

**MINUTES OF THE SECOND 2006 COUNCIL MEETING**  
**MINERALOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA**

Attending:

John W. Valley, President  
Robert M. Hazen, Past President  
Barb Dutrow, Vice President  
John M. Hughes, Treasurer  
George E. Harlow, Secretary  
Ross John Angel, Councilor  
Robert Downs, Councilor  
Mickey Gunter, Councilor  
David London, Councilor  
Roberta Rudnick, Councilor

Visitors:

J. Alex Speer, MSA Executive Director  
Gordon Nord, Webmeister  
Rachel Russell, Managing Editor, American Mineralogist

Note: Motions and council action items are presented in *italics*; SoC = Sense of Council, S = Second.

The second meeting of the 2006 Council of the Mineralogical Society of America was held in the conference room at the MSA Offices, 3635 Concorde Parkway Suite 500, Chantilly, VA USA on May 22, 2006.

**ITEMS**

1. Call to Order

John Valley called the meeting to order at 8:12 AM, Monday, May 22, 2006, and each person attending introduced themselves and their position with respect to MSA. Valley commented that the Society is healthy, with an increase in membership, on-going progress with RiMG volumes, *Elements*, the lecture program and the website. Nevertheless, we face two large issues: 1) the changes to the publication model driven by on-line and “open-access” developments which create threats to income plus new costs and 2) financial challenges with our dependence on the Roebling fund to supplement income while costs constantly rise and income from “products” are unpredictable and may drop with the move to GSW and only preliminary library responses to that. We need to address these issues now and down the road.

2. Approval of Minutes of the Third 2005 Council Meeting and First 2006 Council Meeting.

*Bob Hazen moved to approve the Minutes of the Third 2005 Council Meeting. S = M. Gunter. Motion passed unanimously.*

*Barb Dutrow moved to approve the Minutes of the First 2006 Council Meeting. S = R. Rudnick. Motion passed unanimously.*

3. Accept Reports to Council containing no questions or action items as a group. Reports will be acknowledged by the Secretary.

Financial Advisory Committee, *American Mineralogist* Editorial Office and Editors, MSA Society News Editor for *Elements*, MSA Webmaster, Outreach Committee (K-12), Outreach Committee (Databases), Lecture Program Committee, Lecture Program Coordinator, Roebling Medal Committee, MSA Award Committee, Distinguished Public Service Award Committee, Dana Medal Committee, Nominating Committee for Fellows, Mineralogy/Petrology Grant Committee, MSA Representative to ACA, AGI, CMS, EMU, GIA, GS, AGU Mineral Physics, and Special Interest Group on Pegmatites, Planetary Materials, and Teaching.

*B. Dutrow moved to accept these Reports to Council. S = R. Rudnick. Motion passed unanimously.*

4. Review of Executive Committee actions—President's Report:

Pres. Valley noted that his report contained two action items and a fund raising initiative that will be dealt with later under individual items of business, so here he was presenting the information-only items. Since the last Council meeting, the following things have been arranged or transacted:

1. Topical sessions and other activities at 2006 GSA meeting.
  - The MSA award, Roebling and Presidential addresses will be included in the GSA Program with abstracts and times, and location.
  - The topical session "Petrologic Mineralogy-the study of minerals in context; in honor of Charles V. Guidotti" is being organized by Ed Grew, Darby Dyar and Darrell Henry.
  - "Redox in the Earth and Solar System" symposium will be held Saturday prior to the GSA meeting, sponsored by Gene Ulmer.
  - "Minerals, melts, fluids and the evolution of mountain belts: A tribute to Maria Luisa Crawford", organized by Jinny Sisson and Alice Hoersch.
2. The Clay Minerals Society moved into its new shared office space in the MSA Business office in March 2006.
3. The three Distinguished Lecturers have been arranged for 2006-2007:

Jane A. Gilotti (University of Iowa, USA)

