

# AMERICAN TURNERS

**“Sound Mind  
in a  
Sound Body”**



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## **Minutes of the 2017 American Turners National Council Meeting Held September 22-23, 2017 at Turn Verein Frisch Auf (Aurora)**

Meeting called to order at 7:00pm by National President, David Liptak

Pledge of Allegiance recited.

While standing, a moment of silence in memory of all of the Turners who have departed this life and entering the Turn Verein Everlasting, and a moment of silence for the service men and women who have given their lives serving our country.

### Roll-Call

- a. 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Dennis Zeller calling for Council Members present. National President David Liptak, 1st Vice President Dennis Zeller, 2nd Vice President Joy Bodine, Administrative Assistant Kate Payne, NHPE Chair Michelle Lesperance, National Cultural Chair Sue Knisley, National Bowling Chair Mike Hohman, Central States Rep Terry Bodine, Illinois District Rep Nick Barts, Lake Erie Rep John Paxton, Middle Atlantic Rep Dave Mulrooney, New England Rep Dale Bojanowski, New Jersey Rep Ray Virgens, New York Rep Marion Oppelt, Western Penn Rep Allen Frederick, Western US Rep Carole Brennan, JEF President Frank Wedl, ETF President Ed Colton.
- b. 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Joy Bodine introduces guests and honored dignitaries, Giles Hoyt-Scholarship Chair, Craig Sniezek-TT Editor, James Goetz-Jahn Fund, Sandy Zeller-North St. Louis, David Mulrooney Sr.-Mid-Atlantic. Dan Hoisington Representing New Ulm.
- c. Excused from attendance are Ross Hetz-St. Louis Rep, Dan Schwab Wisconsin Dist. Rep.

Welcome by Aurora Turner President, Randy Roe.

### Reports of National Officers

Reports as follows. President's Report-No changes. 1<sup>st</sup> VP Report-no changes, 2<sup>nd</sup> VP Report-no changes, Admin Assist/Treasurer Report-no changes, NHPE Report-no changes, Nat Cultural Report-no changes, Nat Bowling-no changes.

Dave M. motions to accept National Officers reports. Second by Nick Barts. Vote held. Passed unanimously. No abstentions.

## Reports of District Representatives

Central States-no changes, Illinois Dist.-no changes, Lake Erie-no changes, New England-no changes, New Jersey-no changes, New York-no changes, New Ulm-no changes, Western Penn-no changes, Western US-no changes.

Dave M. Motioned to accept reports of District Representatives. Seconded by Marion O. No discussion. Vote held. Passed unanimously. No abstentions.

USAG-Additional flyer of condensed rules supplied, no other changes. Sue K. motions to accept USAG additional and report. Seconded by Marion O. No discussion. Vote held. Passed unanimously. No abstentions.

Dave M. nominates Michelle Lesperance for appointment of USAG representative. Seconded by Marion O. No other nominations. Michelle L. accepts for one more year. Vote held. Passed unanimously. No abstentions.

NHPE Golf, Volleyball and Softball Report. Allen F motions to accept reports. Seconded by Nick B.

National Council acknowledged that they have previously dropped the need for a Volleyball representative. A coordinator had previously been appointed under the NHPE Chair.

Turner Topics Printing and Mailing Schedule. Sue Knisley motioned to nominate Craig Sniezek as Turner Topics Editor. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Dave M. No other nominations. Craig accepts nomination. Vote held. Passed unanimously. No abstentions.

National Historian, no changes in report. Sue Knisley motioned to appoint Giles Hoyt. Seconded by John Paxton. No other nominations. Giles accepted the nomination. Vote held passed unanimously. No abstentions.

Endowment Trust Fund- President Ed Colton read the minutes from the Sept 22 Annual Meeting. Motion to accept report by Marion O. Seconded by Ray Virgens. Discussion held. Vote held. Passed unanimously. No abstentions.

Sue K. motions to concur with reinvesting \$100,000 of ETF funds, \$8000 gift to IL Turner Camp and adding a Hardship Grant for Societies. Seconded by Marion O. Discussion held regarding FDIC insured investments, if a special donation would be considered for other societies. Vote held. Passed unanimously. No abstentions.

Allen Frederick motions to refund Kuenzel litigation costs to ETF. Second by Nick B. Discussion held including where it comes from. Motion tabled until after further discussion in Session 2.

