Society of Ohio Archivists Council Meeting

Friday, July 7, 2006, Online Computer Library Center (OCLC), Columbus

Members Present: Jane Wildermuth, President; Angela O’Neal, Vice President; Gillian Hill, Secretary; Steve Paschen, Treasurer; Vic Fleischer, Erik Mayer, Mary Manning and Gwen Mayer, Council members; Judy Wiener, past Treasurer and Beth Kattelman, Ohio Archivist. Absent: Judy Cobb, Council member.

President, Jane Wildermuth, called the meeting to order at 10:20 AM, and welcomed everyone. She gave a special welcome to new members Steve and Erik and announced that Judy Cobb, who was on vacation, had been appointed to replace Mary Manning. Mary had been elected as a new Council member at the Spring Annual Meeting, but had submitted her resignation as she has taken a new position with Adelphi University in New York. Everyone wished Mary well in her future endeavors.

Between Meeting Council Actions

Council has dealt with three items of business by electronic mail since the last business meeting.

i) Opposition to the Ohio Supreme Court’s decision in Dann v. Taft

A motion was made by Angela O’Neal, seconded by Gillian Hill and approved by all. The text of the resolution follows:

WHEREAS, democracy requires an informed electorate; and
WHEREAS, the Ohio Supreme Court’s recent ruling in Dann v. Taft denies the public access to many significant records of Ohio’s governor; and
WHEREAS, such a ruling limits Ohioans’ right to know about the decisions and actions of their government; and
WHEREAS, the ruling will result in an incomplete historical record of the actions of Ohio’s government; and
WHEREAS, the Society of Ohio Archivists hears the concerns of archivists, records managers, and members of the Ohio Historical Records Advisory Board;
THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Society of Ohio Archivists expresses profound dismay about this ruling and hopes that this issue will be addressed quickly through legislative action.

ii) Postage for Education Brochure Mailings

Gillian Hill made a motion, seconded by Gwen Mayer to approve expenses of $337.49 for stamps and labels for mailing the Education Committee’s new brochures. The motion was approved by all.

iii) Appointment of new Council Member

Following the resignation of Mary Manning, Jane Wildermuth made a motion to appoint Judy Cobb to replace her on Council. The motion was seconded by Gillian Hill and approved by all.

Program Committee--Spring Meeting 2007

This report was brought forward so that Judy Wiener would not have to stay for the entire Council meeting. Judy announced that the tentative date for the combined MAC/SOA conference is May 2-5, 2007, at The Columbus, a Renaissance Hotel, at 50 North Third Street, Columbus. The contract negotiations are still going on. A draft master schedule has been prepared by the co-chairs with the program committee, a copy of which was distributed. A reception has been tentatively planned for the State House. Other activities and tours are open for ideas and discussion. Steve Towne (the program co-chair), and Tanya Zanish-Belcher (the MAC VP) are coming to Columbus on Monday, July 10 to tour the hotel and discuss the
conference. The MAC local arrangements committee currently has 10 members, all of whom are SOA members, and a few of whom also hold MAC memberships. Judy Cobb has set up a MAC LAC listserv. A meeting of the LAC members is being slatted for late July.

Discussion followed regarding programming and the financial arrangements for the conference. The program has to be at the printers in January of 2007—four months before the conference.

**Secretary’s Report**

Secretary, Gillian Hill, presented the minutes of the February Council meeting, and the April Annual Business meeting. Angela O’Neal made a motion to approve the minutes, which was seconded by Gwen Mayer and approved by all.

**Treasurer’s Report**

Treasurer, Steve Paschen, announced that he would soon be leaving Akron to become the archivist at Kent State University. He then presented his report. He said that he is continuing Judy Wiener’s system. The account will still be with the Huntingdon Bank, but at a different branch. The current account balance for the Society is $6,993.13. Gill then made a motion to approve the Treasurer’s report, which was seconded by Gwen, and approved by all. The full report is attached as an appendix.

**Committee Reports**

i) **Archives Week**

Gillian reported for Chair, Lonna McKinley. She passed around a printout of the poster for 2006. It was designed by the National Afro-American Museum and Central State University, Halle Q. Brown Library. It features a backdrop of Emery Hall at Wilberforce University, with portraits of several notable African Americans in Ohio history. Lonna had been obtaining costs for printing the poster. As it will be in four colors this year, the costs will be higher than the printing costs for the two color 2005 poster. Gill made a motion, seconded by Gwen, to approve an increase of around $250.00 for this year’s printing costs. The motion was approved. Angela said that if the poster was to be larger than last year’s, the shipping costs would also increase. Gill would find out. Jane was unsure whether WSU would be able to do the bulk mailing this year. Gwen suggested that Steve find out, when he got to Kent State, whether the SOA student chapter there might be able to help with stuffing envelopes, and dealing with the mailing.

ii) **Awards Committee**

Gwen said that there had been an error in the spelling of Merit Award winner Mark Leff’s name on the plaque. Jane will get an address from Doug McCabe to which the new plaque should be sent.

iii) **Education Committee**

Departing Co-Chair, Mary Manning, said that Christine Schmidt will become the sole Chair of the committee, and that Eric Mayer will be the liaison to Council. Mary had brought the new brochures with her for mailing. Angela has been working on compiling a super database out of various mailing lists used by the OHS to be used for SOA’s purposes. There would be a short list of just SOA members, and a longer one to include other names for mass mailings.

