

Executive Committee Meeting Minutes 5 October 2021

Present: Tim Lacy, Benjamin Alpers, Sarah Bridger, Sara Georgini, Robert Greene II, Ray Haberski, Andrew Klumpp, Peter Kuryla

The members of the S-USIH Executive Committee met on Tuesday, 5 October 2021, from 8:00pm-9:35pm EST, via Zoom.

The Executive Committee unanimously approved the 7 September 2021 ExComm meeting minutes, as submitted by Bridger.

As president, Lacy reported on the status of S-USIH committees and suggested granting the ad hoc nominating committee permanent status. Lacy also proposed shifting upcoming meetings to the second Tuesday of the month.

As #USIH2021 chair, Kuryla reported on recent negotiations with conference venues, including ongoing efforts to defray costs related to pandemic-related adjustments in accommodations. The committee discussed fundraising efforts, the possibility of an additional on-site event in the spring, and potential <u>AHA-NEH</u> grant support for the development of new forms of hybrid conferences (see below). With these options under consideration, the committee supported Kuryla's flexibility in negotiations.

As treasurer, Klumpp reported on the Society's secure financial health, including substantial overall cash reserves. Klumpp proposed a future meeting to discuss applying for the <u>AHA-NEH</u>'s Grants to Sustain and Advance the Work of Historical Organizations Program. The committee endorsed Klumpp's leadership in this effort.

As Publications Chair, Greene updated the committee on applications for book review and blog editor positions and encouraged members to continue to publicize the positions through the deadline on October 7. Greene also discussed a possible timeline for a conference-related newsletter.

As secretary, Bridger reported on current membership and social media statistics: 829 total members, 193 active members, over 2,800 Facebook members, and over 3,700 followers on Twitter. The committee discussed ways of encouraging membership renewal, including offering paywalled content such as access to virtual discussions, K-12 educational material, and other resources.

As #USIH2022 chair, Alpers reported on concerns about the ongoing pandemic and potential consequences for the Boston conference. Alpers proposed building flexibility and hybridity into conference plans. The committee discussed potential <u>AHA-NEH</u> grant support for this effort.

As Program Chair, Georgini suggested linking upcoming conference events in an AHA-NEH grant proposal. Georgini also reported the submission of S-USIH's application for AHA affiliation.

New business: The committee discussed proposed constitutional changes and the scheduling of this year's business meeting.

The meeting was adjourned.

The Executive Committee reconvenes in November 2021, via Zoom.