Jahn Education Fund Report- no changes  
National Rules Coordinator - no changes  
National Marketing Committee - no changes  
Motion by Frank W. to accept Jahn, Rules, and Marketing committee. Seconded by Marion O. No discussion. Vote held. Passed unanimously. No abstentions

Scholarship Committee- Reading of the scholarship meeting minutes from Sept 22 by Giles Hoyt. Sue K motions to accept report as read. Seconded by Carole B. No Discussion. Vote held. Passed unanimously. No abstentions

(Guests of National Council Removed for Closed Discussions) Guest left at 7:57 pm.

2. Election OF Honor Key Applicants

- a. Nominee Carole Brennan-Carole B. left the room.  
President David Liptak read the Los Angeles Turners letter of recommendation for Carole Brennan to receive the Honor Key and our guidelines for this award. Much discussion held.

Paper ballot vote held. Sixteen ballots cast. Two-thirds majority not met. Failed.

Dave M. motions to destroy the ballots. Seconded by Dale B. Passed unanimously. No abstentions. Ballots destroyed.

(Guests of National Council may return for close of Session One)

Motion to adjourn by Dale B. and seconded by Dave M. Vote held. Passed unanimously. No abstentions.

**END OF FIRST SESSION**

## Second Session, Saturday September 23, 9:00am, Aurora Turners Club

Called to order at 9:09am by President David Liptak.

### 1. Old Business

- a. Recap of 2017 for American Turners. Dave recapped the move of the National Office and thanked those involved.

Joy Bodine discussed 2018 Convention August 3-5 2018 “Rich History Grand Future”. Guests will be past presidents of Concordia. Gymnasts program. Friday Dinner -Taste of St. Louis. Saturday Dinner and Pool party Sat. Making members home brew. Website to offer attractions to attract family. One hotel set, but looking for another due to price. Kate Payne and Joy Bodine will be co-secretaries. We need a couple office staff for Convention. Suggestions and volunteers for that would be appreciated. More info to come. Big focus will be on how they have great participation.

- b. Marketing Committee

Kate Payne spoke of the need of united marketing and open lines of communication. We need to implement the ideas of moving forward. \$700 of the designated \$2500 money was used for the smartphone app. No other designated funds have been used. Nick Barts spoke of a loss of interest from committee and Maria Brett is on board still.

- c. Joy Bodine took the floor for discussion regarding presented resolutions.

Resolution 9 can stay as is.

Resolutions 2 and 3 is redundant. These can be removed.

Resolution 1 to say, “there will be a registered principal office and registered agent in KY and IL”

Resolution 4, change “chairman” to “chairperson” and “secretary” to “secretary(s)”, the rest remain as is.

Resolution 5, after discussion, Council has decided that the elected officials should read, as “Elected Corporate Officers will be up to 5 people. President, 1<sup>st</sup> VP, 2<sup>nd</sup> VP, Treasurer and National Corporate Secretary. Other duties will be...”

Resolution 6 can be omitted.

Resolution 7 should “give executive committee shall be authorized to spend funds as agreed upon in the standing rules, as necessary to conduct business, or unforeseen circumstances”

Resolution 8 should read as “authorized delegates”.

Resolution 10 to be omitted at this time.

Resolution 11 tabled until further discussion.

Resolution 12 remains as is.

Noted to double check for accurate breakdown of per capita tax, specifically Scholarship. Resolution suggested for Per Capita Tax shall be determined by Convention. Breakdown suggested to be in O & P.

## 2. New Business

Kuenzel Fund discussion begins. American Turners has been awarded \$305,336.23 in the longstanding legal case. There are conditions for the distribution of these funds. The funds must benefit the 4 surrounding Counties of Philadelphia, including Bucks Co, Montgomery Co, Delaware Co, Chester Co. A local chapter of the American Turners in said counties can be created, scholarships towards PE and Gymnastics for high school students in the city and said 4 counties, further education of coaches and teachers in gymnastics and PE in said counties.

Ed Colton motions that National Council create a “Kuenzel Memorial Fund” that will be restricted funds in the American Turners Treasury. Seconded by Frank Wedl. Discussion was held. Vote held. Passed unanimously. No abstentions

Joy Bodine moves that the committee be established, including the National President, NHPE Chair, ETF President, JEF President and up to 3 other members for the “Kuenzel Memorial Fund”. Seconded by Carole B. Vote held. Passed unanimously. No abstentions

Tabled motion is recalled for the reimbursement of litigation costs to date paid for by the ETF. Originally brought by Allen F and seconded by Dave M.

Joy Bodine moves that the ETF be refunded from the awarded funds or interest of for monies spent in the Kuenzel litigation. Seconded by Dale B. Discussion held. Joy Motions to amended previous motion to include that if the money is not allowed by the court to reimburse out of these funds, National Council will revisit this issue at so time. Dale B seconded the amendments to this motion. Discussion continued. Vote held. Passed unanimously. No abstentions

## Redistricting

Carole Brennan announced that as of Oct 1, 2017, Carole will no longer be associated with Los Angeles and the Western US District. Carole given the Turner Applause for appreciation for all that she has done for the Western District and National Council.

