

President Diane E. Goldstein called the fall 2012 meeting of the Executive Board to order at 9:05 am on Wednesday, October 24, 2012, in the Cabildo Room of the Hotel Monteleone in New Orleans, Louisiana. Members present: Ray Cashman, Kurt Dewhurst, Diane Goldstein, Lisa Gabbert, Jason Baird Jackson, David Todd Lawrence, Sabina Magliocco, Solimar Otero, Leonard Norman Primiano, Riki Saltzman, Marilyn White, and Juwen Zhang. Executive Director Timothy Lloyd was also present. As per the Executive Board directive of October 17, 1991, this meeting was recorded on minidisk.

Diane Goldstein welcomed members of the Board to the annual meeting and thanked departing Past President Kurt Dewhurst, and departing Board members Ray Cashman, Jason Baird Jackson, Riki Saltzman, and Marilyn White, for their service to the Society and field during their terms on the Board. Tim Lloyd presented gifts from the Board to these departing members.

Ray Cashman moved that the Board approve the minutes of the Board's April 13-14, 2012, meeting as submitted. David Todd Lawrence seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Diane Goldstein then delivered the President's report. She cited AFS's strong position, including increased end-of-year membership numbers, the debut of the JAF multimedia site and of the *AFS Review* on the web site, the new marketing brochure for students, and the recent report on the 2011 AFS member survey.

Tim Lloyd then delivered the Executive Director's report. He provided the Board with a preliminary summary of AFS's financial performance during the fiscal year that ended on August 31, 2012; preliminary (un-audited) figures show that AFS finished the year approximately \$8,500 (slightly over 1%) in the red. If those figures are officially evidenced by our annual audit, we will draw funds from our cash reserve to cover this deficit. He also briefed the Board on several matters, including work on all the Society's special projects, the status of the Endowment and 2012 Sustainers' Fund campaigns, plans for the 2012 election, the theme ("Cultural Sustainability") for the 2013 Providence annual meeting, and the RFP (soon to be issued) for new folklore and public policy working groups. His report concluded with a discussion of the need for the Board to elect a 12th member after the first of 2013.

The Board took a short break at 10:25 am and returned to its agenda at 10:35, with outgoing Committee on International Issues chair Lee Haring and incoming chair Michael Dylan Foster present.

Diane Goldstein introduced the next item on the Board's agenda, a discussion of AFS's international activities, and in particular the work of our Committee on International Issues. Lee Haring provided a brief history of the Committee and its work to provide stipends for international scholars to participate in the AFS annual meeting and for US scholars to attend meetings abroad. He also focused on our need to follow up with those scholars whom we support, and to build stronger long-term relationships with them.

The Board then engaged in a discussion with Haring and Foster about these matters, in particular the ways in which we can undertake sustainable, relationship-building activities rather than one-offs. This discussion included attention to better communicating what we are doing to international scholars and to the AFS annual meeting audience, providing "mentors" or "buddies" for international visitors, encouraging AFS members to include leading international scholars in their sessions, using the presence of international scholars' presence at our annual meetings as an opportunity to encourage dialogue about different approaches to the work of the field, providing multiple-year support to international scholars, producing smaller, topic-driven meetings as foci for international participation, and the costs and benefits of providing translated abstracts of *Journal of American Folklore* articles and/or of major AFS annual meeting presentations, with reciprocal translations in the other direction.

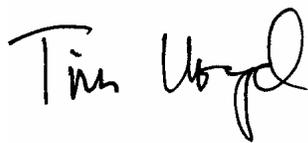
The Board, Haring, and Foster also discussed the committee's mandate, including attention to whether the committee should undertake year-round activities beyond the annual meeting, and should consider itself a "roving band of advisors" to the Board and Society committees on many international matters, informing the Board about potential best practices.

Almost any of these developments will require increased funding. The Committee will consider these possibilities and will bring a proposal back to the Board.

Kurt Dewhurst then moved that the meeting be adjourned. Jason Baird Jackson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



April 11, 2013

Timothy Lloyd
Executive Director

Date

Approved by the American Folklore Society Executive Board:

April 11, 2013

Diane Goldstein
President

Date