

DIAA Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes  
June 9, 2005  
Cabinet Room, Townsend Building

I. Opening

A. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:05 a.m. by DIAA Chairperson Mark Holodick.

B. Roll Call

The following DIAA Board members were present: Gerald Kobasa, Mark Holodick, Ed Kee, Kathleen Wilbur, Sue Spilecki, Ted Williams, Dr. Garrett Lyons, Joan Samonisky, Dr. Kevin Carson, Sister Ann Michele, William Passwaters, Dr. Lewis Atkinson, Zane Robinson, Gerald Allen, , and Dr. Jeffrey Hawtof. Jack Holloway, Executive Director, and Mary Cooke, Deputy Attorney General, were also in attendance. Dr. Robert Andrzejewski, Phyllis Kohel, and Robert Reed were unable to attend.

C. Approval of Agenda

Mr. Holodick stated that Item III. F. Application of Sussex Academy of Arts and Sciences for Membership, III. G. Request by DISCA for a Waiver of 14 DE Admin 1009.7.5 for Coaches involved in the Carpenter Cup, and III. H. Request by New Castle County Middle School Athletic Directors were being added to the agenda. Ms. Samonisky made a motion to approve the agenda and the amended agenda. The motion was seconded by Dr. Hawtof and carried unanimously.

D. Approval of Minutes of the May 12, 2005 Board of Directors' Meeting

Ms. Cooke reviewed two revisions to the minutes that she felt the Board should consider before approving. Mr. Kee made a motion to accept the minutes with the revisions that Ms. Cooke suggested. The motion was seconded by Ms. Samonisky and carried unanimously.

II. Public Comment

None.

III. Action Items

F. Application of Sussex Academy of Arts and Sciences for Membership in DIAA for 2005-06

Steve Oscar, athletic director for Sussex Academy of Arts and Sciences, was in attendance to present this request. Mr. Oscar explained that his school was having difficulty scheduling games with schools because they were not a member of DIAA. Mr. Oscar was also asking that if their school was approved to be a member of DIAA

if the Board could grant a waiver to allow DIAA member schools to extend their schedule to one extra game. Mr. Holloway commented that this is a reasonable request since it is late in the season and many of the schools already have their schedules made. Dr. Carson made a motion to approve the application for membership. The motion was seconded by Mr. Kobasa. In response to a question by a board member, Mr. Oscar commented that his school would be offering boys' soccer, field hockey, boys' and girls' basketball, baseball and softball. The motion carried by a vote of 14 yes (Kobasa, Allen, Wilbur, Spilecki, Samonisky, Carson, Passwaters, Williams, Lyons, Sister Ann Michele, Robinson, Kee) and 1 – abstention (Hawtof). Mr. Williams made a motion to grant a one year exemption to allow teams that play Sussex Academy Arts and Science middle school program to schedule one additional game for each season during the 2005-06 school year. The middle school sports program does not have state tournament activities. The motion was seconded by Ms. Wilbur. The potential effect on state tournaments concerned the Board. The motion carried unanimously.

A. Continuation of a Waiver Request by Howard H.S. for A.S.

Antonio Still, Ms. Sangare; Antonio's mother, and Antonio Still; Antonio's father and Mr. Booker; educator and coach, were in attendance to present this request. Mr. Still requested an open hearing. Ms. Cooke commented that the Board members that were present today and were not present on May 12, 2005 were provided with copies of the transcript and have had the opportunity to review it before this hearing. The family briefly summarized the basis of their request. Mr. Still presented full transcripts as requested by the Board at the last meeting. Mr. Holodick commented that the Board was trying to determine whether or not the student was actually eligible for the winter season. Mr. Williams made a motion to go into deliberation at 9:50 a.m. The motion was seconded by Dr. Lyons and carried unanimously. Mr. Williams made a motion to come out of deliberation at 10:10 a.m. The motion was seconded by Dr. Carson and carried unanimously. Mr. Williams made a motion to approve the request. The motion was seconded by Mr. Kee and carried by a vote of 11 – yes (Kobasa, Holodick, Allen, Spilecki, Samonisky, Carson, Williams, Lyons, Sister Ann Michele, Robinson, Kee, and Hawtof) and 3 – no – (Wilbur, Passwaters, and Robinson).

The Board recessed at 10:15 a.m. and reconvened at 10:20 a.m.

B. Reconsideration of NDBO, Inc. Request for Certification

Councilman Charles Potter, on behalf of Dennis Williams, and Keith Lake; President of NDBO, were in attendance to present this request. Mr. Kevin Charles reviewed some emails that he had received regarding whether or not certain members were on the NDBO roster. Mr. Lake explained that he and his organization have been working on becoming certified by DIAA since March of 2004 and are looking to be permitted to do high school games in Delaware. Mr. Lake also commented that he did not agree with the decision this Board made at the last meeting with regards to certifying the NDBO. Mr. Holloway commented that the initial request that he received from this

organization was to be certified through the National Federation to be able to do local recreational games and not to do high school and middle school games. Mr. Holloway commented that a concern with certifying this association was that they were dealing with organizations outside of our normal area of control. Some discussion ensued regarding how another officials association would benefit the student-athletes.

Other discussions were regarding the membership roster and the names on the roster and the rules that need to be followed. Dr. Lyons made a motion to go into deliberation at 11:20 a.m. The motion was seconded by Mr. Passwaters and carried unanimously. Mr. Williams made a motion to come out of deliberation at 11:25 a.m. The motion was seconded by Ms. Wilbur and carried unanimously. Mr. Williams made a motion to go into executive session pursuant to 29 Del. C. § 10004 (b) (4). The motion was seconded by Ms. Wilbur and carried unanimously. Mr. Williams made a motion to come out of executive session. The motion was seconded by Dr. Lyons and carried unanimously. Mr. Williams made a motion to go into deliberation at 11:55 a.m. The motion was seconded by Ms. Wilbur and carried unanimously. Mr. Kobasa made a motion to come out of deliberation at 12:10 p.m. The motion was seconded by Dr. Hawtof and carried unanimously.

