

**THE ORGAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY**  
**Minutes of the National Council Meeting**  
**Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, October 17-19, 2003**  
**State Room, Radisson Hotel Richmond**  
**301 West Franklin Street, Richmond, Virginia**

*These minutes follow the order of the agenda and do not necessarily follow the order in which they were discussed.*

**Call to Order:** The meeting of the National Council of the Organ Historical Society was called to order by President Friesen on Friday, October 17, 2003, at 1:31 p.m., in the State Room of the Radisson Hotel, 301 West Franklin Street, Richmond, Virginia. A quorum of Council members was established. Present: Michael Friesen (President), Scot Huntington (Vice-President), Stephen Schnurr (Secretary), Allison Alcorn-Oppedahl, Mary Gifford, Rachelen Lien, Paul Marchesano (arrived 4:03 p.m., excused), Malcolm Wechsler (arrived 2:04 p.m.), David Barnett (Treasurer), and William Van Pelt (Executive Director). Absent: David Dahl (excused). Also present were: Agnes Armstrong and James Wallmann. The meeting recessed for dinner at 6:30 p.m. The meeting reconvened at 9:20 p.m., with Council members only present. The meeting recessed for the day at 10:03 p.m.

The meeting reconvened on Saturday morning at 9:14 a.m. Present were: Michael Friesen (President), Scot Huntington (Vice-President, arrived 9:22 a.m.), Stephen Schnurr (Secretary), Allison Alcorn-Oppedahl, Mary Gifford, Rachelen Lien, Paul Marchesano, David Barnett (Treasurer), William Van Pelt (Executive Director). Absent: David Dahl (excused). Also present was Linda Lysakowski, from Capital Venture, for the morning only. The meeting recessed for luncheon at 12:33 p.m. The meeting reconvened at 2:16 p.m., at which point James Wallmann was present in addition to Councilors. The meeting recessed for dinner at 6:36 p.m.

The meeting reconvened on Sunday morning at 9:14 a.m. Present were: Michael Friesen (President), Scot Huntington (Vice-President), Stephen Schnurr (Secretary), Allison Alcorn-Oppedahl, Mary Gifford, Rachelen Lien (departed at 2:00 p.m.), Paul Marchesano, David Barnett (Treasurer), William Van Pelt (Executive Director). Absent: David Dahl (excused). The meeting adjourned for luncheon at 12:39 p.m. The meeting reconvened at 1:28 p.m.

**Approval of Minutes:** Moved—Alcorn-Oppedahl; second—Gifford, to approve minutes of the Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, meeting, held June 18-19, 2003, as circulated by the Secretary and to be published in accordance with Roberts' Rules of Order. Motion passed, one abstention.

### **Reports**

**Executive Director:** William Van Pelt. The Executive Director presented a written report. The Annual Giving Fund has yielded approximately \$20,000 to date for this year. In addition, a gift approximating \$5,000 in value was given to be used at the discretion of the Executive Director, who has directed that the gift be turned over to the Endowment Fund. A sales catalogue is in preparation at this time.

**Treasurer:** David Barnett. A written report was submitted by the Treasurer. Membership is at an all-time high at 4,138. The Biggs Fellowship budget for 2004 Fellowships stands at \$2,553.80.

**President's Report:** Michael Friesen. The President presented an oral report. Much of the President's recent efforts on behalf of his office have been utilized dealing with filling the vacancy of the editorship of *The Tracker*. The President coordinated the new advertisement for the Director of Publications with Lee Orr, Chair of the Publications Oversight Committee. Other time was spent moderating with the Nominating Committee and the Publications Committee. The President also spent time arranging for the fundraising advisor for this weekend's meeting.

**Vice-President's Report:** Scot Huntington. The Vice-President presented a brief report regarding the Ten-Year Plan.

### Councilors' Reports

**Archives:** Allison Alcorn-Oppedahl. Councilor Alcorn-Oppedahl presented a written report. An appraisal of manuscripts held by the Archives was completed by Wurlitzer-Bruck of New York.

**Conventions:** David Dahl. A written report was submitted by Councilor Dahl in his absence. A supplemental report was submitted by Kristin Farmer, Convention Coordinator.

**Education:** Paul Marchesano. A written report was submitted by Councilor Marchesano. Derek Nickels has accepted appointment as Chair of the Biggs Fellowship Committee, and Stephen Schnurr has been appointed Chair of the Historic Organ Citations Committee.

**Moved:** Marchesano; second – Alcorn-Oppedahl, that National Council ratify the appointment of Derek Nickels as Chair of the Biggs Fellowship Committee. Motion passed unanimously.

**Moved:** Marchesano; second – Gifford, that National Council ratify the appointment of Stephen Schnurr as Chair of the Historic Organ Citations Committee. Motion passed, one abstention (Schnurr).

**Finance and Development:** Malcolm Wechsler. Councilor Wechsler submitted a written report from the Endowment Fund Advisory Board.

**Organizational Concerns:** Rachelen Lien. Councilor Lien presented a written report. Councilor Marchesano offered to work with the Membership Committee to develop a membership survey. The President offered to continue his communication with the American Guild of Organists regarding cooperative efforts with the AGO's Pipe Organ Encounters program.

**Research and Publications:** Mary Gifford. Councilor Gifford submitted a written report. Agnes Armstrong was introduced to the National Council as the new editor of *The Tracker*.

**Moved:** Gifford; second – Wechsler, that National Council accepts the resignation of Frank Morana as editor of *The Tracker* and expresses its gratitude for his service. Motion passed unanimously.

