

Executive Committee Meeting Minutes 7 November 2020

Present: Tim Lacy, Sara Georgini, Andrew Klumpp, Richard Cándida Smith, Peter Kuryla, Benjamin Alpers, Ray Haberski, Lora Burnett, Ethan Schrum, Robert Huberty

The members of the S-USIH Executive Committee met on Saturday, 7 November 2020, from 11:30am-1pm EST, via Zoom and with members. Some officers submitted precirculated reports.

In an email vote of 6 November 2020, the Executive Committee unanomously approved the 17 October 2020 meeting minutes, as submitted by Georgini.

As president, Lacy reported on long- and short-term initiatives of USIH, linking on-the-ground projects (website, conference, and infrastructure maintenance) to values and principles outlined in the Society's constitution: scholarship, interdisciplinarity, inclusiveness, outreach, and media. Lacy reviewed USIH revenue, income, and expenses with an eye on 2021 projections of same. Lacy and Klumpp answered questions on end-of-year fundraising plans and monthly donations.

As secretary, Georgini reported that we record 781 active members in our Wild Apricot database. We also have 2,800+ members in our Facebook group, and 3,180 followers on Twitter. Georgini summarized Extra Metrics analysis, which show massive influence of Twitter outreach, and boom in new visitors to blog. Georgini has drafted minutes, managed the Society's social media channels, sent Members' Notes emails, and advertised for the Social Media Coordinator position.

As treasurer, Klumpp reported on the Society's excellent financial health, and enlarged on details of Lacy's projected budget.

As publications chair, Cándida Smith shared meeting plans and goals for the publications platform revision ad hoc committee. As blog editor, Burnett reported that guests posts were up, and that she would depart her position by the end of her term in August 2021. The ExComm and members discussed how to move forward with the search, and how to expand the blog's reach.

As #USIH2020 chair, Georgini thanked the ExComm and the Program Committee for strong support and insight, then reported on the ongoing success of our virtual conference. Georgini summarized money and tech updates, offered a topical analysis of scholarly content presented, and sketched out the continuing work in securing conference partnerships and publicity. The program committee meets in December, to consider edits before the spring plenary on 1/11/21.

As #USIH2021 chair, Kuryla reported on venue availability, conference theme, projected accommodations, proposed panels, and keynote speakers. The committee weighed various meeting formats and opportunities, in light of public health guidance (local and federal) related to ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, and will revisit the planning discussion at future meetings.

As #USIH2022 chair, Alpers reported on venue availablity in Boston, which has been secured at the Back Bay Sheraton, and outlined possible conference themes and plenaries.

Lacy thanked all officers and members for their support and service to the Society.

The meeting was adjourned.

The Executive Committee reconvenes on Saturday, 19 December 2020, via Zoom.