

THE ORGAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY
Minutes of the National Council Meeting
Friday and Saturday, October 22-23, 2004
The American Organ Archives of the Organ Historical Society
Talbott Library, Westminster Choir College, Princeton, New Jersey

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 22, 2004, at 1:42 p.m., in the American Organ Archives. A quorum of Council members was established. Present: Michael Friesen (President), Scot Huntington (Vice-President, arrived 3:03 p.m.), Stephen Schnurr (Secretary), Allison Alcorn-Oppedahl, David Dahl, Rachelen Lien, Paul Marchesano, and William Van Pelt (Executive Director). Absent: David Barnett (Treasurer), excused; Malcolm Wechsler, unexcused. Also in attendance: Stephen Pinel, Archivist.

Approval of Minutes: Moved—Alcorn-Oppedahl; second—Marchesano, to approve minutes of the Buffalo, New York, meeting, held July 13-14, 2004, as circulated by the Secretary and to be published in accordance with Roberts' Rules of Order. Motion passed unanimously.

Reports

Executive Director: William Van Pelt. The Executive Director presented a written report. The Buffalo Convention has reported a profit of approximately \$35,000. Euro-Tours have recorded approximately \$17,000 in profit. The Executive Director has visited 2005 National Convention venues and has completed photography of Convention sites. The Secretary added that he has begun work on editing the 2002 Chicago Convention compact discs.

Treasurer: David Barnett. A written report was submitted by the Treasurer in his absence. As at September 30, 2004, paid membership totaled 3,864, a decrease of approximately 10% from 4,104 from this time last year. Fiscal Year 2003-2004 membership income was \$180,000 about the same as that of the past year. *The Tracker* advertising experienced an increase of 151% to \$8,826, compared to last year's \$3,521. Merchandise sales total was \$775,896, an increase of approximately 10% from the last year. Selected gift fund income is as follows: Friends of the Convention, \$7,725; Annual Giving Fund, \$19,493; Biggs Fund, \$1,790; Archives Fund, \$5,521; Endowment Fund, \$8,887. *Organ Handbook* advertising income, exclusive of Friends of the Convention, was approximately \$26,000.

President's Report: Michael Friesen. The President presented a verbal report. The President attended the September meeting of the Publications Governing Board in Florida. A draft contract for the new Director of Publications has been drawn and circulated among the necessary parties.

Vice-President's Report: Scot Huntington. The Vice-President presented a written report. The Vice-President attended a meeting of the Archives Governing Board discussing the Ten Year Plan of the Society and the need for long-term plans for Archives space.

Councilors' Reports

Archives: Allison Alcorn-Oppedahl. Councilor Alcorn-Oppedahl presented a written report. Acquisition of the collection of the late Henry Karl Baker has been completed. Approximately five-hundred volumes will be incorporated into the collection, with the remaining volumes to be sold to raise funds to pay for the purchase of the collection. Final details for the 2005 Symposium are presently being attended to. Initial plans for a 2007 Symposium, to be held at the Eastman School of Music, Rochester,

New York, are being drawn. The protocol with the Royal College of Organists has been completed and signed. The most recent meeting of the Archives Governing Board included extensive discussion of the Ten Year Plan as it pertains to the Archives.

Conventions: David Dahl. A written report was submitted by Councilor Dahl. The 2005 National Convention in Old Colony, Massachusetts, has a firm schedule with most arrangements in place. Stephen Pinel is now temporary Chair of the 2006 National Convention Committee in Saratoga Springs, New York. The Vice-President presented a report on the Committee's visit to selected venues on the convention schedule. The committee for the 2008 National Convention in Seattle/Tacoma, Washington, is presently in formation. The evaluations of the 2004 National Convention in Buffalo, New York, have been compiled by Jerry Morton, and are very complimentary.

Moved: Dahl; second—Huntington, that National Council approve the request of the 2005 National Convention Committee for two hotel rooms for the Committee's use. Motion passed unanimously.

