

Pacific Coast Numismatic Society  
January 2020 Minutes

The board meeting for January 22, 2020 was called to order at 7:00pm at the Fort Mason by President Jason Macario. Present were Secretary Bob Somers, past President Dan Hipple, Governor Paul Turner and member Jerry Schimmel. Ed Treuting and Stephen Huston sent their regrets.

Dan handed over the gavel to Jason as well as the key to the mailbox.

The minutes from the December meeting were approved.

The board reviewed the Treasurer's Report for January 1, 2020 through January 21. The board reviewed the Treasurer's Report for year-end 2019.

There was no update on the movement of the PCNS library out of the Sutro Library.

Jerry continues to edit his articles for the upcoming monograph.

Dan will continue the following duties, organizing the papers contest, the monthly drawings and maintain the archives. Dan has also volunteer to host the summer BBQ on June 27<sup>th</sup>.

Upcoming speakers are Paul Turner in February, available spot in March and Jerry Schimmel in April.

Submissions for the annual papers contest are due no later than the April meeting.

The board meeting adjourned at 7:10pm.

The general meeting was called to order at 7:30pm. Also attending were Chris Rivers, Ken Takahashi, Jeff Fung, Federico Castillo, Mark Wm Clark, speaker David McCarthy and his guest Sunha Tallakson as well as first time visitors Chris and Eric.

Jason reviewed the current financials with rent being our biggest expense.

Members are reminded to pay their \$20 membership dues for 2020.

Upcoming coin shows were announced.

Jason put out a call for speakers for March and May.

There was no drawing and no member exhibits as the meeting was running long.

The presentation this evening by David McCarthy was a preview of an upcoming article to be published in The Numismatist on The Continental Currency Medal – How a European souvenir medal became of the most desirable "coins" in early US numismatics. David began by giving an overview of what was the traditionally accepted history of the continental dollar. Dated 1776, the coins were thought to be substitutes for paper dollars. This view is still widely held today

with the coins listed in the Red Books as a Federal issue. While researching the Nova Costellatio patterns, David found the Continental Currency dollars were a little too good to be true. There is no record of their issuance in the papers of the Continental Congress and most of the dollars survive in conditions that do not indicate they were used as money. Hundreds of examples were struck in pewter, a metal not conducive to coinage, with some in brass and a few in silver. They appear to have more in common with Betts medals than any coin of the early United States. After doing a forensic analysis of the past written record on these coins, David discovered assumptions, discrepancies and omissions of fact that need to be corrected. His research points to the Continental Currency "dollars" being struck in Europe as a medal and that numismatic researchers could have and should have picked up on the red flags rather than declaring the medal as a Continental issue. We look forward to the article to be published later this year.

The general meeting adjourned at 9:00pm.