1. Diamond and coesite: forcing a new paradigm for continental collisions.

2. Clues to high pressure melting of metasedimentary rocks deep in the heart of mountain belts.

Tim K. Lowenstein, (Binghamton University, USA)

1. Reviving ancient organisms in crystals: Jurassic Park or Fantastic Lark?
2. Tracking changes in the chemistry of ancient seawater: Mammal blood, Salt, and Sea Shells
3. High pCO<sub>2</sub> in the Eocene Greenhouse world from Green River Na-carbonates

Stephen W. Parman (Durham University, UK)

1. The history of the Earth written in helium
2. Squinting at the Archean: komatiites and the thermal evolution of the Earth

#### 5. Treasurers Report: Dues, subscriptions and finances

We need to set the member and institutional *American Mineralogist* subscription rates for 2006 and member dues. The Treasurer presented the following motions, with a reordering compared to the agenda:

- (b) *John Hughes moved that the Bylaws be changed* to create a new membership category of Sustaining Member (Fellow), which will be before the membership during the upcoming election. As a provision of passage, MSA Council must set the rate for Sustaining Membership in the Society. He recommends the cost of a Sustaining Membership for 2007, should the Bylaw change be passed, be set at \$150 plus the cost of the accompanying membership category. S = Mickey Gunter. Motion passed unanimously.
- (c) Currently, members who renew before 12/31/2006 receive a \$5 discount in dues. A significant cost saving for MSA would be accrued if this date were changed to an earlier time. Thus, *John Hughes moved to change the deadline* for those who renew online to receive a \$5 discount to 10/31/2006. S = Roberta Rudnick. Motion passed unanimously.

*John Hughes moved to set the 2007 member subscription rates* for paper + electronic *American Mineralogist* at \$50 for domestic members and \$60 for foreign members. S = Mickey Gunter. There was discussion about the rates for delivery of domestic and foreign subscriptions. Ross expressed concern that a differentiation of foreign from domestic members sent a bad message. John responded that the subsidies for foreign delivery of the journal had been around a long time, but that we need to have better costing. Ross argued that the wording was important, and it was agreed to word the rate differentiation as between “memberships with subscriptions for foreign versus domestic delivery” rather than by membership alone. Motion passed: 7 yeas, 2 nays, 1 abstention.

- (e) John Hughes recommends continuing to differentiate between domestic and foreign institutional subscription rates to reflect actual costs of producing and mailing

*American Mineralogist*, and also to begin to shift a portion of first-copy costs from Institutional Subscribers to Individual Subscribers. *John Hughes moved to set the 2007 U.S. institutional subscription rate* (paper and electronic) at \$725 (currently \$675), and foreign member subscription rate at \$750 (currently \$700). S = Barb Dutrow. Motion passed unanimously.

- (a) *John Hughes moved to retain the dues of Members and Fellows at \$50.* S = Roberta Rudnick. There was a short discussion of the low cost of a student membership (a coffee at Starbuck's) and that raising the student dues to \$10 would not be a burden to students (or the sponsorships by Sorena Sorensen). Barb offered a friendly amendment to increase the Student Dues to \$10. John accepted the amendment as did Roberta. Motion passed unanimously.

6. Recommendation by the Auditors to form an Audit Committee.

The Auditors retained by the MSA suggested that MSA form an Audit Committee. Sample duties of such a Committee were provided in the Treasurer's Report in the Bluebook. The Treasurer noted that responsibility for finances of the Society needed to move away from management onto Council. Most of the communication would be electronic so there would be no undue burden for extra meetings.

*John Hughes moved to have the Financial Advisory Committee take on the task of an audit committee, as well, with a change in the title of the Committee to the Financial Advisory and Audit Committee.* S = G. Harlow. Discussion: When asked what had stimulated this advice, John noted it was driven by problems in business oversight and the Sarbanes-Oxley legislation. R. Angel asked whether there would be a conflict of interest in combining the two roles into a single committee. John responded that as the FAC was only advisory and not active financial control, there is no conflict. Motion passed unanimously.

