



# ORAL HISTORY ASSOCIATION

Annual Meeting Business Meeting  
 October 21, 2023  
 Hyatt Regency Baltimore Inner Harbor, Constellation A  
 6:45am – 8:00am

**Minutes Prepared by:** Bethany Stewart

| Agenda   | Discussion & Decisions  | Action Required | Responsible Party |
|--|---|-----------------|-------------------|
| Welcome  | 7:02AM<br>WELCOME   |                 |                   |
| Council Change (2023 President Tomás Summers Sandoval) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Zaheer Ali decided to step down from Council due to other commitments.</li> <li>Carlos Lopez will be filling in for the rest of Zaheer’s term, until end of 2024.</li> </ul>   |                 |                   |
| Financial Report (Executive Director Stephen Sloan)    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Overview of past few years of Budget to Actuals, including 2023 through August 9.</li> <li>Efforts to control Annual Meeting cost.</li> </ul>  |                 |                   |
| OHR Change of Editorial Team                           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Completed OHR team that starts in 2024 now in place.               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Holly Werner-Thomas – Editor; Robert LaRose – Copy Editor; Sharon Raynor – Book Editor, Bud Clement – Media Editor; Molly Todd – Managing Editor</li> </ul> </li> <li><a href="#">CFP for OHR Special Issue on Disability</a> already released.</li> </ul> |                 |                   |
| Membership Updates                                     | <p><u>CHANGE OF MEMBERSHIP STRUCTURE</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Changing from calendar-year membership structure to 12-month membership.</li> </ul>   |                 |                   |

|  |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|
|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adds greater predictability and stability to membership numbers/revenue.</li> </ul> <p><b>MEMBERSHIP NUMBERS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Largest membership yet; now in a different ACLS Classification.</li> <li>• Partly because our non-member registration now includes a membership.</li> <li>• Tomás &amp; Sloan emailed lapsed members to invite back.</li> <li>• Offered free memberships to oral historians at HBCUs.</li> <li>• Special push to increase our partner members, now at a record 41 partner members.</li> </ul> |  |  |
| <p><b>Find an Oral Historian Directory (Associate Director Steven Sielaff)</b></p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Began as an Advocacy Committee idea before current Exec. Office’s term.</li> <li>• A public version of our member directory, filterable by region, point of emphasis in work, whether they want to be hired or available for collaboration.</li> <li>• Month of November will be Please-Fill-Out-Your-Survey month for integration into database, then will update quarterly after that.</li> <li>• <a href="#">Fill out the survey here.</a></li> </ul>  |  |  |
| <p><b>Website Redesign (Steven Sielaff)</b></p>                                    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Contractor Rachael Gilg conducted a system audit in March-April; we rehired Rachael to redesign our website.</li> <li>• A Website Redesign Task Force was appointed by Council; they have already provided 2 rounds of feedback.</li> <li>• Bethany &amp; Sielaff will be assessing current content/refining content/creating content as needed; will call on committees/members.</li> <li>• Paired down website, more minimal, more priority on those things of most use to our audience.</li> </ul>   |  |  |
| <p><b>Passing the Gavel</b></p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tomás reflects on presidential term and thanks council and members.</li> <li>• Thanks outgoing Past President Amy Starecheski and outgoing council member Cynthia Tobar for service.</li> </ul>   |  |  |

|  |   |  |  |
|--|---|--|--|
|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Welcomes Sarah Milligan as new First VP.</li> <li>• Passes gavel to new OHA president Kelly Elaine Navies.</li> </ul>  |  |  |
| Other Updates from Council/questions from Membership | <p><u>2024 MEETING (VP Troy Reeves)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Requests for input for 2024 Annual Meeting; CFP is in back of this year’s program.</li> </ul> <p><u>HISTORY TASK FORCE (Past President Amy Starecheski)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Task force began this year, assessing current records; discussing what it looks like to create history of OHA/discipline.</li> <li>• Good things coming soon, including reaching out to membership for records &amp; providing metadata for current photos.</li> </ul> <p><u>AI IN OH VIRTUAL SYMPOSIUM (Steven Sielaff)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">CFP now out</a>. Sarah Milligan is Co-Chair; will form program committee.</li> <li>• <a href="#">Panel aggregator</a> google doc open; portal open until Jan. 1, 2024.</li> </ul> <p><u>ENDOWMENT (Stephen Sloan)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Endowment at \$731,000. Designations within that endowment for different initiatives, including Martha Ross Teaching Award, Indigenous Initiative, etc.</li> <li>• We shifted to a socially conscious index fund, some in money market account that is more stable.</li> <li>• We drew down about 5% this year which is the ceiling of what we can draw down each year.</li> </ul> <p><u>FINAL TOPICS/UPDATES</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Importance of regional associations.</li> <li>• REMINDER: <a href="#">The Guidelines for the Evaluation of Oral Historians</a> is now available on our website.</li> <li>• OHA is close to signing a letter of intent to partner with the National Park Service to work with existing collections, provide trainings, etc.</li> <li>• We welcome your comments and suggestions for next year</li> </ul> |  |  |
| Adjourn  | <i>Motion to adjourn, seconded, carried 7:36am.</i>   |  |  |