Several District Reps speak of the concerns and victories of their societies. Several have no buildings and only meet for a few luncheons. There’s not a lot in common between societies in the district. Some have had increases and participation in membership numbers and events. Concern for people leaving district seats and how to refill them. Suggested to have some side conversations during break to come up with ideas for redistricting and merging.

Sue K. motions to combine Upper Mississippi and Wisconsin districts and be called Upper Midwest District. Seconded by Nick Barts. Discussion held ensuring that National to notify societies of changes. Meetings to form new officers and establish Bylaws by October 31, 2017. District should be formed by spring 2018. Vote held. Passed unanimously. No abstentions.

Ray V. motions to merge New York and New Jersey districts and be called New York Metro District. Seconded by Frank W. National to notify societies of changes. Meetings to form new officers and establish Bylaws by October 31, 2017. Vote held. Passed unanimously. No abstentions.

Sue K. motions for the funds from the current Upper Mississippi and Wisconsin Districts will be handed over to the National Office to be held in an escrow account until the new Upper Midwest District is formed. Seconded by Marion O. Vote held. Passed unanimously. No abstentions.

Sue K. motions to dissolve the Upper Mississippi District. Seconded by Dave M. No further discussion. Vote held. Passed unanimously. No abstentions.

Sue K. motions to dissolve the Wisconsin District. Seconded by Allen Frederick. No further discussion. Vote held. Passed unanimously. No abstentions.

After discussion of redistricting, National Council's above actions were based upon non-compliance to the American Turners Bylaws.

Due to amicable merge, no dissolution is required and no financial handover to National Office from the New York and New Jersey Districts are required.

#### Per Capita Tax Delinquencies for 2017

- i. Cleveland STV (No contact can be made) Society is assumed to be defunct. Financial assets are assumed to be maintaining.
- ii. Denver (contact made, no intentions of starting membership until October)
- iii. Louisville (contact made, had internal problems delaying their membership process, but still no membership reports)
- iv. North St. Louis
- v. Providence

Discussion began regarding Per Capita Tax due dates.

Resolution 11 to be adjusted to read the close of the open renewal period shall be June 30<sup>th</sup> of the current calendar year.

Allen F raises a new item of business regarding transferring of societies for a member. If the originating society refuses to sign the transfer form, and district level is unsuccessful in getting them to comply, what are the procedures? Answer is the District may vote to allow or deny the transfer.

Financials – Kate Payne reports the financial concerns with the lack of communication and reports with our current accountant.

Michelle L. recommends that the President write a registered letter with a short deadline for response to Mike Coakley and named partner(s) to demand our current financial records, compilation reports, and tax return or else legal action will be taken.

Nick B. recommends that our banks be contacted to ensure checks written by Weber and Assoc. and/or Mike Coakley should seize and desist. All authority should be halted.

Dave Liptak will write the letter Monday, September 25, 2017 and Tom B has volunteered to make personal contact within the next 2 weeks and report back.

Kate Payne will investigate Weber and Assoc. for any potential flags with IRS or similar governing entities. Any findings will be reported to Council.

All Endowment Trust checks that are written to be endorsed by the ETF President and Vice President.

#### Historical Records

Giles Hoyt recommends that local historical societies should be utilized for proper presentation when available. When unavailable, they will give recommendations on how to preserve. Giles highly recommends ensuring proper storage (which is not in the Turn Verein basements).

Kate Payne to inventory items currently in stock and investigate all partnerships of vendors to report to Council.

Discussion to notify societies and clarify the need that Host Society teams must pay their entry fees for events to ensure fair monetary awards and National reimbursement.

#### National Events – Site Selection

2018 National Council Meeting – Dave Liptak presents a letter from American Turners of Delaware requesting to host the next National Council Meeting.

Allen F. motions that Delaware host 2018 National Council Meeting. Seconded by Marion O. No other bids received. Vote held. Passed unanimously. No abstentions.