Resolved: Dahl; second—Marchesano, that National Council expresses its sincere appreciation and thanks to Chair Joseph McCabe and his committee for superb leadership and a successful National Convention in Buffalo. Motion passed unanimously.

Education: Paul Marchesano. A written report was submitted by Councilor Marchesano. The Historic Organ Citations Committee now has a webpage on the Society's website. Four organs have been awarded Citations since the July meeting of the Council. During October, six Citations are scheduled for presentation, including the Midmer-Losh and Kimball organs of the Atlantic City Convention Hall, the Æolian organ of Monmouth University, the Henry Erben organ in Old Saint Patrick Cathedral, New York City, the Skinner organ of Severance Hall, Cleveland, and the Hook-Hastings organ of the former First Church of Christ, Scientist, Saint Joseph, Missouri, the lattermost featured in a recent program of *Pipedreams*. National Council members will be present for several of these presentations. The OHS Database is online on a test server and is scheduled to be unveiled at the 2005 Symposium and the 2005 National Convention. Two Historic Organ Recital applications are pending.

Finance and Development: Malcolm Wechsler. There was no report.

Organizational Concerns: Rachelen Lien. Councilor Lien presented a written report. Chicago-Midwest and New Orleans Chapters both have new websites and conduct frequent organ crawls, recitals, and other interesting activities. Discussion of the Meritorious Service Award and its committee ensued. The Council asked the Distinguished Service Award Committee to review their voting procedures and criteria.

Moved: Schnurr; second—Marchesano, that a committee be created to establish criteria and operating procedures for the award currently known as the Meritorious Service Award. Said committee to consist of the Councilor for Organizational Concerns (Chair), David Dahl, Michael Friesen, and Scot Huntington. A report is requested for the March 2005 meeting of the National Council. Motion passed unanimously.

Research and Publications: Vacant. The Vice-President included the work of the Publications Governing Board in his written report.

Resolved: Huntington; second—Marchesano, that National Council express its appreciation to Agnes Armstrong for her work as editor for *The Tracker*, volume 48. Motion passed unanimously.

Old Business

Ten-Year Plan: Huntington. There was no further report, other than that given under the Vice-President's and Archives Reports above.

Guidelines for Restoration: Huntington. There was no report.

Fiftieth Anniversary Endowment Fund: Wechsler. There was no report.

Fiftieth Anniversary Events: Huntington. Aspects of exploring a jointly-sponsored seminar on organbuilding were discussed.

Fiftieth Anniversary Publications: Stephen Pinel led discussion on possibilities of an OHS Cookbook to be published for the Anniversary. The OHS History is in progress by Councilor Alcorn-Oppedahl.

Chicago 2006 American Guild of Organists Convention Recital: Huntington. There was no report.

Archives Operating Procedures: Alcorn-Oppedahl. The Archives Governing Board intends to resume discussion of this topic at its next meeting.

Employee Policy Manual: Lien. The committee has gathered some job descriptions and other information.

Restructuring Committee Report: Marchesano. A packet of information has been sent to the committee, with the expectation that a full report will be formulated for the March 2005 meeting of the Council.

Executive Director's Contract: Marchesano. Councilor Marchesano, President Friesen, and the Executive Director have had considerable exchange of e-mail regarding a draft contract. It is expected that the few differences remaining will be worked out in the near future.

The concept of a contract for the Archivist was briefly discussed, with the issue to be sent to the Archives Governing Board for further development.

Multimedia Program: Marchesano. There was no report.

Membership Survey: Marchesano. The Publications Governing Board has expressed the desire to coordinate a marketing survey with a membership-wide survey.

Convention Coordinator: Dahl. Brief discussion of the future of the positions of Convention Coordinator and Councilor for Conventions occurred.

The meeting adjourned for the day at 8:14 p.m.

