

**MINUTES OF APRIL 2, 2022, BOARD MEETING
THE ANTARCTICAN SOCIETY
Meeting Held via Zoom**

Present (Via Zoom)

Officers/Directors — Liesl Schernthanner (president); Mark Leinmiller (vice-president); Tom Henderson (treasurer); Joan Boothe (secretary)

Ex-Officio Officers — Charles Lagerbom (Archivist); Jeff Rubin (Newsletter); Lesley Urasky (social media director); Richard Wolak (newsletter)

Directors — Matthew Jordan; Valmar Kuroi; Michele Raney; Ron Thoreson; Stephen Wilson

Absent — Dale Anderson (director); Guy Guthridge (director)

Guests — Boyd Allen

President Liesl Schernthanner called the meeting to order at 4:35 pm EDT and thanked all participants for being on the call.

Before beginning discussion of agenda items, Tom Henderson advised all meeting participants that he would be recording the meeting. This recording would *not* be posted on the Society website, but would be available to any board members who request access.

Following this, Secretary Joan Boothe announced sufficient directors were present to constitute a quorum as defined in the Society Bylaws.

The minutes of the most recent Board meeting (December 4, 2021) had been sent to all Officers and Directors along with the agenda for this meeting. Michele Raney moved, Jeff Rubin seconded they be approved. Approved unanimously.

We then turned to the agenda, which had been sent to all participants in advance of the meeting.

1. PRESIDENT'S REPORT — Liesl Schernthanner

Liesl began by noting a new addition to the agenda, a list of Antarctic Society accomplishments printed at the bottom on the agenda that have taken place since our last Board meeting, in December.

On another front, Liesl reported that Steve Dibbern has resigned from the Board.

Liesl then raised the question of offering honorary memberships to three long-time active participants/supporters of the Antarctic Society: John Behrendt, Lou Lanzarotti, and Jerry Marty. Discussion followed, with several people explicitly expressing support for these three people. Joan Boothe suggested these should be lifetime honorary memberships. Michele Raney added that we might also consider granting complimentary memberships for Society members after age 90.

Michele Raney moved, Ron Thoreson seconded, that we give lifetime honorary digital memberships to John Behrendt, Lou Lanzarotti, and Jerry Marty.

*Approved unanimously.***2. TREASURER'S REPORT — Tom Henderson**

Tom began by presenting the Society's Income and Expense Report through March 31, 2022.

2022 Income & Expenses

through March 31, 2022

Income

Dues		
	Dues - Check	\$315
	Dues - PayPal	\$1,396
	Investment Income	\$399
	Donations	\$875
	Interest	\$2
	Gathering Registrations	\$3,886

Total: \$6,873

Expenses

Admin. Costs		
	Postage & supplies	\$59
	Newsletters - printing & mailing	\$272
	PayPal Fees	\$105
Subscription Fees		
	Google Gsuite	\$12
	Zoom	\$0
Website Costs		
	Website Security	\$10
	Website Hosting	\$0
	Domain Registration	\$0
Professional Fees		
Gathering Expenses		\$584
Insurance		
	D&O Insurance	\$0
	Liability/Event Insurance	\$0
Outreach		\$0
Reimbursement		\$488
Other		\$0
	Memorials	\$0

Total: \$1,530

Balance

\$5,343

He summed this up, saying that we are currently in good shape, but cautioned that the bulk of the August Gathering expenses are yet to come. To put this in perspective, Tom next showed a projected Income and Expense Report for 2022:

2022 Projected Income & Expenses

April 1, 2022

Income	Number	Rate	Income
Dues Electronic	87	\$26.00	\$2,262.00
Dues - Hard Copy	26	\$25.00	\$650.00
Investment Income	1		\$4,000.00
Donations			\$1,000.00
2022 Gathering Registrations	75	\$150.00	\$11,250.00
2022 Auctions	1		\$1,000.00
Sales of Hats and Mugs	75 each		\$2,625.00
Total:			\$22,787.00
Expenses	Number	Rate	Expense
Admin. Costs	1	\$200.00	\$200.00
Newsletters	4	\$300.00	\$1,200.00
PayPal Fees	1		\$250.00
Google Gsuite	12	\$6.00	\$72.00
Zoom	12	\$15.00	\$180.00
Website Security	12	\$5.00	\$60.00
Website Hosting	12	\$18.00	\$216.00
D&O Insurance	1		\$614.00
Hats and Mugs	1		\$1,900.00
2022 Gathering Expenses	1		\$16,969.00
Miscellaneous	1		\$1,000.00
Total:			\$22,661.00
Balance			\$126.00

This projection is more realistic, including anticipated expenses for the Gathering, for which early registration reduced cost has now been extended to June 1.

