

DIAA Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes
May 11, 2006
Collette Building

I. Opening

A. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:10 a.m. by DIAA Chairperson Mark Holodick.

B. Roll Call

The following DIAA Board members were present: Mark Holodick, Ted Williams, Gerald Allen, Phyllis Kohel, Kathleen Wilbur, Debbie Corrado, Joan Samonisky, John Oliver, Michael Wagner, Joan Samonisky, Robert Reed, Ed Kee, Dr. Jeffrey Hawtof, Dr. Lewis Atkinson. Kevin Charles; Executive Director, and Paula Fontello; Deputy Attorney General, were also in attendance. Dr. Dianne Sole, Dr. Garrett Lyons, and Sister Ann Michele were unable to attend.

C. Approval of Agenda

Mr. Holodick commented that there was an addendum to the agenda adding items J., K., and L. Dr. Hawtof made a motion to approve the agenda with the amendments. The motion was seconded by Mr. Kee and carried unanimously.

D. Approval of Minutes of the April 13, 2006 Board of Directors' Meeting

Mr. Kee made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 13, 2006 Board of Directors' Meeting as submitted. The motion was seconded by Mr. Oliver and carried unanimously.

E. DIAA Financial Report

Mr. Charles reviewed the financial report and explained that most of the expenses for the basketball tournament were due to security at the Bob Carpenter Center and the trainers for the wrestling tournament. Mr. Charles stated that the expenses do not include the facility rental at the Bob Carpenter Center for the basketball tournament. Mr. Reed made a motion to accept the financial report. The motion was seconded by Ms. Corrado and carried unanimously.

II. Public Comment

None.

III. Action Items

A. New Castle Middle School Softball – Self-Reported Eligibility Violation

Mr. Charles commented that Cissie Taplin reported a student who participated on their softball team while living outside of the district. Mr. Charles explained that the Colonial School District forfeited games in which the student participated and did not allow the student to participate in any additional games. Mr. Charles stated that he did not take any further actions as he felt the actions taken by the district were sufficient.

B. McKean High School Boys' Lacrosse – Self-Reported Eligibility Violation

Mr. Charles explained that Bob Massafieri informed him that they used a player in a lacrosse game that was not in attendance in school that day. Mr. Charles stated that McKean forfeited the game and that he did not impose any additional penalty.

C. Glasgow High School Outdoor Track – Self-Reported Eligibility Violation

Mr. Charles explained that Glasgow failed to include two athletes on the eligibility report to DIAA and those athletes participated in a track meet. Mr. Charles stated that Mr. Savino, the athletic director at Glasgow High School, self-reported this and that the school will be fined in accordance with DIAA regulations.

D. Sanction of Tournaments

Mr. Charles stated that there were three events that needed to be sanctioned and that they all looked to be inline. Mr. Williams made a motion to approve the sanctioned events. The motion was seconded by Mr. Allen and carried unanimously.

E. Consideration of Travel Request to NFHS/NASO Summit for Tommie Neubauer

F. Consideration of Travel Request to NFHS Summer Meeting for Kevin Charles and Tommie Neubauer

Mr. Charles reminded the Board that DIAA sent people to this in the past and that this year will be the first time that we will be sending someone from the DIAA office. Mr. Charles stated that the focus will be on Technology. Mr. Charles stated that the expenses for this trip will be on the next fiscal year expenses. Mr. Kee made a motion to approve both items E. and F. The motion was seconded by Ms. Kohel and carried unanimously.

G. Charter School of Wilmington Girls' Basketball – Self-Reported Eligibility Violation

Mr. Charles explained that he was contacted by Kevin Kelly, the athletic director at The Charter School of Wilmington, who stated that one of their girls' basketball

players did not have a sports physical. Mr. Charles stated that Mr. Kelly is in the process of forfeiting all the games in which this student participated in.

H. Nominating Committees Recommendation for Board Officer

Dr. Atkinson commented on Board members whose terms were ending and stated that they were all eligible to another term as members of the DIAA Board. During discussion of DIAA's statutory authority, Ms. Fontello reviewed 14 Del. C. § 305. Mr. Charles stated that the nominating committee nominated Mr. Holodick and Mr. Williams for another year as Chairperson and Vice Chairperson. Ms. Wilbur made a motion to accept the nominations. The motion was seconded by Ms. Kohel and carried unanimously.