7. The MSA Executive Director and Treasurer updates:

A. Speer reviewed the financial status of the Society. Investments stand at approximately \$2.2 million and have been steady. MSA membership as of May 19 was 2202 members, which is more than 2005 and will probably exceed the 2004 level by the end of the year. The online membership application is essentially fully functional.

John Hughes had nothing to add to his written report.

8. Report of the MSA Representative to *Elements*:

- (a) John Hughes noted that a considerable amount of the attention of the Executive Committee of *Elements* had been spent on a Business Plan and Letter of Agreement among participating societies. In particular, the voting procedures and right to veto consumed most of the efforts. Ultimately a weighted scheme is proposed growing from 1 vote for societies with less than 500 members to 4 votes for those with more

than 5000 members. Any two societies can veto, which will change to three if and when the number of member societies reaches 12. Each member society must now vote on the accepting this document.

*J. Hughes moved to approve the Elements Business Plan and Letter of Agreement.* S = M. Gunter. Motion passed unanimously.

- (b) John Hughes reported that *Elements* finished its first year of publishing with a reserve of \$19,700. The prorated cost of supplying *Elements* is \$13.02 per member, slightly above the initial costing of \$12. Continued vigilance on future budgets is necessary. Approval of the 2007 budget is required by September 15, 2006.

*J. Hughes moved to approve the 2007 Elements budget.* S – B. Dutrow. Discussion: G. Harlow asked whether the cost of “gift subscriptions” was likely to change, and the answer was no. The cost of such “gift subscriptions” is decided on by the individual societies that offer that option to their members. When asked about advertising, J. Hughes responded that it was not growing. Motion passed unanimously.

Further discussion developed on the question of the number of issues, as an increase would probably strain both financial and editorial resources. *It was SoC* that 6 issues per year are adequate and there should not be an increase for the foreseeable future.

#### 9. Report of the Financial Advisory Committee:

The FAC has no specific items for Council approval, but the FAC urges Council to undertake, by whatever means possible, to (1) continue to use a conservative approach to the expenditure of endowment funds for the operation of the Society and (2) continue to solicit endowment funds from members and corporations, in an effort to maintain the financial health of MSA.

As this was the same recommendation as in prior reports, and there is general and consistent agreement on the subject of financial health, no discussion ensued.

#### 10. Review of Report from Committee on Committees for new committee MSA members for 2007-2009

- (a) Confirm proposed lists of committee members. Authorize George Harlow, as Secretary, to contact individuals in the order listed (except when restricted by guidelines for the position).

The Council examined the report of the Committee on Committees and, in particular, the listing for 2007-2008 committee members. A continuing issue is the role of delegates to meetings and their responsibilities, vis-à-vis, MSA and the meeting committee. R. Angel pointed out that Bill Minarik only agreed to serve as delegate for Spring AGU, so we have a hole in that Mark Bukowinski retired as delegate to Fall AGU. No suggestions for

replacements were made, so these issues will need to be dealt with in the future. B. Downs continued to emphasize that it's results that are important, so that direct delegate involvement is less important than having the interests of MSA members (who are typically also AGU members) represented in the meetings. On looking at the composition of the Outreach Committees, it was advised that the chairs touch base with their members to determine whether they are still interested in the Committee's work or have issues that they want to work on.

*B. Dutrow moved to confirm* the proposed lists of committee members for 2007-2008, as amended and authorize George Harlow, as Secretary, to contact individuals in the order listed. S = R. Hazen. Motion passed unanimously.

- (b) Increase the term for members of the Distinguished Public Service Medal Committee to 4 years and invite Bill Carlson to serve an additional year as chair.

This topic was moved and passed after little discussion.

#### 11. Report to Council by the MSA Representative to IMA

- (a) Charlie Prewitt would like to retire as MSA Representative and suggests Council appoint a new representative from members who intend to attend the July meeting in Kobe, Japan. In a short discussion it was suggested that someone either presently or recently on Council would be beneficial as he/she would be knowledgeable about MSA concerns. George Harlow volunteered to become the next MSA representative to IMA.

