



**Executive Committee  
Meeting Minutes  
18 July 2020**

Present: Tim Lacy, Sara Georgini, Andrew Klumpp, Richard Cándida Smith, Peter Kuryla, Ray Haberski

The members of the S-USIH Executive Committee met on Saturday, 18 July 2020, from 11:30am-12:50pm EST, via Zoom. Officers submitted precirculated reports.

In an email vote of 27 July 2020, the Executive Committee unanimously approved making S-USIH a signatory to the American Historical Association's July 2020 [Statement on Historical Research during COVID-19](#).

The 20 June 2020 meeting minutes, as submitted by Georgini, were unanimously approved.

As president, Lacy summarized his meeting with past USIH presidents to review and affirm long-term goals, Publications and book review priorities, and organizational modifications.

As secretary, Georgini reported that we record 756 active members in our Wild Apricot database. We also have 2,760 members in our Facebook group, and 2,764 followers on Twitter. In other secretary news, Georgini drafted minutes, managed the Society's social media channels, and sent out members' emails to recap blog content, share prize announcements, and communicate conference updates. Georgini solicited content for the Members' Notes email, and Cándida Smith recommended shifting the annual meeting newsletter to a later date in the interim; all affirmed this plan.

As #USIH2020 conference chair, Georgini reported on steady progress made regarding money and tech needs, scholarly content, and partnerships. The Program Committee reviewed the CFP entries and submitted their rankings by 7 July. On 8 July, Georgini reviewed the few single-paper proposals, creating panels with the collaboration of PC members. On 10 July the PC sent out email notifications, alerting accepted panelists that they have until Monday 10 Aug. to decide whether they prefer to present via Zoom or to publish via the blog. On 10 July Georgini wrote and published a blog post outlining our new plan, and sent it out as a dedicated email to our entire mailing list. Thus far, the main response of USIH colleagues has been as positive as hoped: We are ready to experiment with "Revolution & Reform."

As #USIH2021 conference chair, Kuryla reported on details for securing our Nashville venue. The committee unanimously affirmed paying the initial deposit to the Scartitt Bennett Center. Georgini and Klumpp agreed to forward pertinent insurance information to Kuryla for reference.

As treasurer, Klumpp reported on the Society's financial portrait, which is one of good health, with solid reserves in our award accounts. The committee discussed changing banks and considering other membership management software systems, for ease of use and reporting. Lacy and members also reviewed the accessibility of donation links on the S-USIH website. Georgini mentioned plans for a pair of 2021 blog roundtables exploring the legacies of Henry May and Dorothy Ross.

As publications chair, Cándida Smith provided an overview of two proposals: one for longer-form content to publish on the website, and a second plan to create a USIH podcast. Haberski also described a potential partnership with IU's library, supplying students with a pathway of experience in reading, writing, and producing U.S. intellectual history. Cándida Smith confirmed that the final selection of assistant book review editors continues.

Lacy and the committee addressed the need to review the S-USIH constitution and bylaws, as we enter a second decade of growth. Lacy created an *ad hoc* committee for the purpose, with Kuryla as a member. Lacy will make a general call for members in his first president's newsletter in August 2020.

The committee agreed to table three additional agenda items—appointment of a social media editor, establishment of a Society archivist, and possible pay for USIH bloggers—for further discussion at a future meeting.

The meeting was adjourned.

The Executive Committee meets next on Saturday, 15 August 2020.