The meeting reconvened on Saturday, October 23, at 9:36 a.m. Present were: Michael Friesen (President), Scot Huntington (Vice-President), Stephen Schnurr (Secretary), Allison Alcorn-Oppedahl, David Dahl, Sebastian Glück (arrived 10:42 a.m.), Rachelen Lien, Paul Marchesano. Absent: David Barnett (Treasurer), excused, Malcolm Wechsler, unexcused. Also present: Stephen Pinel, Archivist.

New Business

Moved: Schnurr; second – Alcorn-Oppedahl, that Council Members' reports for Annual Meetings of the Society be presented in written form to the membership. The Secretary will establish a deadline for submission of reports, compile said reports, and cause them to be printed. Motion passed unanimously.

Moved: Schnurr; second – Marchesano, that the Organ Historical Society open a second brokerage account at Scottrade Financial Services per the standard corporate resolution form. Motion passed unanimously.

Moved: Huntington; second –Dahl, that the Organ Historical Society contribute \$2,500 to the American Guild of Organists Pipe Organ Encounters program for 2005. Motion passed, one opposed.

Moved: Huntington; second –Marchesano, that National Council appoint Sebastian Glück to the vacancy of Councilor for Research and Publications. Motion passed unanimously.

Moved: Schnurr, second –Huntington, that National Council rescind the Historic Organ Citation for Saint Mark Episcopal Church of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Vote by roll call: Alcorn-Oppedahl –yes; Dahl –yes; Glück –yes; Huntington –yes; Lien –yes; Marchesano –yes; Schnurr –yes. Motion passed unanimously.

The meeting recessed for luncheon at 1:15 p.m. The meeting reconvened at 3:25 p.m.

Moved: Dahl; second –Lien, that the National Council authorize the Executive Director to search for and hire a full-time administrative assistant. Motion passed, one opposed, one abstention.

Moved: Marchesano; second –Dahl, that the compensation plus benefits package for the administrative assistant not exceed \$27,000 in the first year. Motion passed, one opposed, one abstention.

Moved: Marchesano; second –Huntington, that the National Council authorize the Publications Governing Board to engage editor(s) and layout personnel for the 2005 *Organ Handbook*. Motion passed unanimously.

Moved: Huntington; second –Marchesano, that the National Council declare the office of Councilor for Finance and Development vacant, pursuant to the By-laws of the Society, section 4.24f. Motion passed, one abstention.

Whereas: Marchesano; second –Alcorn-Oppedahl, the By-laws of the Society adopted on July 18, 2004, transfers the responsibility for advertising in the Society's publications to the Publications Governing Board, the position of advertising manager is thereby vacated. Motion passed, one abstention.

Moved: Marchesano; second –Huntington, that the National Council authorize the Publications Governing Board to engage an advertising manager for the Society's publications. Motion passed, one abstention.

Moved: Alcorn-Oppedahl; second –Dahl, that the National Council terminate the current membership of the Membership Committee and appoint Peter Isherwood Chair. Mr. Isherwood is directed to form a new committee of no more than five members. Motion passed unanimously.

Moved: Huntington; second –Marchesano, that the Membership Committee be placed under the purview of the Councilor for Organizational Concerns. Motion passed unanimously.

Moved: Huntington; second –Dahl, that James Johnston be appointed Councilor for Finance and Development to fill the remainder of the vacant term. Motion passed, one abstention.

Taking a list of long-term goals compiled at the New Orleans, Louisiana, meeting of the National Council in March 2004, the Council narrowed the list to select goals of high priority.

Councilor Marchesano demonstrated the online progress of the searchable database for the Historic Organ Citations program, said database projected to be available publicly in the near future.

Upcoming Meetings

Friday and Saturday, March 4-5, 2005, in Richmond, Virginia.
Monday and Tuesday, July 11-12, 2005, in Brockton, Massachusetts.
Friday and Saturday, October 14-15, 2005, in Princeton, New Jersey.

Adjournment

Moved: Huntington; second – Lien, to adjourn. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 6:59 p.m.

--Respectfully submitted, Stephen Schnurr, Secretary.

--Approved, Friday, March 4, 2005, in Richmond, Virginia.