The meeting was Called to Order at 9:00AM EDST. Attending were: President Randolph Hollingsworth; Past President Jean Stuntz; Vice President Networks Patrick Cox; Vice President Research and Publications Robert Cassanello; Executive Director Peter Knupfer; Associate Director Jesse Draper; Associate Director Yelena Kalinsky; Scott N. Hendrix, Secretary-Treasurer; Ryan Dunch H-Staff Editor; Dan Fandino; Avrum Goodblatt; Donna Sinclair; Andrew Iliadis.

A quorum was present.

The Minutes of the last meeting were revised and deferred to online discussion for approval.

The Vice President for Research and Publication Robert Cassanello reported:
Robert discussed the issue of the job description of the Review Editor position. It was agreed that the working would change from the below to what follows:

Review editors are recruited to work directly with specific networks. They solicit reviewers, edit reviews, work with online editors to post reviews to their networks, work with reviewers, authors, and publishers to develop reviews and special feature pieces on materials in print or other media forms. Review editors must have strong field qualifications for the subject covered by the networks; be able to send, receive, and edit electronic mail on a reliable and regular basis; review editor must be able to work within H-Net's online Reviews Management System. H-Net provides basic training in the use of H-Net Commons editing. Some networks have multiple review editors assigned to specific fields or subjects. Since H-Net Reviews editing offices and staff are located in the United States it is expected that Review Editors can communicate and edit in English effectively.

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Robert also raised the issue of how Review Editors and Networks should deal with cases where there is evidence of misconduct -- plagiarism or other similar issues. It was agreed that the policy should be as follows:

H-Net expects each Review Editor and Reviewer to be familiar with the AHA "Statement on Standards of Professional Conduct" [http://www.historians.org/jobs-and-professional-development/statements-and-standards-of-th...] and/or any similar document which might govern any academic group that maintains professional standards.

1. H-Net strongly recommends networks do not review materials where there is demonstrated evidence of misconduct. If a network believes that a review which suggests evidence of misconduct is of value to their network of scholars then the evidence for said misconduct must be verified by the Vice President of Research and Publications and the Plan-Review Board before the review can be published.

2. If a Review Editor, Network Editor, Board Member, or someone connected to a network wishes to contact a publisher or an author's home institution about any misconduct, the merit of the accusation must be verified by the VP of Publications, Plan Review Board, and the Executive Director of H-Net. Otherwise, the individual scholar submitting the charges needs to make clear that they are submitted by an individual scholar and not by H-Net or any connected network.

The issue of requests to withdraw reviews was then discussed. The proposed policy was sent to the Standing Committee for Rules and Procedures (SCRAP).

Robert then reported on the podcast project: he sees them as a vehicle to bring attention to H-Reviews, and informs us that the first podcasts will be titled: "The Art of the Review."

The Vice President for Networks Patrick Cox reported: Patrick reported that he has had success in recruiting new editors, and he is especially pleased that this includes some editors for inactive networks.

Dan Fandino raised the issue of funding for short term digital projects.

Executive Director Peter Knupfer then made his report: Peter reports that H-Net is changing, the staff now includes two associate directors, and fresh faces are bringing fresh thinking. Currently H-Net has $146,000.00 in the bank. Finances are generally sound, Job Guide revenue is good, and capital expenditures (primarily new servers) continue.

Associate Director Yelena Kalinsky reported: Yelena says that things are getting back on track in the review process. She has three goals: to broaden the topics of reviews; bring the podcasts online; and to create a book channel with new books announcements.

Associate Director Jesse Draper reported: Jesse stated that from his perspective things were also getting back on track. He has been busy with training and hopes to reform the training process. He is enthusiastic about the concept of "Hubs," sites that aggregate several networks of
similar topics together. Jesse hopes to continue to build up H-Net's presence in the digital humanities. The biggest problem continues to be the misuse of categories and tags.

Past President Jean Stuntz opened the discussion of a revision of H-Net’s Strategic Plan. After some discussion it was agreed that in fact it was time to draw-up a new Strategic Plan. A committee was appointed consisting of Randolph Hollingsworth, Dan Fandino, Andrew Iliadis, Donna Sinclair, Jean Stunz, Scott Hendrix, Monika Lehner, Robert Cassanello, Patrick Cox, and Peter Knupfer to draft the new Strategic Plan and present it to Council for review.

President Randolph Hollingsworth reported on the status of H-Net's upcoming election. We are aiming for elections in early April.

Randolph raised the possibility of H-Net issuing a "White Paper" concerning H-Net's status and intentions in the context of the Open Access movement and other organizations. It was agreed that these topic properly fit into the contents of the Strategic Plan discussed above.

The issue of Executive Council transparency and communications with the larger H-Net world was then discussed. It was agreed that the Public Executive Council site would be made live, and that the VPs would blog.

The issue of transitioning to a new Executive Director was raised: it was agreed that procedures needed to be developed and this was made part of the remit of the Strategic Planning Committee.

Peter reported that H-Announce was moving to the Commons.

The meeting was Adjourned at 12:01PM EDST.

Faithfully recorded,

Scott N. Hendrix
H-Net Council Secretary