Mr. Williams made a motion to approve the application for NDBO contingent on the NDBO change the bylaws to reflect that their officials will act in accordance to the NFHS and to provide correct documentation of the membership rosters with signatures of members certifying that they are members of their association. The motion was seconded by Ms. Spilecki. Dr. Hawtof commented that he had some concerns as to whether two associations might affect the students. The motion carried on a vote of 12 – yes (Kobasa, Holodick, Allen, Wilbur, Spilecki, Samonisky, Carson, Williams, Lyons, Sister Ann Michele, Kee, and Hawtof), 2 – No (Passwaters and Robinson).

The Board recessed for lunch at 12:15 p.m. and reconvened at 12:30 p.m.

Mr. Holodick recognized Board members who were leaving the Board Ms. Spilecki, Mr. Passwaters, Dr. Carson, and Mr. Kobasa for their service on the DIAA Board.

G. Request by DISCA President for a Waiver of 14 DE Admin 1009.7.5 for Coaches Involved in the Carpenter Cup Softball Classic

This request was withdrawn.

I. E. Financial

Mr. Holloway commented on the total assets and stated that we should finish the year on a positive note after all the spring tournament revenues were in. Mr. Holloway explained that consolidating some of the spring tournament sites helped cut expenses.

III. C. Proposed Tournament Venues for 2005-06

Mr. Holloway explained that the tournament venues used for this year worked out extremely well and would recommend using the same format for next year. Dr. Carson made a motion to move in the direction that the executive director is proceeding. The motion was seconded by Mr. Williams and carried unanimously.

D. Representative to the NASO Leadership Officiating Conference

Mr. Holloway reminded the Board that DIAA sent several people to a conference last year held by NASO and stated that they are holding another one this year on leadership officiating. Mr. Holloway was recommending that DIAA send someone again this year and also to have that person make a presentation at each rules clinic. Mr. Holloway stated that the expense should be around \$1,500.00. Mr. Williams made a motion to approve the recommendation for a maximum of \$1,500.00 to send a member of DIOC to the NASO Leadership Officiating Conference so long as that person agrees to make a presentation at each of the rules clinics. The motion was seconded by Mr. Kobasa and carried unanimously.

E. Renew Catastrophic Insurance Policy

Mr. Holloway explained that he received the proposed catastrophic insurance policy and the cost for that policy has not increased. The cost will be the same as last year. Mr. Robinson made a motion to approve the Catastrophic Insurance Policy. The motion was seconded by Mr. Kee and carried unanimously.

H. Request by New Castle County Middle School Athletic Directors to Conduct Their Wrestling Season at a Time Different Than the DIAA Winter Season

Mr. Holloway explained that this was an annual request from the New Castle County Middle Schools to hold their wrestling season between the months of October and December which will allow them to better utilize gymnasium space. Mr. Holloway stated that he would recommend approving this request. Mr. Kobasa made a motion to approve this request. The motion was seconded by Dr. Hawtof and carried unanimously.

IV. Executive Director Report

A. Spring Tournaments

Mr. Holloway reviewed all spring tournament results with the Board.

B. DIAA Scholarship Award Winners

Mr. Holloway named the Scholarship Award Winners and stated that the award was expanded from two male and two female winners to three male and three female winners. Mr. Holloway then stated that the winners were \$2,000.00 Michael Kowal from Salesianum, and Kate Herzog; from Sanford, \$1,500.00 Matt Romanczuk; from St. Mark's, and Katie Neeman; Lake Forest High School, and the \$1,000.00 winners were Stephen Masten; from Milford High School, and Maggie Scarborough; from Dover High School.

V. Other

A. Spring Sportsmanship Report

Kevin Charles reviewed the spring sportsmanship report with the members of the Board and explained that there was a 25% decline from last year. Mr. Charles then reviewed an overall Incident Report Summary for the 2004-05 school year.

B. Status of the Executive Director's Search

Mr. Holodick commented that the Interviewing Committee consisted of himself, Dr. Atkinson, Mr. Robinson, Mr. Kee, and Mr. Allen. He commented that the applications were being reviewed after the meeting and would be interviewing on June 20, 2005.

Ms. Cooke explained to the Board that she should be receiving the Anderson order anytime and was asking the Board to waive the 20 days and sign the order so that it can get back to the State Board before the next meeting. The consensus of the Board was to support Ms. Cooke's decision.

VI. Public Comment

None

VII. Adjournment

Dr. Hawtof made a motion to adjourn at 1:20 p.m. The motion was seconded by Mr. Allen and carried unanimously.

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Tina Hurley

Executive Session

III.B. – Reconsideration of NDBO, Inc. Request for Certification

Mr. Williams made a motion to go into executive session pursuant to 29 Del. C. § 10004 (b) (4). Mr. Williams stated that he would like to get some clarification from Ms. Cooke, the Board's attorney, on this matter. The motion was seconded by Ms. Wilbur and carried unanimously. While in executive session, the Board received legal advice or opinion from its attorney with respect to NDBO's request that it reconsider its May Board meeting and its implications on any potential litigation. Mr. Williams made a motion to come out of executive session. The motion was seconded by Dr. Lyons and carried unanimously.

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Tina Hurley