A new class has been added to the list of offerings of the Education Committee—Corporate 101. Charlie Arp will be presenting it prior to the SAA meeting.

iv) **Nominating Committee**
Angela announced that the nominating committee is not yet in season! As she will in all likelihood be a candidate for President next year and, according to our by-laws, a member of the nominating committee cannot be included on the proposed slate, Jane appointed Erik to be the new Chair of the committee.

v) Website Committee

Vic Fleischer, Chair of the committee, said that he has been updating the website, including the Council page, and encouraged Council members to take a look at it to make sure the information is correct. The most recent Ohio Archivist has been posted. Vic reported that there are other members interested in being on the committee, but he was looking for new projects for them to work on. Angela suggested an online Archives Week exhibit. Gwen asked whether we could obtain user statistics for the site. Angela said that she can produce some reports and will do one for last year’s usage. Angela also told Vic that she would put the new membership list on the website as a PDF file and will update it each year after the membership drive.

vi) Program Committee

Fall 2006—Gwen said that the basic arrangements for the Fall meeting have been made. She made a motion for Council to approve a budget. She estimated expenses at $1,300.00. Gill seconded the motion, which carried. Gwen that she would like to have approximately 50 attendees. She has a speaker, Dr. Karen Gracey, who is to talk on DACS, a location—the Hudson Library, and a tentative date of September 18. A complication is that the Cleveland Roundtable, who might otherwise contribute to the costs, has a meeting of their own scheduled for September 19 at Oberlin. Gwen will try to change the date for our meeting to September 25, but is not sure that will work for the speaker.

Beth Kattelman asked whether in the future we might be able to arrange for the Kent State students to receive one credit hour for attending one of our workshops. Steve also suggested the possibility of getting ACA credit too.

vii) Membership Committee

Steve said that he hasn’t worked on the membership yet. He first needed the database membership list. There was some discussion about what should go into the new membership brochure, which has yet to be printed. It wouldn’t be necessary, however, to have the new brochure ready before the dues renewal notice is sent out. This could be done online, and could also advertise the Fall workshop and the joint MAC/SOA Spring 2007 meeting.

Ohio Archivist

Beth said that it had been an experiment to publish the Ohio Archivist after the Spring meeting rather than before the meeting. She asked for feedback. The response was positive, so she will continue to do it this way. The next publication will therefore be after the Fall meeting and Archives Week, probably in late October. Beth said that the scholarship winner is to write an article for the Fall issue, the deadline for which will be at the end of Archives Week—October 13. Beth concluded by thanking everyone who had helped with the last issue by writing conference session reports.

Old Business

List serv or blog?—Angela initiated a discussion as to whether Council should communicate by list serv or blog. It was agreed that a list should continue to be used for Council business, so that we could receive information by e-mail, rather than by checking the blog, but that we would continue the blog that had been set up for general archives discussions and Vic could create a link from our website. Gwen suggested that we should design the blog to look like the rest of the SOA site. Vic said that he would experiment with this and Angela will send him the blog information.
New Business

Dues request—Angela said that we had received an invoice from an organization called the Ohio Council of Library and Information Services saying that we owed them $25.00 in dues. Apparently, we had belonged at one time, but as no one seemed to know anything about them we will not be renewing our membership.

Historic Gardens—Gwen said that First Lady of Ohio, Hope Taft, is looking for images of historic gardens from archival repositories around the State.

HB 5439—Angela said that this Bill (currently with the Federal House of Representatives), proposes to allow institutions to publish photographs from unidentified photographers, provided a good faith attempt is made to find the photographer. Gwen made a motion, seconded by Mary, to have SOA write a letter supporting this Bill.

New State Archivist—Angela announced that the new Archivist for Ohio, Jelain Chubb, will be starting in her new position on July 24. We will invite her to one of our meetings. Beth asked for Angela to send her Jelain’s biographical information so that it can be included in the next OA.

Building Connections—Angela said that there is to be a Building Connections conference after all this year. It will be held on October 6 and 7. We are not in a position to be a full partner this year, but we could set up a table with our brochures and other information.

Next Meeting

Jane will arrange the date of the next meeting by e-mail. It will be held sometime after the Fall meeting.

There being no further business, Angela made a motion, seconded by Gwen, to adjourn the meeting at 2:00 PM, which was approved by all.

Respectfully submitted,

Gillian Hill, Secretary.

Treasurer’s Report
**Account Balance**
$8,910.92

**Current Account Balance**
$6,993.13

**Deposits**
$3,054.00

**Expenditures**
$5,275.81

**Interest**
$9.18

**Fees**
$5.16
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