

National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers  
Executive Committee Conference Call  
February 10, 2003

Participants: Edward Sanderson, President; F. Lawrence Oaks, Vice President; Jay D. Vogt, Treasurer; Judith Bittner, Immediate Past President; Ruth Pierpont, Executive Committee member; James Hamrick, Board Member; Nancy Schamu, Executive Director; Shannon Papin, Director of Communications and State Services.

### **Call to Order**

The President called the meeting to order at 3:10 pm Eastern Time.

### **Appropriations**

Executive Director Nancy Schamu expressed hope that there may actually be some good news on the '03 appropriations. It has been suggested that the continuing resolution be extended to cover the entire year, which would keep the States at the 2002 level of \$39 million. The President's budget for 2004 budget puts States at \$34 million, the same recommendation as for 2003, which is not good news but not a terrible place to start. Vice President Larry Oaks had spoken with Chairman Nau and was hopeful that the Advisory Council would be willing to partner on authorization and would also be willing to "spend some political capital" to help get the states money level up. He also passed on that we would hear details about the new Advisory Council program, "Preserve America", very soon.

### **Annual Meeting Update**

Director of Communications and State Services Shannon Papin predicts there will be a good turnout for the Annual Meeting that is being held in conjunction with Preservation Action, NAPC, and the National Trust. She is hopeful there will be about two hundred people in town for lobby day. A question was posed about what time would be spent in conjunction with our partners and she clarified that Sunday would be the Conference only while Monday morning sessions and lunch would be everyone. Secretary of the Interior Gale Norton and Chairman John Nau are scheduled to speak at lunch. She assured participants that an updated schedule/agenda would be sent out the week before the meeting.

### **Nominating Committee**

The Executive Director announced that Ken P'Pool from Mississippi had been appointed head of the Nominating Committee for the upcoming Board elections. Other members appointed include Judy Bittner from Alaska, Lee Warner from Alabama and Jim Garrison from Arizona. It was stated that a slate would be announced on the listserv by February 26, 2003.

### **National Trust Trustees Meeting**

President Ted Sanderson reported on the National Trust's Trustee Meeting in Miami Beach that he had recently attended. He had a chance to make remarks to the Board and took the opportunity to make some points about SHPOs and how important their funding is. He will forward a copy of his comments to everyone. Executive Director Nancy Schamu expressed her extremely positive impression of the remarks and stated that she and the Director of Communications and State Services were considering having them printed up. It was also suggested that they be used for congressional visits. The President reported that the National Trust's media campaign is almost ready and should be launched in the next month. It was agreed that state offices should be prepared for a wave of phone calls as the general public has difficulty distinguishing between Preservation groups and may be calling them for information. He also reported that the Trust seems to be standing firm in their opinion that Section 4(f) not be tinkered with. He also passed on the rumor that the congressional bill dealing with this issue will not be to our liking and will make the differences in opinion between the Trust and the Conference "look like small change". The President stated that a great deal of time was spent on Sacred Places and suggested that some sort of presentation be made on this subject at the July Board Meeting in Chicago.

### **Preservation Action Executive Committee Meeting**

The Executive Director reported on the Preservation Action Board Meeting held in conjunction with Colorado Preservation Inc. She unfortunately didn't get to go to many of the sessions but was impressed with the speakers list, including Senator Ben Nighthorse Campbell who seemed particularly excited about preservation. She expressed her opinion that Susan West Montgomery had done a good job of convincing her Board that there was no good reason to take a strong stand on 4(f) until a bill is placed on the table. The HPF request was discussed and will be follow up in further discussions with Susan but a unified number most likely won't come out for a week or so.

The Executive Director was particularly impressed with Murray Gould, a new Preservation Action board member who is a developer from Ashville, NC. She is hopeful he will be helpful as the Conference attempts to woo new Interior Appropriations Subcommittee Chairman Charles Taylor from North Carolina. She and Susan West Montgomery are traveling to Raleigh on Wednesday to meet with Jeffrey Crow and David Brook from the NC state office and others to come up with a strategy and action agenda to educate Mr. Taylor. A part time organizer might need to be hired in Ashville to make sure things are being done but there is money in the budget for this. Details will be ironed out in the future but the Executive Committee concurred that resources could be offered by the Conference.

**Adjournment**

The next conference call is scheduled for March 3<sup>rd</sup> at 3 pm. The call was adjourned at 3:47 pm EST.

Shannon L. Papin  
for Britta Bloomberg, Secretary.