

THE ORGAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY
Minutes of the National Council Meeting
Tuesday and Wednesday, July 13-14, 2004
The Adam's Mark Hotel
Buffalo, New York

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 Vice-President Huntington on Tuesday, July 13, 2004, at 9:11 a.m., in the Superior Room of the Adam's Mark Hotel, 220 Church Street, Buffalo, New York. A quorum of Council members was established. Present: Michael Friesen (President, arrived 2:39 p.m.), Scot Huntington (Vice-President), Stephen Schnurr (Secretary), Allison Alcorn-Oppedahl, David Dahl, Mary Gifford, Rachelen Lien, Paul Marchesano, David Barnett (Treasurer), and William Van Pelt (Executive Director). Absent: Malcolm Wechsler. Also in attendance: Stephen Pinel, Archivist.

Approval of Minutes: Moved – Marchesano; second – Alcorn-Oppedahl, to approve minutes of the New Orleans, Louisiana, meeting, held March 5-7, 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. As of July 11, 2004 Buffalo OHS National Convention registrations numbered 350 persons, with 287 projected average daily attendance, representing the highest registration numbers since the 2000 Boston National Convention. A 16-page catalogue supplement was mailed in mid-June. A large exhibit was present for the 2004 American Guild of Organists National Convention in Los Angeles in early July, for which sales were brisk.

Treasurer: David Barnett. A written report was submitted by the Treasurer. Membership income is 18% higher than budgeted. Merchandise sales have increased 8.2% over the same period in the last fiscal year. Paid membership in May totaled 3,730, down 5.8% from last year. The 2002-2003 Fiscal Year financial records have been reviewed by Martin, Dolan, and Holton, CPA's.

Vice-President's Report: Scot Huntington. The Vice-President presented a written report. The Committee for the Guidelines for Conservation and Restoration has submitted a list of documents it is reviewing as a part of its work. The Committee anticipates a meeting in Williamsburg, Virginia, in the future.

Councilors' Reports

Archives: Allison Alcorn-Oppedahl. Councilor Alcorn-Oppedahl presented a written report. The Archives is conducting negotiations to acquire the library of the late Henry Karl Baker of the Organ Literature Foundation of Braintree, Massachusetts. Plans for the 2005 symposium continue in formation.

Resolved: Alcorn-Oppedahl; second – Schnurr, that the National Council, on behalf of the Organ Historical Society, expresses its support for the acquisition of the private library of the late Henry Karl Baker. Resolution passed unanimously.

Moved: Alcorn-Oppedahl; second – Schnurr, that the President be directed to sign the promissory note for the acquisition of the private library of the late Henry Karl Baker. Motion passed unanimously.

Resolved: Alcorn-Oppedahl; second—Gifford, that the National Council, on behalf of the Organ Historical Society, expresses its appreciation to Mary Baker for her kind consideration of the American Organ Archives of the Organ Historical Society as the repository of the private library of her late husband. Resolution passed unanimously.

Conventions: David Dahl. A written report was submitted by Councilor Dahl. Jonathan Ambrosino was appointed by President Friesen as Convention Coordinator *pro tempore* since the March meeting of the Council. Ambrosino's resignation has since been received. Income from Friends of the Convention has risen significantly in recent years.

Education: Paul Marchesano. A written report was submitted by Councilor Marchesano. There are two E. Power Biggs Fellows for the 2004 National Convention: Michael Diorio, of Boston University, Boston, Massachusetts, and Nathan LeMahieu, of Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois.

Moved: Marchesano; second—Schnurr, that a set of files of the Historic Organ Citations Committee be deposited in the American Organ Archives of the Organ Historical Society. Motion passed unanimously.

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

Organizational Concerns: Rachelen Lien. Councilor Lien presented a written report. Chicago-Midwest Chapter remains the largest and most active Chapter, with regular publication of its journal. The Restructuring Committee Chair, Paul Marchesano, has been collecting documentation on non-profit organization structures, for distribution to the Committee after the Buffalo Convention.

Research and Publications: Mary Gifford. Councilor Gifford submitted a written report. *The Organist's Journal and Review* by Eugene Thayer has been reprinted by OHS Press. The 2001 Winston-Salem National Convention compact discs are completed and may be available for purchase at the Buffalo Convention. Publications Oversight Committee Chair Scot Huntington related that the Publications Oversight Committee met in early July in Los Angeles and will present a candidate later in this meeting to the National Council for consideration for the position of Director of Publications. A prototype of a proposed OHS Press advertisement was presented.

The meeting recessed for luncheon at 12:02 p.m. The meeting reconvened at 1:19 p.m.

Old Business

Ten-Year Plan: Huntington. There was no report. The Vice-President asked for continued thoughts from the membership of the Council.

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

Fiftieth Anniversary Plans: Aspects of possible special formats for the 2006 *Organ Handbook* were discussed. A call for papers will go out for the Anniversary edition of *The Tracker*.