Discussion followed, with Tom answering questions. Tom noted that the August cost estimates may be lowballed and he anticipates that, on balance, we should be close to breakeven this year, a good result leaving the Society in good shape.

To show where we are overall, Tom provided our current balance sheet:

THE ANTARCTICAN SOCIETY BALANCE SHEET

April 1, 2022

ASSETS

CURRENT ASSETS

Bank Accounts

VFCU The Antarctic Society Checking	\$15,844
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Antarctican Society Savings	\$17,733
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Total: Bank Accounts	\$33,577
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Investment Accounts

Vanguard Wellesley Admiral Fund	\$63,624
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Total: Investment Accounts	\$63,624
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Other Cash Accounts

PayPal Cash Account	\$1,070
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Total: Other Cash Accounts	\$1,070
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Total Current Assets	\$98,271
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PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT

Computer/ Software	\$0
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Office Equipment	\$0
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Other	\$0
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Total: Property and Equipment	\$0
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Total: Property and Equipment	\$0
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OTHER ASSETS

Other	\$0
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Total: Other Assets	\$0
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Total: Other Assets	\$0
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TOTAL ASSETS	\$98,271
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LIABILITIES AND EQUITY

CURRENT LIABILITIES

Accounts Payable	\$0	
Prepaid Dues	\$0	
Prepaid Expenses	\$0	
Prepaid Registrations	\$9,087	
Other	\$0	
Total: Current Liabilities		\$9,087

LONG-TERM LIABILITIES

Other	\$0	
Total: Long Term Liabilities		\$0

TOTAL LIABILITIES		\$9,087
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EQUITY

Unrestricted Funds	\$85,030	
Ruth Siple Fund	\$4,154	
Total: Equity		\$89,184

TOTAL EQUITY		\$89,184
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TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY		\$98,271
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Over only liabilities are the pre-paid Gathering registrations, leaving us with a very strong net position of nearly \$90,000.

3. WEBSITE — Tom Henderson

There have been no important changes to the website since the last Board meeting, but Website visits are up 40%. Unique visits are up 36%, possibly, Tom suggested, due to our increased Social Media posting. These are very positive results.

Website Visitors: 1,808 (40% increase from 2021)

Unique Visitors: 1,431 (36% increase from 2021, 83% from the U.S.)

4. MEMBERSHIP — Tom Henderson

Membership is growing, to 343 currently, an increase of 13 new members. Tom noted that this is encouraging this early in the year. This increase may be related to the increase in website visits.

343 Total Members
 260 Electronic Members
 83 Hard Copy Members

20 Non-U.S. Members

35 Members are currently expired

13 New Members in 2022

We discussed how data on members might be use, what data might be of interest. What are the demographics of our members? Joan Boothe noted that in fact we already have much of this information, gathered in our extensive membership survey done two years ago.

5. GATHERING — Tom Henderson

Tom reported that we currently have 63 registrations, including a surge in the last several weeks.

All venues have been secured, most recently the Pavilion North Beach Campground. Information about lodging will be in the next newsletter. One member has offered his family compound for our use during the time of the gathering, could be very economic if enough people are interested. He's hoping to get a response but none have been received as yet, although a preliminary email on this has been sent to all members.

Discussion followed.

The North Beach campground is now open for registration, only online now. Phone reservations will be possible from May 1 onward. If members want this, will need to do it soon.

The Auction is being organized. One special items is a one-week stay for up to four people at Paul's house in Port Clyde, dates between May and October. The Society will determine the minimum bit. Much of Paul's Antarctic items, including his library and paintings, are still there. Charles offered to go and take photos for use in promoting this on the auction. Tom will follow up on tis, see what's possible.

Tom reported that despite Cathy Covert's report she had received almost no donations since the last Board meeting, we have enough already to made for a good auction.

