Reports of the Swiss American Historical Society

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Meeting Report of the SAHS Office Holders

Notes by Prof. Robert Sherwood

SAHS Officers Meeting was held over Zoom on April 9, 2022, from 11:00 a.m. to 12:40 p.m. EDT.

In Attendance: Dr. Albert Winkler, Prof. Rob Sherwood, Barbara Müller, Dr. Richard Hacken, Ernie Thurston, and Tom Marabello. As Acting President of the SAHS, Albert Winkler presided.

Grant Proposal: It was proposed that SAHS offer 1000 CHF as a Grant from the SAHS to assist Luca Criscione with his research for his Ph.D. His dissertation will deal with Swiss immigration to the U.S. West. The funds were to be awarded from the Swiss Chapter of the SAHS. The proposal was approved. Albert later sent an e-mail to Barbara stating the approval to start transaction.

Discussion of Grant Applications: Future grants of $1,000 to help scholars with research on a publishable paper. Such grants should be approved by the officers.

Guide to Authors: As the editor-in-chief of the SAHS, Albert published a guide for authors on page 75 of the SAHS Review in the February 2022 issue. He asked for comments and suggestions on how to improve the guide. Richard Hacken suggested that the phrase be included “Should be own original work, or translation of the work of others.” This was added to the guide to be published in the June 2022 issue of the Review.

Change in President: According to the Society’s bylaws, the President of the Society may not hold two positions. Since Albert is also the
editor-in-chief of the SAHS Review, he cannot be President as well. Therefore, Albert is now the Acting President of the Society.

**Outreach:** Prof. Rob Sherwood will receive 20 additional copies of each edition of the SAHS Review to distribute to other locations (Conferences, Local Historical Societies, Historic Sites, etc). Ernie Thurson will send Rob extra older copies of the Review. Rob will visit locations Swiss-American historical societies in the Kentucky, Ohio, and Indiana in the Summer of 2022. He will receive up to $1,000 from the Society to help cover his expenses.

Albert said he will attend the Little Bighorn Symposium in Hardin, Montana, in June 2022. He will take about fifty copies of the November 2018 issue of the SAHS Review dedicated to his article “The Germans and Swiss at the Little Bighorn” to distribute to anyone interested in joining the SAHS. He will not receive any funds from the SAHS for this effort to attract new members.

There was discussion on how to keep the membership strong and growing. Albert urged that all members seek to find anyone of potential interest to the Society and urge them to join.

**Annual Meeting:** The next annual meeting of the SAHS will be held in Washington, D.C., on October 8, 2022. The location of the meeting has not been determined since the Swiss Embassy does not yet know if the meeting could be held there due to construction. If the meeting cannot be held at the Embassy, it would likely be held at the Martin Luther King, Jr. Library in downtown D.C. A newsletter will be sent to the members of the Society when further information is available. There was a discussion on who should be the post-lunch speaker(s) at the annual meeting. No decision was reached on the topic. The issue will have to be decided later. The officers of the SAHS will meet the night before the annual meeting to discuss any relevant issues.
Swiss Chapter Update: Barbara Müller stated that the SAHS Swiss Chapter will meet in Basel, Switzerland, on September 7, 2022, for its annual meeting. There will be a tour of the city. A talk will be presented at 16:30. The former Swiss Ambassador to the US might attend. A payment of 120 CHF will cover the lunch and tour. The language of the meeting will be in English. It will start around 10 a.m. Once Barbara provides an announcement, Robert Sherwood will post the information on H-net. Tom Marabello will do the same on Linkedin page. Barbara will invite the American Women’s group in Zurich to attend.

Elected Officers: Two new office holders in the Society, Fredric Behrens (treasurer) and Thomas Marabello (vice president) will be presented for approval at the Annual Meeting of the Society in Washington, DC.

Membership Report: Ernie Thurston stated that Jan Ruth Mills has moved back to the US.

Book reviews: Rob Sherwood planned to send out titles of potential book reviews to the office holders of the Society to see if they will review the books.

Communication: Richard Hacken will set up a Gmail password for the Society. Almost all previous editions of the SAHS Review are now on the Society’s website. The SAHS Newsletter from 1965-1989 will be digitized and made available. Barbara Müller stated that she has bound copies of the SAHS Newsletter which she could send to Richard.