**Association for Humanist Sociology, Inc.**

**Opening Board Meeting, 2010 Annual Meeting**

**Santa Fe, New Mexico 11/3/2010**

**Present:** Emma Bailey, Dennis Kalob, Deborah Burris-Kitchen, Abdallah Badahdah, Steve McGuire, Michael Weinsten, James Gallagher, Jim Pennell, Shawn Bingham, Kathleen Tiemann, Chris Dale, Mary Chayko, Alan Spector, Stephen Adair. Minutes taken by Stephen Adair

**Presentation of Reports**: President’s, President Elect’s, VP for Membership, Secretary and Treasurer

**Motions:**

* “Adopt the AHS handbook as a working document that specifies procedures and can be modified by the board as needed and reviewed by the Past-president annually.” Moved by Jim Pennell and seconded by Chris Dale. Motion carried and sent to membership meeting for consideration.
* Mary Chayko presented a proposed budget for 2011 (Calender Year). A motion to approve the 2011 budget was moved by Jim Pennell and seconded by Emma Bailey. The motion carried and was sent to the membership meeting for consideration.

**Announcements:**

* President Elect outlined the plans and budget for the 2011 in Chicago-Evanston. The conference title: *Daring to be Dangerous: A Sociology for Our Troubled Times*. Estimated revenue from the meeting is $18,000 with $17,500 in expenses.
* President Elect-Elect Deborah Burris-Kitchen presented on plans for meeting in Nashville.
* Past President Jim Pennell presented on the completion of a draft of an AHS handbook. Encouraged recognizing this as a working document that will require periodic review.
* Kathleen Tiemann reported on the current publication plans for *Humanity and Society*. She is leaving her editorship with the publication up-to-date and clear plans for upcoming issues. The Board expressed gratitude for the excellent work she had done as editor.
* Mary Chayko is leaving the board as Treasurer, and commented on the smooth transition to Chuck Koeber. She anticipates having $54,000 in the AHS Treasury by the end of the year. The corporate address for AHS will remain in NJ at 66 Witherspoon Street, Suite 150, Princeton, NJ 08542. The Board thanked Mary for her excellent service over her term as Treasurer.
* Stephen Adair reviewed plans to build a more robust website that can facilitate credit-card payments, membership renewals, and updating of membership list, as well as other features. A prototype, off-line site will be created for board members review in coming weeks.

**Discussion Items** (Items marked with an “\*” may warrant additional consideration at the mid-year board meeting):

* Establish a reduced non-member partner registration fee for the annual meeting (President’s report).\*
* Discussion of the mid-year board meeting. The board considered expanding attendees at the meeting to include the co-Chairs of the Nominating Committee. It also discussed whether to hold the mid-year meeting in Chicago in conjunction with the SSSP meetings in August or whether an earlier date was preferable. Dennis Kalob proposed this possibility to facilitate organizational linkages between AHS and SSSP through an AHS sponsored session at the SSSP meetings. Members addressed the possible improprieties of AHS funds being used for board members to attend SSSP meetings, as well as whether an earlier date might be preferable. The board also considered possible locations for the meeting: Chicago and Indianapolis were considered.
* Jim Pennell raised for consideration the establishment of a paid-staff position. The board briefly discussed the pros and cons of this. Full consideration would require establishing a clear list of task and need to establish the extent of leadership or support this person would exercise.\*
* Jim Gallagher reported on the need to establish clear guidelines for the book award and to establish a clear set of expectations and procedures for evaluation for the chair and the members.\*
* Chris Dale reported on the need to clarify for members the procedures for meeting registration and membership renewal. Given the time of year for the annual meeting, there have been ongoing problems of members attending the annual meeting but not updating their membership for the subsequent year.\*
* Mary Chayko suggested that the board continue to consider the possibility of creating a 501(c)(3) foundation to permit tax-deductible donations.\*