

# **NORTH AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR SPORT HISTORY**

## **COUNCIL MINUTES**

May 23, 1996

The meeting of the NASSH Council was called to order by President Nancy Struna at 8:40 a.m. in Room H of the Auburn University Hotel and Conference Center, Auburn, Alabama.

Present were: Nancy Bouchier, Joan Chandler, John Findling, Joan Paul, Barbara Pinto-Green, Vicky Paraschak, Nancy Struna, Ronald Smith, and Patricia Vertinsky. Also present were Nancy Bouchier (Computer Project), Joanna Davenport (Convention Manager), and Robert Barney, Richard Crepeau, and Alan Metcalfe (Past-Presidents).

It was MOVED (John Findling) and seconded to approve the minutes of the 1995 NASSH Council as published in the 1995 Proceedings. PASSED (unanimously).

Patricia Vertinsky commented on her written Program Committee Report. Members of the Committee were Bruce Kidd, Chuck Korr, Don Morrow, Nancy Struna, and Patricia Vertinsky (chair). There were 34 sessions organized, relative to 29 in 1995. There were no plenary sessions, but the session on race and sport has been highlighted. There were three roundtables, and two special lectures (Howell and Graduate Student). There is a question of a student forum. All sessions have 20 minute speaker lengths. Most sessions have commentators. There was almost no double participation.

The question of student presentations was raised by Vicky Paraschak. She indicated that students may need help in forming abstracts. Financing students to conferences is another problem.

Having papers presented in time to commentators still remains a problem.

Ron Smith gave the Secretary-Treasurer's Report. He indicated that membership was up slightly. Two financial bonuses occurred during the year: \$4,000 from the two previous conferences and \$8,000 sales from the Journal of Sport History. He noted the two mutual funds with Fidelity Investments, Equity Income II and Puritan, were both doing well.

It was MOVED (Pat Vertinsky) that an investment committee of three be formed with the Treasurer as chair to report to Council yearly. PASSED (unanimously).

Jody Davenport gave an oral report as Convention Manager. There are about 165 registered for the conference. A question of who should pay registration fees needs further discussion.

Nancy Bouchier presented an oral Computer Committee Report, an outgrowth of the Publications Board. The Committee consists of Dick McGehee (chair), Nancy Bouchier, Don Morrow, Susan Markham and two others. Fifty-Nine responses have come from the computer survey sent out with the 1995 Proceedings. The Committee will be meeting at the Auburn NASSH conference. The types of list serves was noted. The question of a WEB page was raised. Nancy noted a valuable book by Richard Cox, "The Internet as a Resource for the Sports Historian" published by Sports History Publishing, 13 Bradley Lane, Frodsham, Cheshire WA6 6QA, ENGLAND.

Joan Paul gave the Distinguished Lectures Report. The Committee consisted of Jerry Gems, Mary McElroy, Ben Rader, Mike Salter, and Joan Paul (chair.) Dennis Brailsford was chosen to give the Max and Reet Howell International Address. One Recognition Award and one Service Award will be given at the banquet.

Nancy Struna reported for the Book Award Committee. The Committee consisted of Notman Baker, Jack Berryman (for John Alien), Joan Hult, Bruce Kidd (chair), and Jan Todd (for Martha Verbrugge). Jack Berryman withdrew his book so that he could be on the committee as a substitute for John Allen, on leave for the year. There were many quality books to choose from.

Dick Crepeau suggested that the winner be announced in major scholarly publications. Winning publishers might be encouraged to include an ad in the Journal of Sport History.

The Time and Site Committee Report of Jan Todd was not received. Jan Todd, chair of the committee, has asked to be replaced.

Joan Paul discussed the Time-Line project to gather together timelines for all officers and committees to list tasks and when the tasks need to be done. She will continue the project into 1997.

Nancy Struna took up the Time and Site discussion. The question of a British (BSSH)-NASSH meeting in the year 2000 was brought up. Bill Freeman had written to Nancy suggesting the location of Bisham Abbey. A feeling existed that a London location might be better.

1997 - Springfield is scheduled for May 23-25, 1997.

1998 - Windsor (Alan Metcalfe) is tentative site for 1998.

1999 - The College Football Hall of Fame in South Bend, Indiana (Bernie Kish) is interested.

Montreal and Hilo, Hawaii (Betsy Vanderbush) have previous been mentioned.

Jody Davenport has been appointed the new Time and Site Chairperson.

Nominations for the Nominating Committee. Possible of nominees from various constituencies, such as Canada-USA, history-physical education-literature, and gender were discussed. Council nominees were:

Bill Baker, Steve Gietschier, Robin Lester, Synthia Sydnor, Kevin Wamsley, and, Paula Welch.

