

NORTH AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR SPORT HISTORY
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

1 June 2012

The 40th annual meeting of the NASSH Council was called to order by President Catriona Parratt at 9:02 a.m., Friday June 1, 2011 in Boiler Room A, Hotel Shattuck Plaza, Berkeley, California.

Present were: Doug Brown, Sarah Fields, Annette Hofmann, Daniel Nathan, Catriona Parratt, Maureen Smith, Ron Smith, and Kevin Wamsley.

Not present: Christiane Job.

Others present were: Bob Barney, Dick Crepeau, Jerry Gems, Mike Huggins, Rita Liberti, Scott Martyn, Alan Metcalfe, and Toby Rider.

The 2011 Council Minutes were approved as published online (nassh.org).

The agenda for this meeting was approved by Council.

Maureen Smith and Rita Liberti, conference managers, gave a short convention report. There are 255 registered with a few who haven't registered. About 6 have withdrawn in the past week. There will be some changes in rooms during the conference.

The Secretary-Treasurer's Report was given by Ron Smith. He said that while Institutional Membership is dropping slowly because of Project MUSE and the electronic JSH, the money coming from Project MUSE pays for the losses in membership. The income for 2011 from Project MUSE was about \$17,500, though that sum was paid to NASSH in 2012 and doesn't appear on the 2011 receipts. The second highest amount of expenses after the JSH is payment of graduate students from the Park Fund. This could be a factor in needing to raise membership dues in the future. The amount of savings in Fidelity Investments was slightly lower than the previous year.

Dan Nathan gave (Nancy Bouchier, Ken Cohen, and Jaime Schultz, Dan Nathan, chair) the Program Report. There were 142 abstracts and 24 proposed sessions. All the proposed sessions were accepted and most of the individual abstracts. Eleven withdrew before the program was printed, and 5 have withdrawn since then. Skidmore College printed the program. There are fifty-five sessions and one distinguished lecture. All on program are NASSH members.

A question was raised about accepting papers to help nurture researchers and at the same time have quality control. Dan said the quality appeared to be high.

The Park Fund given to students was discussed. Maybe the amount should be tied to the registration fee. The amounts should be no less than the registration fee.

Maureen Smith gave the Distinguished Lectures Committee (Colin Howell, Malcolm MacLean, Cesar Torres, Patricia Vertinsky, and Maureen Smith, chair). One honor address will be given by Murray Phillips. Awards will be given at the Banquet.

Christiane Job was absent and did not give a Graduate Student Representative Report.

Scott Martyn gave the Technology Committee/Website Report. Scott spent 240 hours on the website. The traffic was up from 2010. It went from about 60 to 120 gigabites from 2010 to 2011. The Listserve, "nasshl," was created and housed at the University of Windsor. The site is free to NASSH, courtesy of the University. Abstracts of the conference have not been completed. ScholarOne can be used, if desired, for a full proceedings.

The 2012 election can be conducted on the web by a commercial version called SimplyVoting and would cost about \$265. Fluid Survey could also be used. A voting survey of all NASSH members would be free using Fluid Surveys.

It was MOVED (Ron Smith) and seconded that the 2012 election be carried out electronically on Fluid Surveys. PASSED (unanimously).

The use of the NASSH website had a lengthy discussion. How easy is it to navigate? Is everything updated? Is the Directory of Scholars useful to the membership? A committee should be struck to meet regularly to take the load off the website Webmaster.

There is a need for getting updates from each NASSH officer or committee chair and sent regularly to the Webmaster.

A communications officer was again brought up as a possibility for NASSH by Kevin Wamsley and Scott Martyn.

It was MOVED (Ron Smith) that a Website Content Committee be appointed by the president, consisting of at least three members including a chair, meeting regularly, that will determine website content. PASSED (unanimously).

A student member of the Website Content Committee should be strongly considered for the committee. An Operating Code needs to be developed.

The question of Social Media (Twitter, FaceBook, Linked In) was raised by Tina Parratt. A Facebook page has been in existence for about two years but it has been used sparingly. This is an issue the Website Content Committee will take up. Can a Facebook page have negative outcomes? Twitter is not active.

Jan Todd, John Gleaves, and Matt Llewellyn (chair) are on the Time and Site Committee. A "How to Host a Conference" document has been written by Kevin Wamsley, forwarded to Matt Llewellyn, and should eventually be put on the Website.