*John Hughes moved to appoint George E. Harlow* as the next MSA representative to IMA. S = Barb Dutrow. Motion passed unanimously.

- (b) Between now and the time of the meeting Council needs appoint up to 5 delegates among members who plan to attend the IMA meeting to cast the 5 MSA votes at the IMA Business meeting. There was discussion in Council of the past methodology for MSA to amass its 5 votes, ranging from the representative casting all 5 votes to the representative rounding up 5 MSA members to attend the general meeting to cast votes.

*Barb Dutrow moved to have Charlie Prewitt manage* the task of getting the needed 5 votes in any manner he chooses. S = John Hughes. Motion passed unanimously.

The Council meeting had a short break from 9:55 to 10:15 AM.

#### 12. President's business

- (a) MSA will discontinue the practice of minting a solid 14K gold Roebling medal. The Roebling medal will be gold-plated bronze. Samples of the new gold-plated medal and an original gold medal were passed

around. It was made clear that the engraving was made prior to the plating so that appearance was not affected. The difference will save ~ \$4000 to the Society, this year.

*J. Valley moved to* discontinue the 14K gold Roebing medal and replace it with a gold-plated bronze medal. S = R. Rudnick. 9 Yeas, 1 Nay; motion passed.

- (b) MSA will have two versions of its logo, one in color and one in black-&-white. Either may be used as the official symbol of the Society.

*J. Valley moved to* authorize both a black-&-white and a color MSA logo. S = R. Rudnick. Motion passed unanimously.

### 13. Operational Items from the Executive Director

- (a) *R. Rudnick moved to confirm* that the Third 2006 and First 2007 MSA Council Meetings will be held in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania on Saturday October 21, 2006, and the MSA Management Committee meeting will be held on Friday afternoon or evening October 20, 2006. S = B. Dutrow. Motion passed unanimously.
- (b) *R. Rudnick moved that* Council intends to have its spring 2007 Council meeting at the MSA Business Office in Chantilly, VA. S = J. Hughes. 8 Yeas, 2 Abstentions. Motion passed.
- (c) Given the expense of reprinting older Reviews volumes, the Executive Director (E.D.) recommends reprinting only those volumes that are large sellers, and direct the money that would have been spent on reprinting modest or slow sellers into making electronic versions of the Reviews. The priority of which volumes to do would be decided using the procedures described by Jodi Ross in her report. This will free up storage space thus allowing larger printings of newer volumes that lower the per copy costs. In the future, it is likely that most Reviews volumes will have only one printing. Alex noted that it used to cost \$3000 to reprint a RiMG volume, but the price for reprinting Vol. 17 was \$12,000. In the future, larger initial runs will be planned and the reprinting budgeting would be re targeted toward digitizing older versions. For comparison, the cost of file conversion and posting a “digital” RiMG volume on GeoScienceWorld is approximately \$3500. The cost of digitizing a RiMG volume that does not have an electronic version as a start would be an additional cost.

*The SoC is to make* this the new policy.

- (d) Council gave the E.D. the authority to make decisions regarding copyright issues. Alex is inclined to agree to the Portuguese translation of one or more Reviews volumes if Artmed Editora SA, who has inquired, decides the project has financial merit. He wanted to know what Council’s thoughts were in terms of remuneration. Alex was asked how many copies are being discussed; 1000 was the response. He

argued for the return of a number of copies for potential sale as part of the agreement. *The SoC* is to authorize the E.D. to proceed with the Portuguese translation, but any remuneration can be modest.

