

NORTH AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR SPORT HISTORY  
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

23 May 2008

The 36<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the NASSH Council was called to order by President Stephen Wenn at 9:05 a.m., Friday May 23, 2008 in the Gold Room, Hilton Lake Placid Resort, Lake Placid New York.

Present were: Mark Dyreson, Scott Martyn, Megan Popovic, Maureen Smith, Ronald Smith, Stephen Wenn, and Wayne Wilson.

Others present were: Bob Barney, Dick Crepeau, Jerry Gems, Tom Jable, Michael Lomax, Dan Nathan, and Kevin Wamsley,

Not present: Shelley Lucas and Jan Todd.

The 2007 Council Minutes were approved as published in the 2007 Proceedings.  
PASSED (unanimously).

Bob Barney gave the convention manager's report on the Hilton Lake Placid Resort. Because of construction, meals will be served in a heated tent. Wanda Wakefield is organizing a bobsled event. A boat ride on Lake Placid is planned for Sunday afternoon. A view from the ski jump is scheduled.

Bob Barney noted Jody Davenport's papers (October 2004 death) and the possible manuscript on NASSH. Her Marblehead, Massachusetts home still exists with her papers in 21 boxes in a shed.

Maureen Smith gave the Program Report. Several program changes were noted. There were about 150 proposals with 8 rejected. There have been about 16 withdrawals. The program committee consisted of Carly Adams, Russell Field, Steve Gietschier, Jorge Iber, Gary Osmond, and Tara Magdalinski.

Stephen Wenn noted the number of times an individual may appear on the program. Is being on a panel different from presenting a paper? The Operating Code for President-Elect and Program Chair may need to be clarified.

The Secretary-Treasurer's Report was handed out and presented by Ron Smith. He indicated that the financial situation was firm with income approximately meeting expenses for 2007. Investments only grew \$11,000 in 2007 ending with a total of about \$244,000 in savings. The number of institutional members has shrunk somewhat from 2006, and the number of individual members was slightly lower than the previous year. He recommended raising the institutional member price after we catch up in publishing the JSH.

A lengthy discussion took place over whether graduate students with fulltime positions should receive Roberta Park Funds.

It was MOVED (Mark Dyreson) and seconded to prohibit graduate students who have full time academic employment from receiving Roberta Park Funds. It was withdrawn with consent of the seconder.

It was MOVED (Mark Dyreson) and seconded to encourage graduate students who have full time positions not to draw from the Park Fund. PASSED (unanimously).

Mark Dyreson gave the Distinguished Lectures and Honor Award Report. The committee was composed of Chuck Korr, Vicky Parashak, Sarah Fields, Steve Geitschier, and Mark Dyreson. There were two distinguished Lectures, Jan Todd and Sam Regalado and three honor awards, one Service Award and two Recognition Awards.

Stephen Wenn asked for nominees for the Nominations Committee (Fall 2008 election) to be elected at the annual Business Meeting. A number of individuals were suggested. It was MOVED (Wayne Wilson) and seconded to nominate the following individuals for the Nominations Committee: Carly Adams, Sarah Fields, Annette Hofmann, Colin Howell, Thomas Hunt, and Gary Osmond.

Kevin Wamsley gave the Time and Site Committee report. Members are: Vicky Parashak, Jan Todd, John Findling, Maureen Smith, and Kevin Wamsley. A bid for 2009, May 22-26 is at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, Asheville, North Carolina with Andy Doyle of Winthrop University as conference manager. The price for room and meals is reasonable.

It was MOVED (Ron Smith) and seconded to accept the Crowne Plaza Hotel, Asheville, North Carolina. PASSED (unanimously). It will be presented to the Business Meeting for acceptance.

A bid for 2010 was offered by Robert Pruter for Lewis University near Joliet, Illinois. The rates are low because of on-campus housing. Several questions were raised about alternative housing, other than dorms, activities that might take place, and closeness to airports.

Questions were raised as how to get more sites and negotiating for the best prices at the proposed sites. How many wish to hold the meetings on college campuses? How many wish to have meetings at resorts? Should NASSH put the site template on the NASSH website? Should the Time and Site Committee be expanded?

Stephen Wenn gave the Graduate Student Essay Contest report. The committee consists of Jim Coates, Larry Gerlach, and Allison Wrynn. There were 10 submissions of high quality. The winner was David Lunt from Penn State University. The Committee wanted the requirements on lengths of submissions clarified, which presently are 5,000

words for text and 250 words per page. The Committee wanted an electronic word count. Papers of different length have been submitted.

It was MOVED (Mark Dyreson) and seconded that an electronic word count of the text of the submissions be not more than 6,000 words (not to include endnotes), that submissions over 6,000 words will not be accepted. PASSED (unanimously).