I. Public Comments on DIAA Proposed Regulation

Mr. Charles stated that he received two comments on the regulations. Mr. Charles stated that one was from an athletic director who was concerned about the fall practice start date and in particular the fact that football has to practice three days without contact. Mr. Charles commented that he explained to the athletic director that there is a revised in-climatization practice schedule coming forth from the Sports Medicine Advisory Committee. Ms. Fontello commented that the State Board approved the regulations for publication in February and that the regulations were published in the Register of Regulation for public comment on March 1, 2006. Ms. Fontello further explained that in addition to the APA requirement of publication, DIAA's regulations require that proposed regulations or amendments be sent to each member school. Mr. Charles confirmed that this notification was completed in April. Ms. Fontello also advised that at this meeting the Board must consider all the public comments and decide if any changes will be made. If the changes are not substantive, then DIAA may give final approval and forward the regulations to the Secretary and State Board of Education for final approval. If the Board determines that the changes are substantive, then the publication process must begin again. Upon final approval by the State Board of Education the regulations will be published in June and become final. Ms. Fontello advised the Board of a comment received from the State Council for Persons with Disabilities and their concern with regulation 1008 section 2.7.5 that this section does not include a provision for a hardship waiver as listed in 2.7.1. Ms. Fontello explained that although DIAA's other regulations provide that the Board may grant a hardship waiver of any of their regulations, and 2.7.1 provides for a hardship waiver, she made some suggested changes to address the Council's concerns and clarify that the hardship standard in 2.7.1 will apply to all students regardless of what type of middle school they attend. Dr. Hawtof made a motion to approve all the regulations with the non-substantive changes. The motion was seconded by Ms. Kohel and carried unanimously.

J. 2005 Senior Scholar Athlete Award Recipient – Laura Dean

Mr. Charles explained that Laura Dean was one of the recipients of the Senior Scholar Athlete Award last year who was unable to use the money because the college that she went to had a fully funded athletic program. Mr. Charles explained that she is going to be taking classes at the University of Delaware this summer and the mother has asked if she could use the \$1,500.00 towards the summer school classes. Mr. Kee made a motion to approve this request as long as this does not jeopardize her eligibility with the NCAA and recommended that this issue be addressed. The motion was seconded by Mr. Wagner and carried by a vote of 10 – yes (Oliver, Hawtof, Wagner, Samonisky, Williams, Corrado, reed, Allen, Kee, and Kohel) and 1 – abstention (Wilbur).

- K. Request to Hold the Delaware Senior Lacrosse All-Star Game
- L. Request by St. Andrew's School for Fifth Year Student to Participate in Lacrosse All-Star Game

Mr. Charles stated that items K. and L. are tied together. Mr. Charles explained that this is an annual request to sanction the All-Star Lacrosse Game. Mr. Charles stated that he also received a request to allow a fifth-year senior from St. Andrew's to participate in the all-star contest. Mr. Charles was asking the Board if this had to be sanctioned by DIAA since the students have already graduated from high school by the time the event is held. Mr. Williams made a motion to not sanction the Lacrosse All-Star game and therefore will not need to take any action on the request for a fifth-year student to participate. The motion was seconded by Mr. Kee and carried unanimously.

IV. Executive Director Report

A. Bowling as a DIAA Recognized Sport

Mr. Charles explained that he recently met with Michelle Turner-Billigs of the United States Bowling Congress Youth Division, Delaware Chapter, who was expressing a desire for bowling to be recognized as a varsity sport. Mr. Charles stated that there are currently 22 states that do recognize bowling as an interscholastic sport and stated that there may be five or six schools in Delaware that have club teams. Mr. Charles stated that he will take this to the Athletic Directors Conference in the fall to get feedback from the athletic directors.

B. NFHS Officials Three year Agreement

Mr. Charles reported that he has signed a three-year agreement with the NFHS to be 100% membership state which means that all of our officials will be required to be members of the NFOA. By signing a three-year agreement NFHS dues for Delaware officials will remain at current levels for the life of the agreement.

C. NFHS Legal Summit Report

Mr. Charles commented that he and Ms. Fontello attended the Legal Summit Meeting and felt that it was one of the best conferences that the NFHS has put on. Mr. Charles stated that the Executive Directors also met and that one of the items approved at that meeting was the T-Mobile agreement with the NFHS. Mr. Charles explained that the agreement with T-Mobile is that they will provide the NFHS with some funding for promotional activities to promote the mission of education based athletics. In addition, each state association will receive \$10,000.00 from T-Mobile.

D. Basketball Tournament Report

Mr. Charles commented on the basketball tournament by reviewing the attendance, the additional security, and also reviewed the invoice received from the University of Delaware.

E. DIAA Scholar-Athlete Award

Mr. Charles commented that we received 19 applications for the Senior Scholar Athlete Award and that 14 of the 19 applications came from Kent and Sussex County. Mr. Charles explained that each applicant was ranked on athletics, academics, the essay, community and school service, and letters of recommendation. Mr. Charles then reviewed the winners of the award.

F. DIAA Spring Tournament Schedule of Events

Mr. Neubauer reviewed the dates of the Committee meetings and the dates of the spring tournaments.

V. Other

VI. Public Comment

None

VII. Adjournment

Dr. Hawtof made a motion to adjourn at 11:20 a.m. The motion was seconded by Ms. Kohel and carried unanimously.

Tina Hurley