14. Report from the Committee to Nominate Officers.

London reported that the nomination of Peter Heaney as Vice President appeared to conflict with the following rule from the committee handbook:

“[4] GUIDELINES OF THE COMMITTEE TO NOMINATE OFFICERS

(4) Committee members cannot be nominees for election during their year of service on the Committee (Council 90-3). “

Although A. Speer had pointed out that this referred to conflicts whereby a committee member would in effect put himself or herself into nomination, London believes the rule needs to be more straightforward and so proposed the following change:

“[4] GUIDELINES OF THE COMMITTEE TO NOMINATE OFFICERS

(4) Committee members cannot be nominated for election during any year of service on the Committee. A standing Committee member who wishes to be nominated for an elected position must cede his or her Committee membership, and the Executive Committee, together with the chair of the Nominating Committee for Officers, will seek a suitable replacement.”

*D. London moved to change the wording in Handbook for the Committee to Nominate Officers to the wording offered in the report of that committee. S = R. Hazen. Motion passed unanimously.*

15. Report of the MSA Representative to the Society of Mineral Museum Professionals

George Harlow requested that SMMP be included among the societies with links on the MSA Website. The SMMP site is <http://www.smmp.net>. Alex Speer commented that there had been a previous link that was out of date, but that it has been updated.

16. Request by Darby Dyar and Mickey Gunter for MSA to publish a new textbook.

Mickey Gunter discussed the new textbook, “Mineralogy and Optical Mineralogy,” and the desire to publish this as part of the Monograph Series, in part because the project was federally supported and to keep both the price of the book modest and give back profits to science via MSA. They had distributed to members of Council the accompanying DVD that contains animations of all the figures in the text as well as a printable, searchable mineral database. It was explained that it would cost \$12.90 per unit to print 5000 copies and \$11.57 for 10,000 copies. Ross Angel asked what was the expected shelf price; Mickey said between \$55 and \$60 and that their NSF grant mandated maintaining it through at least a 2<sup>nd</sup> edition. Several additional items need to be discussed and Council encouraged the E.D. to continue developing a plan/agreement which specifically spells out these complications. There was strong enthusiasm for having MSA take on this publication with a discussion of marketing and publicity through MSA publications, website, and *Elements*.



*It was the SoC to endorse this project and review its progress in the future.*

17. Report of Jodi Rosso, the Reviews Series Editor. She has two action items: one is dealt with under Item [22], the other here:

- (a) Consider transferring the RiMG volumes from GSW “Journals” to GSW “Books” that the GSW Board of Directors is currently developing. GSW “Books” will give MSA flexibility as to what is posted and what we can charge for access. The disadvantage of GSW “Books” is that RiMG will not be automatically included in (and compensated by) GSW. MSA will have to market these electronic versions of the RiMG volumes.
- (b) Seek an extension beyond 2007 in order to get the older volumes posted in GSW “Journals”.
- (c) Seek outside support to finance the posting of these volumes. The average estimated cost per volume is \$3,556.00 (includes layout and posting costs).
- (d) Consider removing RiMG from GSW “Journals” after 2007 if extension is not granted and the resources can’t be found.

A. Speer commented that these issues were addressed to some extent in a recent meeting of the GSW Board. The issue of journal hits and unequal compensation, considering for example that a Geology article is typically 3-4 pages whereas a RiMG chapter may be 100 pages; a price per hit undervalues the RiMG chapter. Changes need to be made. Changing RiMG to books from journals has its problems.

*It was the SoC to take no specific action now but to stay vigilant with respect to upcoming changes.*

18. Report from the Publications Director on the *Handbook of Mineralogy*.

Barb has three items related to the Handbook, but one is reserved for later (Item [21]). The copyright for the *Handbook of Mineralogy* was donated to MSA by the late Richard Bideaux. Dick served as the Handbook Editor until his untimely passing; working on updates and methods for funding the Handbook with the hopes of it making money for the Society. Because of his sudden passing, funding and updates to the Handbook are in limbo.

- (a) Preliminary inquiries have been made with members to ascertain their interest in the job of Handbook Editor. MSA needs to identify ‘duties’ of this person or persons. In a short discussion of the role of the editor the factors needing to be defined are the scope of the job, the responsibilities in terms of supervision or oversight, record-keeping responsibilities, and who is responsible for making the appointment. It was clear that a job description and itemization of responsibilities is required.

