



AMERICAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY

100 Match Factory Place • Bellefonte, PA 16823
Phone: 814-933-3803 • E-mail: info@stamps.org



AMERICAN STAMP DEALERS ASSOCIATION

PO Box 513 • Centre Hill, PA 16828
Phone: 800-369-8207, ext. 4 • www.americanstampdealer.com
Email: dana@americanstampdealer.com



November 10, 2016

Dear Friends,

The Summit on the Future of Philately was held on Friday, October 28, 2016 at the American Philatelic Center. We had 56 leaders within the industry participating in the Summit in person or by phone and hundreds more have viewed the Summit online since then.

Thanks to all who were able to participate in the Summit. We had a very positive and balanced conversation that focused forward on the hobby. As promised, we are providing you with a summary of the meeting and a discussion on next steps.

There were three key takeaway items that dictate our next steps:

1. The branding of the hobby to be more inclusive and descriptive of the hobby, especially for non-collectors,
2. Increasing our technological capabilities to reach a larger audience of collectors,
3. Strengthening our ability to improve the marketplace, including preparing the next generation of dealers today.

As discussed at the Summit, we believe that these needs require a permanent and sustained effort by the highest leadership in the collecting community. As a start, we would like to invite the leaders from the five key groups of the hobby to join as a permanent Council for Postal Collectors: the American Philatelic Society (President and Executive Director), National Postal Museum (Director), United States Postal Service, American Stamp Dealers Association (President), National Stamp Dealers Association (President), and the American Topical Association (President).

We are inviting this group to convene in the month of December to consider this summary and develop an action plan going forward to develop initiatives in partnership. At that time, we should also consider additional members we should invite to join. We will receive support from the staff of the American Philatelic Society, but we will also ask that you consider all resources available to you as we develop these plans.

Your first step is to contact the Council at future@stamps.org to provide the appropriate contact information to contact for meeting notices and other information as we move ahead. From there we will schedule the first meeting. Thank you again for your leadership and we look forward to a strong partnership going forward.

Sincerely,

Mick Zais
President
APS

Mark Reasoner
President
ASDA