

THE ORGAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY
Minutes of the National Council Meeting
Friday and Saturday, March 4-5, 2005
Quality Inn & Suites, 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 Michael Friesen on Friday, March 4, 2005, at 2:40 p.m., in the Quality Inn and Suites, Richmond, Virginia. Prior to formally convening the meeting, members of the National Council visited the Society's headquarters. A quorum of Council members was established. Present: Michael Friesen (President), Scot Huntington (Vice-President), Stephen Schnurr (Secretary), Allison Alcorn-Oppedahl, David Dahl, Sebastian Glück, James Johnston, Rachelen Lien, Paul Marchesano, William Van Pelt (Executive Director), and David Barnett (Treasurer).

Approval of Minutes: Moved – Marchesano; second – Dahl, to approve minutes of the Princeton, New Jersey, meeting, held October 22-23, 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. Mailing for *The Tracker*, volume 48, number 4, numbered 4,006, 197 fewer than that for volume 47, number 4. The Society has hired Amanda Wilson as office assistant. A new order processing and accounting system is partially in operation and continues to advance. The 2005 European Organ Tour, to take place in southwestern England, has been fully subscribed. The largest catalogue produced by the OHS was mailed in January. A book on Murray Harris will be delivered soon.

Treasurer: David Barnett. A written report was submitted by the Treasurer. Memberships, as of February 28, 2005, totaled 3,123, a decrease of 477 members from this time last year. Gifts have increased 142%, with a substantial increase in gifts to the Archives. Catalogue sales are below last year's sales through January.

Moved: Johnston; second – Marchesano, that the Organ Historical Society open a deposit account at Wachovia Bank, NA, per the standard corporate resolution form. Motion passed unanimously.

President's Report: Michael Friesen. The President presented a verbal report. He has carried out various items of correspondence in the past several months.

Vice-President's Report: Scot Huntington. The Vice-President presented a written report, containing brief commentary on the 2006 National Convention of the Society, as well as various issues related to the Publications Governing Board.

Councilors' Reports

Archives: Allison Alcorn-Oppedahl. Councilor Alcorn-Oppedahl presented a written report. Two of the four payments have been made for the Henry Karl Baker Collection. Sales of second-hand books have raised \$23,865. Final preparations for the May 2005 Symposium are presently being handled. 136 volumes were sent to the bindery in February. A new online catalogue for the Archives is now in place.

Moved: Alcorn-Oppedahl; second—Huntington, that the National Council grant permission to the Archives Governing Board to raise an additional \$5,000 towards May 2005 Symposium expenses. Motion passed unanimously.

Conventions: David Dahl. A written report was submitted by Councilor Dahl. Final details and contracts for the 2005 National Convention in Old Colony are in process. Councilor Marchesano has volunteered to produce the hymn supplement for Old Colony. The Convention issue of *The Tracker* is at the printer. Plans for the 2006 National Convention are well in process, with all evening venues set. Necessary contracts are executed. A suite for organ has been commissioned from Alfred Fedak. A schedule is being finalized for the 2007 National Convention in Indianapolis. The 2008 Seattle-Tacoma National Convention Committee has elected David Dahl and Joseph Adam as co-chairs.

Moved: Dahl; second—Marchesano, that National Council approve the request of the 2005 National Convention Committee for a third hotel room for the Committee's use. Motion passed unanimously.

Education: Paul Marchesano. A written report was submitted by Councilor Marchesano. Biggs Fellowship applications are still being accepted. Five Historic Organ Citations have been awarded since the October meeting. Saint Mark Episcopal Church, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, has been informed that the Citation (#36) for their organ has been rescinded by Council. One Historic Organ Recital has occurred, on November 20, 2004, at the Shrewsbury Community Church, Shrewsbury, Vermont. A searchable database of Citations is being tested for eventual placement on the OHS website. A searchable version of the OHS Pipe Organ Database is also being tested before its scheduled premiere at the May 2005 Symposium and at the Old Colony Convention. Isaac M. Wise Temple of Cincinnati, Ohio, has submitted a proposal with request for Society co-sponsorship of a symposium to be held in 2006 at the Temple, marking the completion of restoration of the Temple's 1866 Koehnken & Co. organ.

Moved: Marchesano; second—Alcorn-Oppedahl, that the Organ Historical Society issue a press release reporting the rescission of the Historic Organ Citation for Saint Mark Episcopal Church, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Additionally, the Councilor for Education is authorized to write an article about the Historic Organ Citations program with a list of cited organs for publication in organ journal(s), subject to approbation by legal counsel. Motion passed, two abstentions.

Moved: Marchesano; second—Huntington, that the National Council appoint Dr. James H. Cook co-chair of the OHS Pipe Organ Database Committee. Motion passed unanimously.

Moved: Marchesano; second—Johnston, that the Organ Historical Society co-sponsor the March 31-April 6, 2006, symposium to celebrate the rededication of the 1866 Koehnken & Co. organ in the Isaac M. Wise Temple of Cincinnati, Ohio, by providing the Society mailing list and co-sponsorship funds of \$1,800. Motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned for the day at 6:32 p.m.