- (b) MSA needs to discuss funding of the Handbook, perhaps as part of a capital campaign. David London is working on this aspect also.

*It was the SoC to encourage the Publications Director and Executive Director to work on a statement of responsibilities and design a model for the function of a new Handbook Editor and the funding of the Handbook.*

19. The Meetings Coordinator has two action items:

- (a) MSA is listed as main sponsor of 4 sessions and a co-sponsor of seven further sessions at the 2006 Joint Assembly with AGU. One session is associated with the presentation of the Dana medal to Rod Ewing and, thus, attracted a reasonable number of contributions. The response of the membership was, however, poor with respect to the remaining sessions. Ross would ask Council to reconsider whether we should involve ourselves in future AGU meetings. A discussion ensued in which the sense of déjà vu all over again was expressed and centered on MSA interests being represented at a number of meetings rather than only a few. It costs nothing to be a sponsor of Spring AGU so retaining that sponsorship provides visibility. If excellent sessions are planned, members attend.

*It was the SoC for the Meetings Coordinator to work with his cohorts to draft guidelines for the better implementation of meetings coordination.*

With respect to the 2007 Spring AGU meeting in Acapulco, Mexico, *R. Hazen moved to approve* the MSA sponsorship of a scientific program. S = R. Rudnick. Motion approved unanimously.

- (b) Proposals for sessions at the Annual GSA meeting were closed as of January 2006, which was somewhat early for a concerted effort on behalf of MSA to get sessions organized; nonetheless, at least two special sessions have been sponsored. R. Angel discussed both the scheduling problems and the lack of advertising of MSA sessions held at the 2005 GSA through MSA representative Jim Beard via Nancy Carlson at GSA. Nancy assured Angel that she would accommodate MSA needs in a better fashion in 2006, and a mechanism has been developed to ensure that, in particular, the MSA award session will be featured appropriately in the program and that a meeting room will be provided for the MSA Business meeting. The format of the award session is currently planned to follow that of the 2005 meeting, with lectures by the winners of the MSA award and the Roebling medal.

No actions were taken.

The Council meeting broke for lunch at 12:06 and reconvened at 1:09.

20. Report from the Short Course Committee – two action items:

- (a) A preliminary proposal was submitted by Frank Hawthorne and Roberta Oberti for “Amphiboles”. This is to be presented in Rome, Italy, in conjunction with Accademia Nazionale dei Lincei, who will offer partial financial support of the volume. ANL scheduling (finances) requires an Oct. 2007 date. Jodi Rosso has agreed to fit the volume into her schedule. The committee recommends going forward with the joint sponsorship of MSA and ANL. Council’s approval of the committee’s recommendation is requested.

*R. Hazen moved to approve the recommendation for joint sponsorship of this short course on “Amphiboles” for Oct. 2007. S = M. Gunter. Motion passed unanimously.*

There was a short discussion about the authorships for the contributions to the Volumes.

*It was the SoC that the Short Course Committee needs to ask for clarification and refinement of these authorships from the organizers of the Amphibole volume.*

- (b) A preliminary proposal was submitted by Keith Putirka for “Minerals, Inclusions and Volcanic Processes.” Production scheduling indicates a 2008 publication date for the volume. The committee recommends encouraging further development, i.e., a full proposal with detailed course description and preparation of a budget. Council’s approval of the committee’s recommendation is requested.

*R. Hazen moved to approve the recommendation of the Short Course Committee to encourage the submission and request a full proposal for the proposed short course “Minerals, Inclusions and Volcanic Processes” RIMG volume. S = R. Rudnick. Motion passed unanimously.*

*It was the SoC that the proposal needs tightening up in all of its aspects.*

## 21. Reports and initiatives relating to fund raising

- (a) The MSA President asks Council to endorse a capital fund raising campaign to increase the endowment with a goal of \$1,000,000 in 5 years.

