

# **NORTH AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR SPORT HISTORY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

May 25, 2001

The 29<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the NASSH Council was called to order by President Don Morrow at 9:07 a.m., Friday, May 25, 2001, 110 Elgin Hall, University of Western Ontario, London, Ontario.

Present were: Mel Adelman, Linda Borish, Allen Guttmann, Scott Martyn, Don Morrow, Steve Pope, Ronald Smith, and Patricia Vertinsky. Also present were: Next President-Elect, Gerry Gems; Past Presidents, Dick Crepeau, Alan Metcalfe, and Robert Barney; Book Award Chair, Nancy Struna; Convention Manager Kevin Wamsley; Computer and Technology Committee Chair, Nancy Bouchier; next Council member (student), Shelley Lucas; next Proceedings Editor, Michael Lomax, and Publications Board members, Patrick Miller, Tina Parratt, and Steve Riess.

Not present was: Jan Todd.

The 2000 Council Minutes were approved as distributed by email. PASSED (unanimously).

Allen Guttmann gave the President-Elect, Program report. All proposals that were received on time were accepted. About 50% were complete sessions. There were a few late dropouts with Session XXVI being eliminated.

Kevin Wamsley indicated there would be about 160 registrants with several late registrations. The budget will approximately breakeven. Power Point equipment is in each room. The question of having enough time following lunches for Honor Addresses was raised.

Kevin Wamsley gave the Time and Site Report. There have been no offers to host the 2002 NASSH Conference. A packet for

hosting NASSH has been completed. Gerry Gems discussed a possibility of hosting NASSH, but only in 2003. There may be the possibility of John Findling hosting the convention in 2002 in Indiana. The question of hosting at a hotel, such as in Indianapolis, was discussed. Time and Site will attempt to get a site for 2002 and discuss their proposal with Allen Guttmann and Don Morrow.

Don Morrow raised the question of a Thursday evening welcome party for early NASSH registrants to be paid for by NASSH.

It was MOVED (Linda Borish) and seconded that the Thursday evening reception for 2001 be paid for by NASSH. PASSED (Unanimously).

It was MOVED (Mel Adelman) and seconded that the Thursday evening reception in the future be supported financially by NASSH. PASSED (Unanimously). [It is intended as a reception for those holding meetings on Friday, but all who arrive early should be included.]

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- NASSH Council asked that the Program Committee attempt to schedule the Business Meeting on Sunday morning rather than the last day of the conference. A question was raised--what was more important, maximizing the number of papers at the conference or accommodating the need for dealing with NASSH business as these tend to be in conflict.
- Operation Codes were distributed to officers and committees. They were originally gathered together and organized by Bim Schrodt and sent by Bob Barney. Ron Smith put these on his computer for better distribution to future NASSH officers and committees.
- It was announced by Don Morrow that the American Historical Association gave affiliation status to NASSH in January 2001. Affiliation with the Canadian Historical Association is being pursued by Don Morrow.

- The possibility of having a joint Australian Sport History Association and NASSH was discussed. The area of Hawaii and Fiji were noted. Could this be part of the annual NASSH meeting? What would be the costs? If we decided to do this could any students afford to attend?
- The question of non-North Americans holding office and voting in elections had been raised at the 2000 business meeting for Council consideration. The By-Laws are clear that Active Members must reside in North America (Canada, Mexico, United States) and that Non-Resident Members are not eligible to vote and hold office. What impact would a change have on NASSH? Will non-North Americans feel that they can have greater involvement in NASSH? Will this raise the question of changing the name of NASSH? Will it have a negative impact upon other regional sport organizations? Would this be perceived as an attempt by NASSH to become the international organization for sport history? In the future would the possibility of NASSH being led by non-North Americans negatively affect future conference sites and the agenda of the organization? Because of globalization and instant communication, will this move promote the greater good of sport history?
- It was MOVED (Mel Adelman) and seconded that non-North Americans be eligible to vote and hold office in NASSH. PASSED (Unanimously).
- The question of course listings on the NASSH WEBSITE was again raised. It could be done easily if sent to the WEBmaster in electronic form. There is plenty of space on the NASSH WEBSITE to do this. Would this be self-advertising? Can people find this material elsewhere? Can the Computer and Technology Committee develop guidelines for the NASSH WEBSITE? The Computer and Technology Committee was given the task of discussing this issue and to present Council with its recommendations.

