Minutes

ORGAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 20, 2015
By Teleconference - 7:00pm CST

CALL TO ORDER. President William Czelusniak called to order a meeting of the board of directors of the Organ Historical Society on January 20, 2015, at 7:03 pm CST.

ROLL CALL.
(P-PRESENT, E-EXCUSED)
William Czelusniak (Chairman) [P]
Daniel Clayton (Vice-Chairman) [P]
Jeff Weiler (Secretary) [P]
Allen Langord (Treasurer) [E]
Willis Bridegam [P]
James Cook [P]
Jeffrey Dexter [P]
Christopher Marks [P]
Kimberly Marshall [P]
Daniel Schwandt [P]
James Weaver (Chief Executive Officer) [P]

A quorum of directors was established.

Minutes of November 25, 2014 meeting were approved by unanimous vote.

Kimberly Marshall joined the meeting at 7:10 pm CST.

FINANCIAL REPORT. In the absence of the treasurer, Willis Bridegam reviewed the state of current finances.

PUBLICATIONS TASK FORCE. Kimberly Marshall discussed the extensive strategic plan developed by the Publications Task Force, consisting of herself, Chris Anderson, and Len Lavoisier. Kimberly moved that back issues of The Tracker be available online to current OHS members in PDF format as soon as possible.

FINANCIAL REPORT. Willis Bridegam reviewed the performance of OHS investments.

OHS ENDOWMENT REPORT. Willis Bridegam reviewed the performance of OHS investments.

MOTION by Chris Marks to adopt the following:
1. The immediate review of pending awards applications, together with the authorization to take actions relating to those applications according to the prevailing guidelines for these awards.
2. The ability to review and reconsider at their discretion the definitions and guidelines in place for the discernment and issuing of Historic Organ Awards, as the committee deems to be in the best interest of the Society, with any potential modifications or changes to award parameters to be brought before the board for ratification.

Jeff Weiler called the question, and the motion was carried by unanimous vote.

CURRENT STATE OF OHS POSITION ON US IVORY BAN. Jeff Dexter is chairing a committee that is working on a draft position statement.

ESTIMATED COMPLETION OF CONVENTION PLANNING RESOURCE PUBLICATION. Dan Schwandt reported that his committee will have a document ready for presentation in the spring. There were updates on future convention proposals.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 24, 2015
By Teleconference - 8:00 pm CDT

CALL TO ORDER. Chairman William Czelusniak called to order a meeting of the board of directors of the Organ Historical Society on March 24, 2015, at 8:01 pm CDT.

ROLL CALL.
(P-PRESENT, D-DELAYED)
William Czelusniak (Chairman) [P]
Daniel Clayton (Vice-Chairman) [P]
Jeff Weiler (Secretary) [P]
Treasurer (Position open)
Willis Bridegam [P]
James Cook [P]
Jeffrey Dexter [P]
Christopher Marks [P]
Kimberly Marshall [D]
Daniel Schwandt [P]
James Weaver (Chief Executive Officer) [P]

The chairman declared the meeting adjourned at 9:20 pm CST.

Jeff Weiler, Secretary

CURRENT STATE OF HISTORIC ORGAN AWARDS. Jeff Dexter moved that the board reconstitute the Historic Organ Awards Committee now with the appointment of the following persons to serve as a special committee according to the terms of the bylaws, article VII: Stewart Goodwin, chair, Gregg Crawell, John Farmer, John Manning, and Jeff Weiler.

Chris Marks moved to amend the motion to replace “special” with “standing” committee. This motion was carried by unanimous vote after which Mr. Dexter’s motion was carried as amended by unanimous vote.

Jeff Dexter moved that the newly named Historic Organ Awards Committee be charged with the following:
1. The immediate review of pending awards applications, together with the authorization to take actions relating to those applications according to the prevailing guidelines for these awards.
2. The ability to review and reconsider at their discretion the definitions and guidelines in place for the discernment and issuing of Historic Organ Awards, as the committee deems to be in the best interest of the Society, with any potential modifications or changes to award parameters to be brought before the board for ratification.

This motion was carried by unanimous vote.

Kimberly Marshall joined the meeting at 7:10 pm CST.

FINANCIAL REPORT. Willis Bridegam reviewed the state of current finances and presented a report for January 2015.

Kimberly Marshall joined the meeting at 8:06 pm CDT.

NEH FOUNDATION GRANT. Willis Bridegam reported on preliminary budgets and other preparatory work in advance of the grant application.

VISIT TO BOSTON AGO CHAPTER LIBRARY. Willis Bridegam reported on a recent meeting he and Jim Weaver had with Barbara Owen and Carl Klein at the Boston AGO Chapter Library.