There was a short discussion of this goal. There was general agreement that a campaign is necessary but questions as how to be most effective. Valley mentioned that significant revenue could arise from more forcefully encouraging authors to pay page charges. At present many US authors with federal grant support decline to pay page charges to *American Mineralogist*. The motion was tabled in anticipation of further discussion under items 21b and 21c (below).

- (b) Dutrow suggests expanding the Benefactor’s committee into three separate but coordinated groups: Corporate Giving, Membership Giving, and Capital Campaign. Each group would have a chairperson, and the entire group would have a chairperson coordinating activities. She recognizes the difficulty here is identifying members who would be active in such capacities.

- (c) Hazen argued that the only way MSA ever will raise significant endowment is if the Benefactors Committee is greatly expanded, and if each member of the Committee is responsible for courting one wealthy corporation or individual over a period of years. Committee members should be individuals who already know the targeted companies/people and who are well versed in giving strategies, including estate planning, residual gifts, etc. If we catalyze the right combination of donors and members (if just one wealthy individual decides to become Roebing II), then our efforts can be successful.

Hazen reinforced these arguments, but then the issue of the perceived need for someone versed in giving and development. A general din erupted over the potential risks of hiring a development person, with worry over spending more than MSA could earn.

Subsequently, it was pointed out that the list of fund raising opportunities that was discussed at the last Council meeting was never presented; Hazen said he would look it over and get it out to Council.

After this discussion, *the SoC is to follow the three-fold approach* toward expanding the Benefactors Committee and developing strategies and targets among the three areas of potential support for MSA. Barb pointed out that the Website is an appropriate tool for stating our fund-raising needs and goals.

*Barb Dutrow moved to have Alex Speer write statements about giving opportunities and have Gordon Nord put them on the MSA website in a MSA Donations window for review by Council before making the statements public. S = R. Angel. Motion passed unanimously.*

In addition, *the SoC is to continue the capital campaign* that was started in 2006 without setting a target goal. Contributions should be reviewed in early 2007 to assess the extent to which this campaign increases total contributions to the society rather than merely making donors change their dates for giving.

22. Action Items relating to the “protection” of MSA publications in the era of electronic publishing.

- (a) MSA President asks Council affirm that MSA has the right and obligation to oversee use of MSA publications on the web and elsewhere as protected by copyright law. Persons and organizations wishing to use MSA material must have express written permission from the Executive Director to do so. Exceptions will be made for author’s personal use of their own work or for normal “fair use.” Bob Downs volunteered that he had such an agreement for his RUFF project, but it was pointed out that there needed to be appropriate wording presented to anyone downloading an *Am. Min.* article about the personal and “fair use” terms.

*J. Valley moved to authorize the Executive Director to require written permissions for*

persons and organizations using MSA publications from the Web. S = J. Hughes. 9 Yeas, 1 Abstention; motion passed. It was reminded that there are statements in the journal, and on the website < [http://www.minsocam.org/MSA/ammin/e-pub\\_policy.htm](http://www.minsocam.org/MSA/ammin/e-pub_policy.htm) > and < <http://www.minsocam.org/MSA/Permission.html>> on MSA policy.

- (b) Jodi Rosso writes that with PDF's being "freely" available, the RiMG series is now in a risky financial position. The series is a "break-even" venture where MSA foots the bill up front and then recoups the cost of the volume production/printing through sales of the books or income received from GSW. The life of the series depends on book sales. To date, Jodi has staved off free distribution of chapters with personal communication to individual authors. Authors are aware of the financial position of the RiMG series and are also aware of the availability of books and html/PDF's at GSW. The PDF an author receives from Jodi is for his/her "personal/private use only" and we have to trust an "honor system" that this will in fact be the case. There are several ways MSA could develop an efficient way of allowing electronic distribution of individual RiMG chapters, essentially as electronic reprints, and make some additional income as well:
- At the moment the only place where RiMG is available electronically is through GeoScienceWorld (GSW). There a patron of a subscribing institution can access both an html and PDF version of each chapter, and download the PDF version. A simple and currently available option is to tell people to encourage their institutions to subscribe to GSW.
  - If an MSA member subscribes to paper + electronic or electronic versions of *American Mineralogist* they can access the electronic version at either the MSA website, or on GSW. MSA could sell its members electronic subscriptions to RiMG in a comparable way and give them access to it on GSW. It would also mean MSA would begin to migrate the RiMG business model to that of the journal.
  - GSW does have a form of electronic article offprint for authors called "rubble-tuffle" - Referrer-Based Toll-Free Links (RBTFLL). Rubble-tuffle provides a way to give authors a link to the PDF as it exists on a society's GSW site, without having to login, or have IP-address access control. It enables publishers to make available links to content on a society's site on GSW via a specified link from another site on the internet. These are links that non-subscribers can use to access certain articles or issues - a sort of "free pass" privilege for special non-subscribers.