A list of six individuals were nominated (and three alternates in case some individuals chose not to run) for the annual meeting for the Nominations Committee for the Fall 2012 election. [The individuals who accepted the nomination to the Nominations Committee were: Nancy Bouchier, Larry Gerlach, Thomas Hunt, Tara Magdalinski, Malcolm McClain, and John Wong.]

Mike Huggins gave the Book Award Report. Two issues arose. Should commercial publishers that publish books from Journal articles already published be eligible for the Book Anthology Award? Is there a bias against Commercial publishers if the books are not eligible? Is there a legal issue? How is this dealt with in the Operating Code? Is a collection of articles by one author over the years eligible for the Anthology award?

Should criteria be set for what constitutes a minimum standard for winning the book award?

It was MOVED (Ron Smith) and seconded that the eligibility for the Anthology Book Award for the 2011 book be left up to the Book Award Committee. PASSED (unanimously).

Dick Crepeau suggested that only the winner of the Book Award be announced at the conference concluding banquet. There should be no short list of good books that did not win the award.

Doug Brown gave the Publications Board Report. Alison Wrynn is now the editor of the JSH. A question of publishing the JSH commercially was raised again. Impact factors and citation indexes are increasingly important in some areas of academia. Staying on the publishing schedule is important to citation indexes and this has placed the JSH in jeopardy in the past. Are the delays due to the technical editor, the editor, the printer, or the authors?

Doug Brown indicated that the Publications Board will seek possible commercial and university presses for publishing the JSH in the next year.

The second issue relates to payment of JSH editors. The compensation to Alison Wrynn will not buy her out of a course of teaching. The University is asking for a great deal of compensation more than the \$8,000 that has been given to previous editors. Her university indicates that buyouts might be triple that amount.

Doug asked that a budget be created for publishing the JSH. It is part of the Publishing Board Operating Code to do this. Kevin Wamsley suggesting drafting a strategic long-term plan that will be brought to Council in 2013.

The Park Awards were addressed. If two students write a paper and both attend and present at a conference, should both be paid Park Funds?

It is MOVED (Ron Smith) and seconded that any multi-authorized Park Funded paper be given only one grant regardless of the number of authors. PASSED (unanimously).

A question was raised: If a multi-authored paper is presented, should authors who do not attend be listed in the program. Should the non-attending individual require a NASSH membership?

It is MOVED (Dan Nathan) and seconded that to be on the NASSH program and printed in the conference program and proceedings, the individual must be a NASSH member. This includes co-authors who may not be at the conference. PASSED (unanimously).

Maureen Smith raised the question of whether or not invited guests to the conference should be required to pay registration fees? Could any member have registration fees waived by their invitation to the conference? Who authorizes conference fees?

It was MOVED (Dan Nathan) and seconded that the waving of registration fees and NASSH dues requirements for individuals appearing on the program be done only at the direction of the president. PASSED (unanimously).

Maureen Smith discussed a written proposal for splitting the Secretary and Treasurer's positions. The Bylaws need to be amended at the annual meeting on June 2, 2012. Changes will be voted on for Article II, Article IV, Article VII, and Article VIII.

Both the Secretary and Treasurer will be appointed by the Council. The term will be six years and serve at the discretion of the Council.

The Operating Codes for both the Treasurer and Secretary will be distributed to the Council and a vote will be taken by the Council at a future date at the president's call.

The Operating Code for the Program Committee Chair will be changed and called the Operating Code for the President-Elect.

The Book Award Operating Code adds a clause that any member of the Book Award Committee who has written or edited a book will be replaced for that year's Book Award Committee for that year (similar to past action).

Toby Rider asked how long his tenure was for the Operation Code ad hoc chair. No decision was made.

Jerry Gems discussed the previous attempts at writing the history of NASSH. It was suggested that Jaime Schultz be asked to be the conduit to the history of NASSH, as the archives is located at the Penn State Archives.

Kevin Wamsley was asked to organize a session in Nova Scotia at the 2013 conference in which long-time members of NASSH get taped, at an evening reception titled "Let's Talk NASSH."

Dick Crepeau raised a question of registration of the opportunity for spouses who might like to purchase tickets for special events, such as wine and cheese and the ending banquet. It was explained by Maureen Smith why this registration policy was done for this specific conference.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:29 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Ronald A. Smith, Secretary-Treasurer