The meeting reconvened on Saturday, March 5, at 9:12 a.m. Present: Michael Friesen (President), Scot Huntington (Vice-President), Stephen Schnurr (Secretary), Allison Alcorn-Oppedahl, David Dahl, Sebastian Glück, James Johnston, Rachelen Lien, Paul Marchesano, William Van Pelt (Executive Director), and David Barnett (Treasurer).

Finance and Development: James Johnston. Councilor Johnston submitted a written report particularly related to the Endowment Fund. Councilor Johnston will formulate methods by which the membership might remember the Society through perpetual giving programs.

Moved: Johnston; second—Huntington, that the National Council appoint Bruce Westcott of New York City, New York, to fill the unexpired term of James Johnston on the Organ Historical Society Endowment Fund Advisory Board. Motion passed unanimously.

Organizational Concerns: Rachelen Lien. Councilor Lien presented a written report. Councilor Lien was asked to refer back to the Distinguished Service Award regarding Council's request for thoughts to review their voting procedures and criteria, as the Council had requested in October. An interim report of the committee to establish criteria and operating procedures of the Meritorious Service Award was presented and discussed. Minutes of the first meeting of the newly-established Membership Committee were offered. The Committee is investigating several important new ideas for increasing membership. The Secretary reported that the Chicago-Midwest Chapter will celebrate its Silver Jubilee in 2005-2006 with a year of festive programming.

Research and Publications: Sebastian Glück. A written report was provided by Councilor Glück, including reports from the Director of Publications, the Chair of the Publications Governing Board, as well as minutes of the September 2004 meeting of the Publications Governing Board.

Moved: Glück; second—Huntington, that the National Council engage Jonathan Ambrosino to be 2006 Handbook Editor for organ documentation, based upon the recommendation of the Publications Governing Board, as of February 24, 2005. Motion passed unanimously.

Moved: Glück; second—Huntington, that the National Council engage Pamela Gurman of Fat Cat Graphics, Inc., as Advertising Manager, based upon the recommendation of the Publications Governing Board, as of February 24, 2005. Motion passed unanimously.

Moved: Glück; second—Huntington, that the National Council adopt the Guidelines for Implementation for the Alan Laufman Research Grant program, based upon the submission by the Publications Governing Board, as of February 24, 2005. Motion passed unanimously.

The meeting recessed for luncheon at 12:36 p.m. The meeting reconvened at 2:24 p.m.

Old Business

Ten-Year Plan: Huntington. There has been no submission of suggestions since the October meeting of the Council.

Guidelines for Restoration: Huntington. The committee will attempt to meet this spring, perhaps at Williamsburg, Virginia.

Fiftieth Anniversary Endowment Fund: Johnston. Formative aspects of establishing an Endowment Fund campaign for 2006 were discussed.

Fiftieth Anniversary Events: Huntington. The National Council came to a consensus to withdraw its offer of sponsorship of a major recitalist at the 2006 National Convention of the American Guild of Organists in Chicago, Illinois.

Fiftieth Anniversary Publications: Huntington. An update on the Fiftieth Anniversary of *The Tracker* (volume 50, number 4) was presented.

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

Employee Policy Manual: Lien. There was no report.

Restructuring Committee Report: Marchesano. There was no report.

Moved: Schnurr; second—Marchesano, that the National Council approve expenses for selected members of the Restructuring Committee to travel to the Richmond headquarters to gather pertinent information for the Committee, limited to three trips, to be coordinated by the Committee Chair. Motion passed unanimously.

Executive Director's Contract: Marchesano. There was no report.

Multimedia Program: Marchesano. There was no report.

Membership Survey: Marchesano. There was no report.

Convention Coordinator: Dahl. It was decided not to actively pursue a Convention Coordinator in light of the work to be done by the Restructuring Committee in the near future.

New Business

Moved: Marchesano; second—Schnurr, that the scope of the Organ Historical Society Pipe Organ Database be expanded to include all pipe organs in North America. Motion passed unanimously.

The National Council reached consensus that Stephen Schnurr will be the producer of the 2004 Buffalo National Convention CD's, assisted by Joseph McCabe, William Van Pelt, and others.

Moved: Alcorn-Oppedahl; second—Schnurr, that if the National Council requests the presence of the Archivist and/or the Director of Publications at a meeting of the National Council, reasonable travel expenses will be reimbursed out the National Council travel expense budget. Motion passed unanimously.

Other Business

The Publications Governing Board will need to find a photographer for the 2006 National Convention.

Concepts to specially feature OHS Press items in the Society's catalogues were discussed.

Upcoming Meetings

Monday and Tuesday, July 11-12, 2005, in Brockton, Massachusetts.

Friday and Saturday, October 14-15, 2005, in Princeton, New Jersey.

Adjournment

Moved: Johnston; second—Marchesano, to adjourn. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 4:41 p.m.

--Respectfully submitted, Stephen Schnurr, Secretary.

--Approved, Monday, July 10, 2005, in Brockton, Massachusetts.