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- Scott Martyn gave the WEBmaster report of the NASSH WEBSITE Maintenance Committee. The NASSH Domain name was extended 10 years to 2011 for \$297.50. V Server

in Washington is the server. From May 2000-May2001 there were 16,010 visits to the NASSH Website. The Directory of Scholars should be listed on the Website this Summer. There were 97 queries or downloads related to the University of Western Ontario Convention site. The Secure Socket Level (SSL) for secure form payment was completed for conferences and can be activated for a small cost. The NASSH Bulletin Board is available. Real Audio and Video files can be created.

- Past-President Patricia Vertinsky gave the Roberta Park Student Endowment Report. A number of students were supported by their own institutions. Five travel grants were given for 2001, Each student would receive \$250 toward travel expenses. A problem arose late in the request by students located near London to pay for registration fees. What are the Funds intended to be used for? Is it for travel or accommodations, or for registration?
- It was MOVED (Mel Adelman) and seconded that the Park Student Endowment Travel Fund be used for travel expenses. PASSED (unanimously). [The intent was that on-site students not have their registrations paid for out of this fund.] PASSED (unanimously).
- The Distinguished Lectures and Awards Committee (Chuck Korr, Don Kyle, Margaret Costa, Mike Cronin, and Patricia Vertinsky) was presented by Past-President Patricia Vertinsky. There is a need for better vita and supporting materials on those nominated. There has been a general lack of nominations of women in the process. Those chosen for the Distinguished Lectures Committee were:
- Colin Howell, Seward Staley Address, and Roland Renson, Maxwell and Reet Howell International Address. One individual was chosen for the NASSH Service Award and two individual were chosen for the NASSH Recognition Award.
- The Secretary-Treasurers Report was given by Ron Smith. He indicated that the cost of the Journal of Sport History has risen a great deal in the past year. There will be a need for raising NASSH membership fees for 2002 on the average of \$15. A question was raised about the slightly declining membership over the past five years. Would it

help long-term to require membership in NASSH to register for NASSH conference and thus raise the number of new members? Would other promotions raise the number of NASSH members?

- A question arose concerning how money might be saved by eliminating the printed Proceedings. How much would it cost to put the Proceedings on-line? The Publications Board will be given the task to study the desirability of continuing the Proceedings in printed form.
- There was a 45 minute lunch recess at 12:30 p.m.
- The Graduate Student Essay Report (the committee consisted of Nancy Bouchier, Doug Brown, and Tim Chandler) was given by President Morrow, who chaired the group. Matthew Andrews of the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill was chosen. There were three submissions.

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- Linda Borish gave the NASSH Promotions Report for Chair, Sam Regalado. She noted sessions that are presented at other conference in sport history to promote NASSH. She emphasized the National Endowment for the Humanities promotion of Regional Centers of history, and that sport may be part of these centers. Sport research can become part of other types of research of the planning grants and Regional Centers that are created by funding from the NEH and specific institutions. Should NASSH sponsor sessions at the seven Regional Centers?
- Allen Guttmann suggested that NASSH formally endorse what Linda Borish has done in the Central Region Humanities Center and support future NASSH involvement with the Regional Center and support of presentations as part of the NASSH-American Historical Association affiliation.
- Mel Adelman spoke to promotion and public relations. What is promotion? Is it promoting individuals and NASSH's expertise? What have we done to send out individual promotions of NASSH, of our meetings, of issues that NASSH has come to consensus on?

