Society of American Archivists
Council Meeting
May 12-13, 2020
Virtual Meeting

Consent Agenda: Ratify Executive Committee Interim Actions
(Prepared by Governance Manager Felicia Owens)

BACKGROUND

Current parliamentary policy agrees on validating board decisions made remotely, and ratifying the Council’s online and conference-call decisions via the Consent Agenda does not conflict with any existing SAA policy.

DISCUSSION

Given the Executive Committee’s use of an e-mail discussion list to function as a group and make decisions remotely, approving interim Executive Committee actions via the Consent Agenda contributes to streamlining the group’s work and improves access to the interim decisions of SAA’s elected decision makers.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the following interim actions taken by the Executive Committee between January 7, 2020, and February 24, 2020, be ratified:

- Issued a statement on “Targeting Cultural Heritage Sites for Destruction,” voicing grave concerns about President Donald Trump’s suggestion that Iranian cultural heritage sites could be targeted as part of a military strike. (January 7, 2020)

- Declined request to take action on “Statement Condemning the $2.5 Million Settlement between the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and the Sons of Confederate Veterans.” (January 8, 2020)

- Approved SAA comments in response to Proposed Hike in USCIS Records Access Fees. (January 13, 2020)

- Prepared a statement on “NARA Exhibit on 2017 Women’s March in Washington, DC.” (January 19, 2020)

- Agreed to extend Danna Bell’s service on the Committee on the Selection of SAA Fellows in light of Meredith Evans’s two-year term as SAA President. (January 22, 2020)
• Issued, with the Council of State Archivists, a joint memorandum to the Office of Management and Budget to oppose the sale of the National Archives and Records Administration’s (NARA’s) building in Seattle, Washington. (January 29, 2020)

• Approved a Call for Applicants for American Archivist Editor. (January 30, 2020)

• Signed on to a letter, with the Public Citizen Litigation Group and several historical associations, to the Administrative office of the United States Courts proposing amendment of Federal Rule of Criminal Procedure 6(e). (February 24, 2020)