There was a break for lunch at 12:10 p.m.

The meeting was reconvened at 1:27 p.m.

Scott Martyn gave the Information Technology Committee Report. He said the number of independent hits was about 88,000. He said that the NASSH Directory has been designed to prevent security breaches. Each individual member must give permission to what will be shown on the Directory and can change the material on only his/her entry.

The use of credit cards by NASSH is ready for use as of May 23, 2008. It is used on 2Checkout.com, a Columbus, Ohio firm. Payment may be made with Visa, MasterCard, American Express, Discover/Novus, Dines Club, and JCB.

Scott noted a new spam and virus filter through a company, Reflexion. It has effectively reduced spam to members of the Executive Board and Secretary-Treasury.

Megan Popovic gave the report on graduate student issues. How can NASSH help with graduate student experiences? A major point was to see if NASSH can guarantee feedback to all papers in the NASSH Student Essay Contest. It was suggested that a template be developed for feedback on major issues, minor issues, strength of the paper, and incidental issues such as grammar and writing mechanics. While there was some question whether feedback could be required, though worthwhile, it should be tried for 2009.

Dan Nathan gave the Book Award Committee report. The Committee includes Nancy Bouchier, Allen Guttmann, Martin Johnes, Roberta Park, and Dan Nathan, chair. A group of 6 books of about 55 submitted books (48 monographs and 7 anthologies) have been short-listed for the two awards: Four for history and two for anthology.

The Publications Board Report was presented by Dan Nathan. It was noted that Vol. 34 # 2 was at the printer, 34 # 3 should be out by August, so that the 2008 volumes should be in the correct year. Progress in publishing the JSH on time has occurred.

The special Ad-Hoc Committee regarding the Routledge contract for publishing the JSH was presented by Mark Dyreson. There was no real interest in continuing negotiating with Routledge. The Ad-Hoc Committee of Mark Dyreson, chair, Tara Magdalinski, Dan Nathan, Ron Smith, Jan Todd, and Stephen Wenn voted 3-2 not to continue negotiating with Routledge at the present time (chair did not vote).

The Publications Board recommends that Project MUSE of Johns Hopkins University be pursued for electronic publishing.

The Publications Board recommends dropping negotiations with both Routledge and Human Kinetics.

It is MOVED (Scott Martyn) and seconded that upon recommendations of the Ad-Hoc Committee and the unanimous recommendation of the Publications Board, Council recommends dropping further negotiations with both Routledge and Human Kinetics. (PASSED unanimously).

It was MOVED (Maureen Smith) and seconded that NASSH recommend to the NASSH business meeting to proceed with negotiations with Project MUSE. (PASSED unanimously).

Richard Crepeau indicated that the Publications Board desired to pursue advertising for NASSH publications, including the Journal of Sport History. Tom Jable volunteered to lead this effort.

The Proceedings in the future will be published only electronically on the NASSH website.

An Associate Editor of the JSH should be chosen in the next year by the Publication Board.

It is MOVED (Ron Smith) and seconded that NASSH provide a checking account in a U.S. bank with a deposit of \$2,000 for the Journal Editor to draw upon for journal expenses. PASSED (unanimously).

The new Publications Board Editor is Ying Wushanley.

Megan Popovic brought up issues to enhance the status of graduate students in NASSH. She suggested steps for a Professional Development for Future Professors Series in which periodic topics to enhance professional development of graduate students could be found on the NASSH website.

Popovic also suggested a survey of graduate students on their desires for NASSH that would provide feedback to the NASSH Council.

She felt that NASSH graduate student abstracts for the annual conference would be enhanced if problematic abstracts could be commented upon by the program committee, returned to the student, and resubmitted. She believed that first-time presenters could pre-submit abstracts to get feedback from the Program Committee.

Popovic suggested a Graduate Student-Focused Panel be developed for future conferences in which graduate students could discuss problems confronted in the

profession. The Graduate Student Council Member would need to contact the Program Committee Chair to schedule the meeting and develop a topic for discussion.

It was MOVED (Megan Popovic) and seconded that a Discussion Board be developed on the NASSH website to be posted by NASSH members for NASSH members in which interest sessions are included. PASSED (unanimously.) NASSH Council members will review the program in 2009.

Stephen Wenn raised the question of a “Working Group on Diversity and Outreach Update.” The working group of Sam Regalado, Rita Liberti, Lauren Moramoto will bring their recommendations to the 2009 Council.

Stephen Wenn brought up the question of book publishers at the conference. For 2008, a group of three publishers are represented, and were charged \$150/table. They could display and sell books.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ronald A. Smith