

# **NORTH AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR SPORT HISTORY**

## **ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES**

May 25, 1996

The annual business meeting of the North American Society for Sport History was called to order by President Nancy Struna, May 25, 1996 at 10:42 a.m. in the Auditorium, Hotel and Conference Center, Auburn University, Auburn Alabama.

There were about 80 members present.

It was MOVED, Joan Paul, and seconded that the minutes of the 1995 annual business meeting be approved as published in the 1995 annual Proceedings. PASSED (unanimously).

Nancy Struna called for the election of a nominating committee of three. Six names were nominated by the NASSH Council for the nominating committee: William Baker, Steven Gietschier, Robin Lester, Synthia Sydnor, Kevin Wamsley, and Paula Welch.

It was MOVED (John Dewer and seconded that the nominations be closed. PASSED (unanimously).

Elected to the Nominating Committee were: Bill Baker (chair), Steve Gietschier, and Synthia Sydnor.

Patricia Vertinsky gave a program report. Bruce Kidd, Chuck Korr, Don Morrow, Nancy Struna, and Pat Vertinsky (chair) were members of the committee. Race and Sport in Sport had an emphasis. A proposed session on China Sport was frustrated by visa and travel problems. Broader participation was emphasized with increased graduate students and younger researchers and internationalization of presentations. There was no free afternoon, but to accommodate broader participation, a trip to Atlanta and Olympic Sites was given up. Papers were set at 20 minutes, with little flexibility. Double appearances were restricted. 14 organized sessions were created. 85% of other papers were accepted. 34 sessions were included in the program with 145 different presenters in some form. Letters of invitations were written to every one who asked for one so that they could be used at their institutions. Some problems existed: Abstracts were often not full enough or completely done. There were a few withdrawals. Some presenters did not give their papers to commentators on time.

The written Secretary-Treasurer's Report was presented by Ron Smith. He indicated that NASSH is financially solvent. Total membership is up slightly. Income was up principally because of two reasons: The past two conventions returned about \$4,000 and the sales of Journals was about \$8,000. The surplus was invested in the Puritan Fund of Fidelity. He noted our mutual funds in Fidelity Investments.

Joan Paul, Past-President, gave the Distinguished Lectures Committee Report. The Committee consisted of Jerry Gems, Mary McElroy, Ben Rader, Mike Salter and Joan Paul, chair. The distinguished Lectures Committee chose Dennis Brailsford as the Maxwell and Reet Howell International Lecture. Two individuals were to be given awards at the awards banquet.

Jody Davenport gave a Conference report, stating that there were 165 individuals registered.

Don Morrow gave a Computer Committee report. A WEB Site page was recommended. Payment by electronic means was suggested. The Commuter Committee met on May 25, 1996. Scott Martin volunteered to set up a WEB site to service NASSH members and sport history in general. It might cost \$4,000 to set up a site. An independent site had advantages over a site that was part of a university. A purchase of software, construction of website, and annual costs need to be considered.

Joan Chandler gave the Publications Board Committee Report. Council has agreed to fund a study of data bases. The question of the Directory of Scholars on the WWW was brought up. Nancy Bouchier will be retiring as editor of the Proceedings. A new editor will be chosen in the near future. Joe Arbena was thanked strongly for his length of editorship of the Journal.

Joe Arbena, as editor, thanked many for helping him during his editorship. He asked for individuals to think first of the Journal of Sport History as a place to publish. He thought that book reviewers could be more timely in producing their reviews.

Dave Wiggins, incoming editor, said that the Dissertation Abstracts will reappear as Steve Wenn is taking on the task. Synthia Sydnor has retired as Book Review Editor, and her position will be taken by two individuals, Jerry Gems and Linda Borish. Wiggins asked that manuscripts be sent to him.

It was MOVED (Council) that student conference registration fees be reduced to 1/2 of regular member fees. PASSED (unanimously).

It was MOVED (Council) that the Graduate Student Essay Contest manuscript essays be limited to 5,000 words in length (not including notes), and those papers over 5,000 words will be return unconsidered. PASSED (unanimously),

The Student Essay Committee was composed of Dick Crepeau, chair (substituting for Nancy Struna), Larry Gerlach, Tina Parratt, and Kevin Wamsley.

It was MOVED (Council) that an ad-hoc Committee of three, the treasurer included as chair, be formed to invest NASSH monies. The question was called (PASSED, unanimously). The Main Motion was PASSED (unanimously, with one abstention).

It was MOVED (Council) that a sub-committee of NASSH on Visibility and Promotion to make NASSH more visible. John Findling (chair), Dick Crepeau, and Alan Metcalfe. PASSED (one no, one abstention).

It was MOVED (Council) that the University of Windsor be the convention site for 1998. Alan Metcalfe noted Windsor for seven reasons: Gambling Site of Ontario, Pro Sports in Detroit, Theatre in downtown Detroit, American dollars are worth more, air travel is easy, excellent restaurants, and Alan Metcalfe will retire and we can all be thankful. Fine facilities are available. The question was called. PASSED (unanimously.) The original motion was PASSED (unanimously).

Dennis Gildea invited individuals to the 1997 Conference at Springfield College to be co-hosted with Stevie Chepko. The conference will have on-campus housing, though off-campus housing will be available. Activities will include a gathering and buffet at the Basketball Hall of Fame in Springfield. A Trip to Smith College and to the Volleyball Hall of Fame could be arranged. Transportation is easily accessible.

It was MOVED (Council) that a Roberta J. Park Endowment Fund for Graduate Students be established. (The object is to establish the fund for students who have papers accepted to come to NASSH conferences. Additional funds will be solicited. NASSH funds, if available, would match the endowment donations. Students who have abstracts accepted for a Conference would receive monies for Conference expenses.) PASSED (unanimously).

Nancy Bouchier suggested that a voluntary contribution for this fund might be part of the annual membership notice.

Sue Smith suggested that excess conference funds might go to this fund.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ronald A. Smith  
NASSH, Secretary-Treasurer