1. Approval of the minutes from the February 2017 meeting—approved

2. Officer Nominations

   **SBL**—two-year terms—**all approved**
   - Regional Coordinator—Stacy Davis
   - Vice President—Eric F. Mason
   - President (present VP)—Nancy Pardee
   - SRSC coordinator—Jenny De Vivo (renewal)
   - *Conversations with the Biblical World* journal HB editor (first term)—Robert Wallace
   - *Conversations with the Biblical World* journal NT editor (second term)—D. Dale Walker

   - announcement: new SBL Student Representative Abelardo Rivas Santini, Andrews University

3. Financial report for AOS—approved

4. Financial report for SBL—approved

5. Student Religious Studies Conference report—**21 papers, about 40 in attendance**

6. Graduate Student Paper Competition ($300 prizes)—winners were Preston L. Atwood, University of Wisconsin—Madison (HB/ANE) and Murray Vasser, Asbury Theological Seminary (NT/EC)

7. Regional Scholar Nominations ($400 regional prize; advance for national consideration)—**four candidates** [Nathan Mastnjak, Indiana University, announced as 2018 winner after the meeting]; 2017 regional honoree Chontel Syfox (University of Notre Dame) was also selected as a national winner (our fourth national honoree in the last six years)

8. Date and location for 2019 meeting—**plan to return to Saint Mary’s College on Feb. 8–10, 2019**

9. Resolution—**Stacy Davis to prepare letter of appreciation to Saint Mary’s College for hosting us**

10. Other Business—**all the following were approved except * **
   - AOS and SBL traditionally have alternated years for presidential address and plenary/theme planning, but AOS will now do so only every fourth year (next in 2021); SBL likely will bring in a featured speaker from outside the region for 2019 for two speaking slots (and likely no banquet)
   - the national ASOR eliminated its program for regions, so we may no longer promote our regional meeting as including ASOR, but ASOR members can organize distinct “ASOR member-sponsored sessions” at the meeting per guidance from the national ASOR executive director
   - region will cover hotel expenses for SRSC coordinator and SBL student representative (effective 2018)
   - a person may not apply for the Regional Scholar award and the Graduate Student Paper Competition in the same year
   - beginning in 2019, the region will award up to three Graduate Student Paper Awards with prize money increased from $300 to $400, and the Regional Scholar prize money will increase from $400 to $500
   - officers are authorized to develop a new registration fee structure for contingent/adjunct faculty members, retired faculty members, and/or independent scholars
   - we began initial discussion of how the region might manage future growth in the number of papers proposed for the meeting, whether through scheduling changes or higher selectivity of proposals accepted