#### National Convention

1. 2018 Convention – Concordia
2. 2020 Convention – No bids

2019 National Festival – Fort Wayne

2018 National Championships

3. Senior Volleyball – No bid
4. Open Volleyball – No bid
5. Gymnastics – No bid

6. 12" Softball – Aurora
  7. Basketball – No bid
  8. Golf – Keystone. Focus on promoting Jr. Golf at this event.
- National Committee Meetings – Location Request
9. Bowling-Aurora was awarded the 2018 Tournament. Meeting will be held in that location. Jr. Bowling had 48 kids between 5 societies for 2017. Focus on advertisement for Jr. Bowling.
  10. Cultural- Sue K. would like to do a meeting in Aurora in Feb-Mar-Apr. Attempted a District level Culture event that didn't have a good turnout.
  11. Health and Phys Ed-Fort Wayne, spring of 2018.

Dale B. motions to allow Jessica Hansen to have her expenses paid to go to the USAG meeting in order to train as Michelle's successor. Seconded by Marion O. No further discussion. Vote held. Passed unanimously. No abstentions.

Dale B. motions to allow our Bowling chair to purchase compatible software for bowling program used at our Tournaments. Seconded by Allen F. Discussion held. Vote held. Passed unanimously. No abstentions.

National Bowling Sites

12. 2018 – No bid

Kate presented on options for a website rebuild with possibilities of pairing up with a marketing company or a database. Concept set aside to give time for Kate and Marketing Committee to meet and fine tune specific details on how it works.

National Office could be sending a welcome letter to new members after their cards are issued listing some key opportunities that come with their membership.

Turner Topics Editor to discuss future of Turner Topics

Craig Sniezek takes the floor to discuss Turner Topics and current problems. Craig has had 4 issues in a row struggling to get content for our magazine. Craig would like to reach out to our National Council to please get reports in themselves and please encourage their societies to do the same. Topics is to promote and highlight our societies and their happenings. It has been decided to mail the Topics under our 501c3 Non Profit stamp instead of the Periodical rate.

Good and Welfare of the American Turners

Pam Lau requested to be the official coordinator with the travel arrangements for the 2021 Turnfest in Leipzig.

Kate Payne to check into Turner organizations in Texas after the disasters if any help could be used. The Villages in Florida has made contact stating all is ok, but Kate will contact Judy personally.



Frank W. begins discussion regarding Bruno Klaus' gymnasium and the American Turner Museum is including in his personal gymnasium. Frank W. had a meeting there with the design committee with even more details. Frank shared background on a need for an American Turner Museum. He is asking that American Turners allow the use of our logo at the American Turners museum.

Carole B motions to seek legal advice from an attorney, recommended to be Scott Amori, to protect the American Turners organization. Seconded by Joy B. Discussion held. Vote is 7 Yes and 5 No. Motion passes. No abstentions.

A "Turner Applause" for Aurora Turners' hospitality will be conducted at dinner.

Announcements to Council Members. President Liptak thanked the National Council for their participation and any hardships that came along with their dedication to American Turners. He requests that we all take the time to listen to each other with an open mind.

John P motions to adjourn. Seconded by Marion O. Vote held. Passed unanimously. No abstentions.

**Session 2 Closed**

**2017 National Council Meeting adjourned at 5:07 PM CST.**

**31<sup>st</sup> Annual Corporate Meeting of American Turners, Inc**  
**September 23, 2017**  
**Aurora Turners Club**

2017 Meeting of American Turners, Inc. called to order by David Liptak

Roll Call by Dennis Zeller

Present include: Dave Liptak, Dennis Zeller, Joy Bodine, Kate Payne, Michelle Lesperance, Sue Knisley, Mike Hohman, Terry Bodine, Nick Barts, John Paxton, Dave Mulrooney, Dale Bojanowski, Ray Virgens, Marion Oppelt, Allen Fredericks, Carole Brennan, Ed Colton, Frank Wedl.

Everyone present but Darold Sindt and Ross Hetz whom were excused.

National President Dave Liptak read:

“The American Turners, Inc. was incorporated on the 15th day of March, 1988 in Louisville, Kentucky. Under the laws of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, a meeting of the members of a non-profit corporation must be held at least annually, with minutes prepared and kept on file of all corporate meetings. Likewise, there has to be an annual filing with the Office of the Secretary of State, verifying that the corporation is still in existence and supplying information on the verification form received from the Secretary of State’s Office along with the appropriate fee each year that it is received.”

Dave M. motions that the National Officers and Council Members of the American Turners shall serve as the officers and board of directors for the American Turners, Inc. Seconded by Marion O. No discussion. Vote held. Passed unanimously. No abstentions.

Sue K. motions to adjourn. Seconded by Dave M. No discussion. Vote held. Passed unanimously. No abstentions.

Meeting for 2017 American Turners, Inc adjourned at 5:12 PM CST.

Minutes Attested by:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
National President David Liptak

9-27-17  
Date

Recording Secretary:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Nat. Admin. Assist Kate Payne

9/27/17  
Date