- The Promotion Committee will continue to pursue affiliation with other academic affiliation and that the incoming president, Allen Guttmann will pursue a NASSH Public Relations effort to promote NASSH.
- The Computer and Technology Committee Report was given by Nancy Bouchier. It was suggested that the Website be considered a publication and is as important as other publications. Nancy asked that it be considered a standing committee and have an ex-officio representative on the Publications Board.
- It was MOVED (Ron Smith) and seconded that the Computer and Technology Committee become a standing committee of NASSH and that it have an ex-officio representative on the Publications Board. PASSED (Unanimously).
- An operating code for the Computer and Technology Committee (now merged with the Website committee) will be drawn up by Bob Barney, Nancy Bouchier, and Scott Martyn and submitted to NASSH council for 2002.

Steve Pope gave the Publications Board Report. He indicated:

- 1) The Publications Board suggested an on-line Proceedings with the possibility of some hard copies for historical purposes.
  - Mel Adelman asked for a cost-estimate to be developed before we make a decision.
  - Should the Proceedings be a pre-publication, rather than a post-publication document?
  - Should junior faculty members and students have input into whether the
  - Proceedings are created in an electronic form?

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- It was MOVED (Mel Adelman) and seconded that Council recommend to the Annual Meeting that the Proceedings be produced in an electronic form from electronic submissions beginning in 2002. PASSED (unanimously).
- 2) Michael Lomax has been appointed the Proceedings editor beginning 2001.
  - 3) The question of Copyrighting of articles in the Journal of Sport History is not clear. Who owns the copyright?

Should NASSH be in the business of selling author's publications?

- It was MOVED (Mel Adelman) and seconded that NASSH excise "G" of the Operating Code of the Publications Board on copyrights. PASSED (Unanimously).
  - 4) 34 manuscripts were received by the JSH; 9 accepted outright, 10 accepted with revision, 10 outright rejected, and 5 under review.
  - 5) The Operating Code is not clear as to who should respond to the JSH inquiries.
  - 6) There is no advertising manager at present.
  - 7) The question of the timely payment for the publishing of the JSH was raised. The Publications Board suggests that the editor be able to pay the printing costs of the JSH directly rather than going through the treasurer to better expedite the payment of JSH printing costs.
  - 8) A length and animated discussion of billing and payment of JSH costs over the past three years ensued.
- It was MOVED (Patricia Vertinsky) and seconded that the Journal Editor prepare an annual operating budget and create a business plan to support the budget requests. These shall then be brought to the next Council meeting. PASSED (unanimously)
- It was MOVED (Ron Smith) that the Publications Board review the Operating Code and make changes needed and present the proposed Operating Code changes to the Council for the 2002 meeting. PASSED (unanimously).
  - 9) The cost of Institutional Membership was raised. The possibility of raising the cost to institutions to \$80 or \$90 is logical.
- It was MOVED (Mel Adelman) that Council recommend to the Annual Meeting that Institutional membership be raised \$20 and Individual membership be raised by \$10. PASSED (unanimously).
  - 10) Steve Riess has been chosen new Publications Board chair.

11) Mel Adelman has been chosen new Journal of Sport History editor.

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- Nancy Struna announced that the Book Award Committee has met and has chosen a winner, to be announced at the Banquet.
- Linda Borish is going to represent NASSH at the Wingate Institute in Israel as part of the International Ambassadorship Program under the Maxwell and Reet Howell International Fund.
- The Book Award Committee Report of Nancy Struna chair (members included Doug Booth, Jim Coates, Colin Howell, and Kevin Wamsley) was read. She would like the announcement of the Book Award to publishers be sent in the Summer.
- Ron Smith raised the problem of the annual Book Display being a time consumer and will eventually probably necessitate a person other than the Secretary-Treasurer to conduct.
- Ron Smith said that the Council should consider in the near future whether the position of Secretary-Treasurer become a paid position. It is not likely that a person taking the position in the future will be able to devote as much time as is needed without some kind of compensation.
- Don Morrow, Allen Guttmann, Gerry Gems, and Ron Smith will take a look at the question of the position of the position of Secretary-Treasurer being a paid position in the future and report back to Council.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ronald A. Smith  
Secretary-Treasurer