Barbara Pinto-Green brought up student concerns. Could the registration fees be lowered? Certain locations (Banff preclude many graduate students because of cost.

It was MOVED (Barbara Pinto-Green) and seconded that registration fees for students at NASSH Conventions in the future be 50% of the year's original, regular registration fee. PASSED (unanimously).

Richard Crepeau in 1996 took over the Graduate Student Essay chair for Nancy Struna, who had several students present manuscripts, The Committee consisted of Larry Gerlach, Tina Parratt, and Kevin Wamsley.

Larry Gerlach suggested that there are two types of essays, creating an unlevel playing field: Those from dissertations and theses and those from the graduate seminars. Others were less concerned about whether the essays were from dissertations or seminars, but that the length (and therefore the depth) of the essays made the playing field unlevel.

It was MOVED (Vicky Paraschak) and seconded that the Student Essay Competition be limited to 5,000 words exclusive of notes and that those exceeding the limit be returned to the writers. PASSED (unanimously).

The question of the U.S. Memorial Day NASSH convention was reviewed. There is no official weekend convention time over Memorial Day, but only tradition. There was no strong feeling to change the tradition,

Patricia Vertinsky brought up the question of graduate students' sessions. An anonymous donor desires to give \$3,000 (\$600 per year for 5 years) to cover some graduate student expenses at the annual NASSH conference. The desire is to promote an annual graduate student session that would consist of three topic papers: North American sport; sport outside North America (or international sport); and race, gender, ethnicity, or science. The fund would be opened to accommodate other donations.

There was support for establishing a graduate student endowment fund.

A question was raised about holding a specific graduate student session? A straw vote showed that three opposed, two favored, and two abstained.

The question of naming funds was raised, and a lengthy discussion of past naming of honors and addresses was pursued.

The Concord Travel Agency of Long Beech not refunding for tours at the 1995 Long Beach Convention was raised by the reading of a letter from Maynard Brichford of the University of Illinois.

It was MOVED (Ron Smith) and seconded that NASSH pay individuals who lost money for tours. PASSED (unanimously).

The question of issuing NASSH individual membership identification cards was raised. James Stevens of Albuquerque petitioned that NASSH design, print, and distribute a NASSH membership card to all members. Council decided that it would save money and be more environmentally correct to not give membership cards as we did in the past.

Vicky Paraschak proposed a waiver of registration fees to assist a foreigner who was unable to pay. The president would see if financial assistance can be found.

Ron Smith raised the question of promoting NASSH and sport history in other organizations. Could NASSH sponsor sessions at other conventions by providing financial support for sport history sessions? Might the session be called the NASSH session on sport history? Would NASSH wish to support an individual or two to both international and North American conferences?

A special committee of NASSH Visibility and Promotion was created of John Findling, Alan Metcalfe, and Dick Crepeau to look at some of the above questions.

It was MOVED (John Findling) and seconded to allow Ron Smith to find storage and pay for same for the NASSH Journals and Proceedings. PASSED (unanimously).

Joan Chandler of the Publications Board stated:

1. The Publications Board did not want to allow the Journal to be published outside of NASSH (and it was supported by Council).
2. The Editorial Board of JSH should be dissolved and a new editorial board, of about 10-12 members in consultation with the Publications Board, will be created by each new editor.
3. Two new book review editors have been appointed, Gerry Gems and Linda Borish.
4. The material for the Proceedings must be received by September 1, 1996 to be published.

5. A new Proceedings editor will be announced shortly.
6. The Computer Committee has raised questions about electronic publishing. A grant of \$5,000 has been requested to create a NASSH WWW Page.

It was MOVED (Ron Smith) and seconded that NASSH Council fund the creation of a WEB page. PASSED (Unanimously, with one abstention).

The Computer Committee should submit the WEB Page to the Visibility and Promotion Committee of John Findling, Alan Metcalfe, and Richard Crepeau.

7. It is not known what data bases the Journal of Sport History is on. The Computer Committee needs to clarify this. The Computer Committee will be asked to be get the Journal on other computer data bases. NASSH Council said that it would fund (give an honorarium to) a data base consultant.
8. The Publications Board suggested that the NASSH Directory of Scholars be placed on the WEB and be updated annually. It was not clear whether the Directory of Scholars publication should be under the Publications Board or the Council. At present it is under the Publications Board.
9. The question of reproducing JSH articles was raised. In a commercial publication, the rate is \$100 for reprinting, \$50 to the author and \$50 to NASSH.
10. Request Publications Board to have a policy on reprints so that authors might have some control over whether or not they want their articles reprinted.

It was MOVED (Patricia Vertinsky) to allow Ron Smith to continue with publishing the Journal of Sport History Index with Volumes I-XX. PASSED (unanimously).

The meeting was adjourned at 3:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ronald A. Smith  
Secretary-Treasurer