REVIEW OCTOBER TO DECEMBER 2014 FINANCIAL REPORT. Willis Bridegam shared the encouraging news regarding the level of income versus expenses for the additional months required to establish the new fiscal year, January 1 to December 31.

OHS CONVENTION GUIDELINES. Dan Schwandt pledged to have a draft version of the guidelines ready by the June meeting.

HISTORIC ORGAN AWARDS. Jeff Weiler reported that the new committee chairman, Stewart Goodwin, had been very active in circulating information on a number of instruments currently under review resulting in considerable discussion. Committee members have been most responsive.

REGISTRATION REPORT ON 2015 CONVENTION AND BIGGS FELLOWSHIPS. Jim Weaver reported that there are currently 161 registrations for the upcoming convention which is on track to meet levels of anticipated attendance. There is an abundance of excellent candidates for the E. Power Biggs Fellowships this year. Paul Fritts has made a generous pledge that will allow all 21 applicants to attend.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE. Chris Marks, chairman, reported that the Nominating Committee has submitted the following individuals for the two elected positions on the Nominating Committee: Carolyn Booth, James Cook, Bobbie Monklin, and Bruce Stevens.

MOTION by Kimberly Marshall to ratify the electronic vote, taken March 2, 2015, to accept the proposal for an OHS convention in 2017 in the Twin Cities. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

MOTION by Chris Marks to adopt the following resolution:

Whereas, Allen Langord served the Organ Historical Society as treasurer from 2010 until 2015 and did execute his duties in this office faithfully;

Whereas, the board of directors agreed that Mr. Langord’s volunteer services as treasurer represented significant contributions of the highest order to the OHS, by making remarkable improvements to financial reporting and transparency and to management of the Society’s endowment funds;

Whereas, the board of directors agreed that Mr. Langord’s contributions were highly deserving of being recognized with the Society’s Distinguished Service Award; and

Whereas, Mr. Langord’s health was deteriorating at such a rapid rate that it would be impossible to nominate him for this award during the normal timeframe for this process and for him to receive this recognition while still living; therefore be it

Resolved, That the board of directors ratify the action, agreed upon unanimously by email on March 7, 2015, to modify the procedures

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for issuing a Distinguished Service Award within the OHS for this specific instance, to permit the board (together with at least two former award recipients) to confer this award by a proper vote, under urgent circumstances; and

Resolved, That the board of directors also ratify the action, agreed upon unanimously by e-mail on March 7, 2015, to confer upon Allen Langord the OHS Distinguished Service Award, to be presented to him as efficiently as possible, in recognition of his distinguished tenure as Treasurer and for his long service to the Organ Historical Society. Motion carried unanimously.

Will Bridegam tendered his resignation from the OHS board of directors which was accepted by the chairman with regret.

MOTION by Jeff Weiler to appoint Will Bridegam as Treasurer to fill out Allen Langord’s unexpired term. Motion carried by unanimous consent.

MOTION by Kimberly Marshall to appoint Jeff Dexter (board member), Chris Marks (board member) Barbara Owen (recipient), Randy Wagner (recipient), and Cherie Wescott (member at large) to the Distinguished Service Award Committee. Motion carried by unanimous consent.

MOTION by Jim Cook to appoint Chris Marks chair of Distinguished Service Award Committee. Motion carried by unanimous consent.

MOTION by Jim Cook to rescind OHS Citation No. 35, presented to Skinner Organ Co., Opus 682, on March 7, 1982, due to the organ having been altered. It can no longer be recognized as an historic pipe organ. Motion carried by unanimous consent.

OTHER BUSINESS

MOTION by Jeff Weiler to adopt the following statement regarding the US ban on legal ivory, drafted by Laurence Libin:

The Organ Historical Society, representing 2150 members in the United States and abroad, deplores ill-considered federal and state legislation that criminalizes the sale, purchase, and in some cases possession with intent to sell, of musical instruments with components made of legally imported ivory. This new legislation jeopardizes the preservation of innumerable historical musical instruments of great importance to our nation’s cultural heritage. For example, it obstructs efforts by museums to acquire rare instruments and unfairly burdens churches that seek to sell or acquire fine old pipe organs.

The Organ Historical Society urges that such legislation be reconsidered and that exemptions be made for the sale and purchase within the United States of musical instruments containing legally imported ivory.

Motion carried by unanimous consent and with thanks to Mr. Libin.

Jim Weaver reported on his many and varied activities on behalf of the organization including educational opportunities and programs, work with other organ related groups, and progress on archives relocation.

Date and time of next meeting. The next meeting of the board shall be by teleconference on Tuesday, May 19, 2015 at 8:00pm CDT. Adjournment. The chairman declared the meeting adjourned at 9:47pm CDT.

/s/ Jeff Weiler, Secretary

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