The working group has been investigating possibilities for Swag. Proposals are for hats, mugs for sale. They have looked at designs, samples with logos and mottos, considering the following:



Discussion of these designs followed. The response was enthusiastic. The working group will pursue this and settle details, all agreeing that it's a good idea to have Swag.

Michele Raney moved, Ron Thoreson seconded that we approve monies to have the Swag made.

Approved unanimously.

6. VIRTUAL GATHERINGS — Liesl Scherthanner

Liesl noted that while we all anticipate the August Gathering eagerly, in the meantime we've been having our virtual "Gatherings," with talks by speakers. This has been going very well. Our next speaker will be Ann Strathie, author of *Herbert Ponting: Scott's Antarctic Photographer and Pioneer Filmmaker*. She will be speaking later this month (April).

7. OUTREACH — Matt Jordan

Matt opened by noting that he feels we should reach out to Terry Melton, who has just retired from NSF. Matt will send contact information to Liesl.

Lesley Urasky has been very active posting on our Facebook page, something every few days and the result is that we've had a good increase in "likes" on the page. As of this meeting, 3,296 people are following the page.

New Zealand is suffering a Covid problem as of April and things are being canceled or postponed, which affects our interaction with NZ organizations. The next event now will be in October 2022, the Antarctic season opening. Matt will provide brochures when they are available.

While he was south this summer, he had very little interaction with McMurdo.

Plans to have an Outreach Committee meeting in the next several weeks.

8. NEWSLETTER — Jeff Rubin

Jeff reported that he and Dick Wolak have been meeting regularly. They have a huge amount of material for the upcoming, April, newsletter, some of which will have to be postponed to a later issue. They are trying to focus on the unique aspects that our Society can provide, rather than republishing news available elsewhere.

Will be including mentions of other organization events. Are always looking for member-generated material, which *is* unique material.

9. ARCHIVES — Charles Lagerbom

Charles opened by saying that he's doing a lot of sorting of items in the Society archives, including materials brought from Paul's house.

The big project on the Archives agenda is the question of relics from the *Hero*. Charles has been in contact with the Washington State Department of Natural Resources, which is open to the Antarctic Society taking some items salvaged from the ship. This raises a number of questions. If we do obtain items, where will they go? Charles has approached the Penobscot Marine Museum, near where the *Hero* was built and they have expressed interest. But then the next question, how to get the items from Washington to there. And just which items. Charles has made a list of things he thinks should be of interest. Bill Spindler is helping with this. Possible items include the ship's wheel, brass name plaque. . . Jeff Rubin asked about the location of the ship bell. Charles said he didn't know, but there is a *Hero* group, and perhaps it would be possible to join forces with them.

There are *Hero* people on the west coast who are amenable to storing some items until they can be transported to Maine. In the meantime, the State of Washington is doing a salvage sort. In effect, everything is in a holding pattern.

As for transport to Maine, Charles offered to bring things back using a U-Haul and is also talking to a trucking company that might help. There is great PR potential here, but overall, this is still a logistical puzzle.

Liesl suggested the Society should reimburse Charles for his cost of transporting the *Hero* items. Discussion followed, with general agreement that this is appropriate.

In addition to concern with the *Hero* project, Charles is also working of organizing boxes of material recently received from the family of David W. Canham, Jr.

10. FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION — Liesl Scherthanner and Michele Raney

Michele opened this discussion by talking about the draft Privacy Policy, copies of which have been sent to all Board members. She has as yet received only limited comments from Board members re this, but what she has received has been positive. All comments should be sent to Michele and the committee can work these in.

Michele noted that she didn't make up this policy all on her own. She has reviewed and used policies from many organizations. The main objective is to give members a choice and the Society not put members at risk.

Discussion followed, including comments on the good quality of the policy, that it is very important to have this and that it's a major step forward. The question was raised re whether it would be useful to have a legal review. Michele responded to this saying that let's complete the draft first and then decide on possible need for outside review.

Michele said she'll make suggested changes, send it to Liesl, and then it can be dealt with at the next board meeting.

11. NEXT MEETING DATE

The next meeting will be via Zoom on Sunday, July 10, at 4:30 pm, EDT

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:15 pm, EDT

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Boothe, Secretary
July 2, 2022