**Moved:** Gifford; second – Alcorn-Oppedahl, that National Council approve the contract as discussed appointing Agnes Armstrong as interim editor of *The Tracker*. Motion passed unanimously.

### Old Business

**Ten-Year Plan:** Huntington. The Vice-President requested Council Members to reread the Ten-Year Plan and to respond to him with thoughts for updating the Plan.

**Guidelines for Restoration:** Huntington. There was no report.

**Endowment Fund:** Linda Lysakowski, ACFRE, President of Capital Venture, was present on Saturday morning to make a presentation on an Endowment Campaign.

**Fiftieth Anniversary:** the Vice-President presented a brief update on the upcoming publication of a history of the Society. Possible special options for a *festschrift* and for Anniversary editions of *The Tracker* and *Handbook* were discussed.

**Chicago 2006 American Guild of Organists Convention Recital:** as there was no report on progress on this item since the June 2003 meeting of National Council, the President offered to contact American Guild of Organists Convention Committee personnel and employees of the Guild regarding necessities for progress in this area.

**Archives Operating Procedures:** Alcorn-Oppedahl. There was no report.

**Employee Job Review Process:** Lien. There was no report.

**Convention Sourcebook Review Committee:** There has been no activity since the March meeting of National Council.

**Moved:** Schnurr; second—Huntington, that National Council accept the proposal for a National Convention to be held in the Indianapolis, Indiana, metropolitan area in 2007. Motion passed unanimously.

**Moved:** Marchesano; second—Wechsler, that National Council seek National Convention proposals in the Pacific Northwest area in 2008 and the Twin Cities, Minnesota, area in 2009. Motion passed, one opposed.

**Moved:** Huntington; second—Marchesano, whereas there have been policy changes since the last ratified edition of the Convention Sourcebook, the Convention Coordinator is directed to disseminate current drafts of the Convention Sourcebook, and that the Convention Coordinator shall keep Convention Chairs up to date on all policy changes concerning Conventions. Motion passed unanimously.

**Restructuring Committee Report:** Lien. The committee has commenced its work.

**By-Laws Committee Report:** Lien. Agnes Armstrong and James Wallmann were introduced along with Scot Huntington for their work on revision of the By-Laws. An extended draft document related to their work had previously been circulated to National Council members. The Council engaged in lively conversation regarding a proposed revised and restated By-Laws, drawn and submitted by Mr. Wallmann.

**Executive Director's Contract:** aspects of a possible future Executive Director contract were discussed.

### New Business

**Moved:** Schnurr; second—Huntington, that National Council grant five complimentary hotel rooms at the Adam's Mark Hotel to the 2004 Buffalo National Convention Committee during the 2004 National Convention. Vote by roll call: Alcorn-Oppedahl—yes; Barnett—yes; Gifford—yes; Huntington—abstain; Lien—yes; Marchesano—yes; Schnurr—abstain; Wechsler—yes. Motion passes.

**Moved:** Marchesano; second—Schnurr, that the Slide-Tape program of the Organ Historical Society be retired, and that a copy be deposited in the American Organ Archives until such time as original material can be assembled and deposited in its place. Motion passed, three opposed.

**Moved:** Marchesano; second—Huntington, that National Council accept the proposal from Dr. James Cook of Birmingham-Southern College providing the OHS Pipe Organ Database as a basis for a sabbatical research project to place the Database in an accessible, searchable online format. Motion passed unanimously.

**Moved:** Barnett; second – Marchesano, that National Council open a second account with the Vanguard Group, Vanguard GMMMA Fund, for deposit of E. Power Biggs Fund monies, and approve the corporate resolution for this act. Motion passed unanimously.

**Moved:** Barnett; second – Marchesano, that National Council open a third account with the Vanguard Group, Vanguard S&P 500 Fund, for deposit of Endowment Fund monies, and approve the corporate resolution for this act, as request by the Endowment Fund Advisory Board. Motion passed unanimously.

**Moved:** Barnett; second – Marchesano, that National Council approve the change to the Treasurer only as the signatory on the existing Vanguard Group, Vanguard GMMMA Fund account for the Endowment Fund, and adopt the revised corporate resolution for this act. Motion passed unanimously.

**Moved:** Barnett; second – Marchesano, that National Council adopt a corporate resolution with Legg Mason for the existing account. Motion passed unanimously.

**Moved:** Lien; second – Wechsler, that the Tannenberg Chapter be dissolved with regret. Motion passed, one opposed.

**Moved:** Alcorn-Oppedahl; second – Marchesano, that National Council authorize the Archives Governing Board to proceed with its plans for its 2005 Archives Symposium, cosponsored by Rutgers University. Motion passed unanimously.

**Moved:** Alcorn-Oppedahl; second – Gifford, that National Council appoint Scot Huntington to act as Organ Historical Society liaison to a consortium forming to better promote the pipe Organ, along with the American Institute of Organbuilders, American Guild of Organists, Association Pipe Organ Builders of America, American Theatre Organ Society, and the Organ Historical Society. Motion passed, one abstention.

The President introduced the topic for further discussion at a later date of development of a Mission Statement and a Vision Statement for the Organ Historical Society.

### **Upcoming Meetings**

Friday and Saturday, March 5-6, 2004, in New Orleans, Louisiana.  
Tuesday and Wednesday, July 13-14, 2004, in Buffalo, New York.  
Friday and Saturday, October 22-23, 2004, in Princeton, New Jersey.

### **Adjournment**

**Moved:** Alcorn-Oppedahl; second – Wechsler, to adjourn. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 3:29 p.m.

*--Respectfully submitted, Stephen Schnurr, Secretary.*

*--Approved Friday, March 5, 2004, in New Orleans, Louisiana.*