

THE ORGAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY
Minutes of a Special Meeting of the National Council
Monday, April 21, 2008

A special meeting of the National Council of the Organ Historical Society was convened by telephone conference call on Monday, April 21, 2008, at 6:38 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time by President Laurence Libin. This special meeting was called in accordance with the Society's Bylaws, sections 4.13, 4.14, and 4.17. A quorum of Council members was established. Present: Laurence Libin (President), Joseph McCabe (Vice-President); Stephen Schnurr (Secretary), Carol Britt (Councilor for Archives), Allen Kinzey (Councilor for Conventions), Randall Wagner (Councilor for Finance and Development), Jack Bethards (Councilor for Organizational Concerns), and Daniel Colburn (Executive Director). Also present: Dennis Northway (Membership Committee Chair, arrived 6:44 p.m.) and Stephen Pinel (Archivist). Absent: Will Headlee (Councilor for Education), Scot Huntington (Councilor for Research and Publications), and James Stark (Treasurer).

The following items were transacted during the telephone conference meeting:

Membership count update: Colburn. The Executive Director reported that, beginning January 26, 2008, the Society's Controller, David Barnett, has been producing weekly reports on membership income and gifts to the Annual Fund. On January 26, membership income for the fiscal year was \$201,532, accounting for current membership of 2,917 persons and a lapsed membership of 547 persons. As of April 20, membership income was \$211,709 (increase of \$10,177), with a current membership of 3,081 persons (increase of 164) and a lapsed membership of 458 persons (decrease of 89, indicating 75 new members). On January 26, gifts to the Annual Fund totaled \$24,530. By April 20, Annual Fund gifts had increased by \$1,835 to \$26,365.

Budget update: Stark (written report presented *in absentia*). Membership income is at budget, though the Annual Fund is running well below what was understood to be an ambitious budget goal. Unallocated overhead is below budget, as are National Council expenses. Catalogue income is running ahead of budget, though sales appear to be slowing with the national economy and will be monitored. Programming services budgets are in good shape. Investment income is approximately \$10,000 below budget.

Councilor Bethards noted a total of \$63,926 needs to be raised by the end of the fiscal year to meet the budget goals in the various categories of fundraising. This amount includes \$39,000 expected of the Annual Fund, \$9,700 in unrestricted gifts, \$1,000 in miscellaneous income, \$8,000 in Friends of the Convention, and gifts to the convention, \$12,400.

Membership promotion proposal: The President invited Dennis Northway as Membership Chair to lead discussion on a membership proposal from a committee which includes Mr. Bethards, Mr. McCabe, Mr. Pinel, Mr. Northway, and Mr. Colburn. A written proposal from the committee was received by the Council, outlining a membership campaign as part of the OHS's role in the Year of the Organ, emphasizing the Society as devoted to the pipe organ. Various opportunities for disseminating this membership promotion would include, but not be limited to, press releases, email blasts, facebook.com presence, and print advertisements in journals.

Moved: Kinzey; second McCabe, that the National Council endorses the membership promotion proposal submitted by the membership promotion committee and authorizes the necessary fundraising to implement it. Motion passed unanimously.

Committee list: The Secretary brought to the attention of the Council that the OHS Committee list has still not been completed, despite deadlines set as far back as August 1, 2007. Continuous

pleas for information from Council members have been ignored. Information is still lacking in particular from the Councilor for Finance and Development and the Councilor for Education.

A searchable membership list to be made available online is in the final stages of completion. The document will be available in a special, secure pdf format.

Review of dates, times, and places of upcoming regular Council meetings

- A) Saturday and Sunday, July 12 and 13, 2008, in Seattle, Washington
- B) October 2008 in Cleveland, Ohio

Adjournment: moved, Wagner; second – Britt, that the meeting be adjourned. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:18 p.m.

--Respectfully submitted, Stephen Schnurr, Secretary.

--Approved, Saturday, July 12, 2008, in Seattle, Washington.