This is a self-op feature. The publishers will do these themselves from their own maintenance page. The referring site is where the user comes from before visiting the journal. The society must enter the URL for the page on the referring site into the system at HighWire Press. This is the URL that is checked against to see whether or not the visitor is allowed to see this article.

HWP will charge \$5,000 for the first journal that gets this installed. Thereafter, it is \$500 per journal. Other societies may be interested in rubble-tuffle as a way to sell electronic offprints. Perhaps a deal could be engineered among interested GSW

societies to share the costs to get this started. The costs could also be recovered by sale of the electronic offprints.

- MSA could engineer "rubble-tuffle" on its own site, though the costs may end up being comparable to what HWP would charge.
- MSA could reword the By-Laws to exclude the RiMG series and provide it its own Section that describes reasonable use of the volume contents by an author that doesn't financially jeopardize the series.

The above information was treated as informational, and as with the pending changes at GSW, it was *the SoC to pay attention* to the changing situation and be prepared to commence enactment of the needed changes (e.g., bylaws) at a future Council meeting.

- c) The Publications Director (B. Dutrow) suggested that MSA develop a fair use agreement, similar to 'freeware' material, for the *Handbook of Mineralogy*. MSA needs to protect any income that may develop from the Handbook as well as assure that our copyright is protected. She has attached an example to her report.

The action taken under item 22 a) is considered to cover the *Handbook* as well as other MSA publications.

- d) Gordon Nord, MSA Webmaster, reported that the issue of the length of time before making access to the *American Mineralogist* free has come up again. He suggests the policy should be reaffirmed based on the usage data he presents which shows a considerable decay in requests after a few months with a spike in January when some appear to download the previous years volume entirely. Rachel commented that Oxford University reported a similar decay curve in usage. Maintaining library subscriptions requires holding onto the resource (keeping it out of public access) for more than 6 months, during which time the library is a critical source. Gordon suggested that it is effectively more like 2 to 2.5 years.

*The SoC* is to retain the current retention policies.

Rachel Russell reported her observations from an "emerging trends in publishing" seminar she recently attended about GSA's and AGU's experience with "pay-per-view", or what is now called "Individual Article Access." Both societies seem financially pleased with the results. She was asked what the individual charges are, and she responded that it was \$9-10 for AGU and \$25 for GSA articles.

*The SoC* is for Rachel to pursue what would be required to implement a "pay-per-view" policy for access to *Am. Min.* articles.

Ross Angel asked whether there might be ways to make authors of *Am. Min.* papers "happier," for example, by providing them with feedback on the impact factor of their articles. It was pointed out that an author can assess this via ISI.

23. Explore the relationship with the Meteoritical Society

The Executive Director recommended that Council give approval for him to explore the possibility of an agreement with the Meteoritical Society for society management services, much in the same was as the business office has taken on such services for the Clay Mineral Society.

After a short discussion, *it was the SoC* to authorize Alex Speer to go forward with discussions on the subject.

27. Adjournment

*J. Valley moved that the 2<sup>nd</sup> 2006 Council meeting be adjourned.* S = R. Hazen. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 3:22 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

George E. Harlow, MSA Secretary