Fiftieth Anniversary History: Alcorn-Oppedahl. Various content issues of the Anniversary History were briefly discussed.

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

Archives Operating Procedures: Alcorn-Oppedahl. Progress on this is pending the decision by the membership of the new By-laws.

Convention Sourcebook Revision: Dahl. **Moved:** Gifford; second—Lien, that the National Council accept the Convention Sourcebook as revised by the Convention Sourcebook Review Committee. Motion passed unanimously.

Resolved: Gifford; second—Alcorn-Oppedahl, that the National Council expresses its appreciation to the Convention Sourcebook Review Committee for its industrious work revising the Convention Sourcebook. Motion passed unanimously.

Executive Director's Contract: Marchesano. Councilor Marchesano continues to work on a draft of a contract for the Executive Director, said draft to be sent to the Executive Director in the coming months.

The meeting recessed for the day at 6:48 p.m.

The meeting reconvened in the Great Lakes Boardroom of the Adam's Mark Hotel on Wednesday, July 14, at 9:13 a.m. Present: Michael Friesen (President), Scot Huntington (Vice-President), Stephen Schnurr (Secretary), Allison Alcorn-Oppedahl, David Dahl, Mary Gifford, Rachelen Lien, Paul Marchesano, Malcolm Wechsler, David Barnett (Treasurer), and William Van Pelt (Executive Director). Also present: Stephen Pinel, Archivist.

New Business

Moved: Schnurr; second—Gifford, that the National Council accept the proposal of the Seattle-Tacoma region for a National Convention in 2008. Motion passed unanimously.

The Vice-President presented a brief, verbal update regarding continuing discussion with other organizations regarding pipe organs and proposals for the National Register of Historic Places.

Moved: Dahl; second—Huntington, that National Council direct the Executive Director to conduct an Annual Giving Fund mailing as soon as possible this summer, following the 2004 National Convention. Motion passed unanimously.

Moved: Dahl; second—Marchesano, that National Council create an OHS exhibit at all American Guild of Organists national conventions for the purpose of publicizing the work and activity of the Society, and in particular, to encourage new memberships in the OHS independent of the sales exhibit. Motion passed unanimously.

Moved: Alcorn-Oppedahl; second—Huntington, that National Council authorize the Archives Governing Board to raise money toward the costs of the 2005 Archives Symposium. Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Huntington resigned as Chair of the 2006 National Convention Committee in writing to the President.

Moved: Gifford; second—Lien, that National Council revoke the \$5,000 stipend to Convention Chairs, effective with the Fiscal Year 2004-2005. Vote by roll call: Gifford—yes; Lien—yes; Alcorn-Oppedahl—no; Schnurr—no; Barnett—yes; Marchesano—no; Wechsler—yes; Dahl—yes; Huntington—no; Friesen—no. Motion failed.

Moved: Marchesano; second—Gifford, that National Council adopt an operating budget with income and expenses at \$1,261,534.00 for the Fiscal Year 2004-2005. Motion passed unanimously.

The meeting recessed for luncheon at 11:55 a.m. The meeting reconvened at 1:07 p.m.

Councilor Marchesano introduced Jim Cook to the National Council, to address his project in coordination with the OHS Pipe Organ Database, with the goal of having the Database available online.

Jonathan Ambrosino submitted his resignation as advertising manager and interim Convention Coordinator. The Councilor for Conventions will arrange for division of duties of the Convention Coordinator position.

Moved: Marchesano; second—Dahl, that National Council appoint Malcolm Wechsler as advertising manager of *The Tracker* and the *Organ Handbook*. Motion passed unanimously.

Jim Stark of the Endowment Fund Advisory Board was introduced to provide a report on the past year's progress. Total assets under management have increased between June 30, 2003, and June 30, 2004, from \$209,851.00 to \$232,347.82.

Moved: Barnett; second—Marchesano, that the Organ Historical Society open a brokerage account at Scottrade Financial Services for use by the Endowment Fund per the standard corporate resolution form. Motion passed unanimously.

The candidate for the position of Director of Publications as presented by the Publications Oversight Committee was introduced to the National Council.

Moved: Gifford; second—Alcorn-Oppedahl, that National Council accept the candidate recommended by the Publications Oversight Committee. The President and Executive Director are thereby authorized to create and execute a contract for the Director of Publication's services. Motion passed unanimously.

Resolved: Lien; second—Marchesano, that National Council expresses its gratitude to the Publications Oversight Committee, Scot Huntington, Chair, for its work in securing a candidate for Director of Publications. Resolution passed unanimously.

Upcoming Meeting

Friday and Saturday, October 22-23, 2004, in Princeton, New Jersey.

Adjournment

Moved: Marchesano; second—Dahl, to adjourn. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 5:37 p.m.

--Respectfully submitted, Stephen Schnurr, Secretary.

--Approved, Friday, October 22, 2004, in Princeton, New Jersey.