeting

- President Clyde Billington closed the meeting.
- Closing prayer by Robert Smith.

Minutes by Seth M. Rodriguez, Secretary
Send corrections of minutes to srodriquez@ccu.edu