



## NATIONAL COUNCIL OF AMERICAN TURNERS

**HELD VIRTUALLY**

**NOVEMBER 14, 2020**

Opening at 12:03 p.m. by National President, Dennis Zeller.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

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

**Roll-call** by Vice President Craig Sniezek.

Introduction of guests & honored dignitaries, Joy Bodine, Dave Liptak

Installation of elected officers and standing committee chairs by Past President David P. Liptak.- President Dennis Zeller and Vice President Craig Sniezek voiced agreement to installation terms.

### **National Office(rs) -**

- A. National President – Dennis Zeller
- B. National Vice President – Craig Sniezek
- C. National Administrative Assistant - Kate Payne
- D. National Health & Physical Education Chairperson (Acting) – Michelle Lesperance
- E. National Cultural Chairperson – Sue Knisley
- F. National Bowling Chairperson – Frank Jones

### **District Representatives**

- G. District Representative - Central States – Kevin McCart
- H. District Representative - Illinois District – Nick Barts
- I. District Representative - Lake Erie – Bill Severns
- J. District Representative - Middle Atlantic - Dave Mulrooney
- K. District Representative - New England –John Beary
- L. District Representative - New Jersey - Ray Virgens-not present
- M. District Representative - New York District - Marion Oppelt
- N. District Representative - St. Louis – Jill Pfeuffer
- O. District Representative - Upper Mississippi – Liz Eichner
- P. District Representative - Western Pennsylvania – George Petrik-not present
- Q. District Representative - Western United States – Alexander Hast-not present
- R. District Representative - Wisconsin – Dan Hoisington

### **Standing Council Seats**

- S. Endowment Trust Fund – Tom Bozonelos
- T. Jahn Fund – Frank Wedl

## Appointed Committee Chairs

- U. Report of Kuenzel Memorial Fund - David Mulrooney
- V. Report of Marketing Committee- Nick Barts
- W. Report of Scholarship Committee - Giles Hoyt-not present

Verbal report of districts and committees given.

Sue Knisley spoke for the Cultural Committee and the Redbook. Updates are being made. Stephanie Minster will be trained through the next Festival to take over the position. Sue requested that district reps appoint a cultural chair to participate in the cultural committee.

Kevin McCart spoke for Central States-some societies are operating as "normal" as possible. Fundraising is in the works at most clubs. Athenaeum is mostly shut down during this. Southside is more here in spirit than activities. Cincinnati, Fort Wayne and Louisville are mostly operational. Covington closed Feb until the end of June. Toledo has gymnastics classes running and hosting events. River City is operating gymnastics classes.

Nick Barts spoke for Illinois. Northwest has been running since June. Probably will have to shut down again. Elgin has carryout service of food only. Eiche and Lincoln don't have buildings, so this hasn't affected them as much, but activities are running. Aurora is affected greatly and possibly facing another mandated shut down. Aurora has talked about leaving the National organization, but the dues increase being rejected may help the situation.

Bill Severns spoke for Lake Erie-Bowling will be hosted for 2021 in Akron. They will have ad pages available for societies to purchase.

Dave Mulrooney spoke for Mid Atlantic- Delaware is scraping along but only hosting shuffleboard. Riverside has not responded to know if they've been able to be open.

John Beary spoke for New England-No word from Providence or Adams. Clinton has been open for food, gym classes and meetings. Holyoke meets virtually, reducing membership dues to avoid membership drop. Syracuse is having meetings, bowling league is operating, events are being hosted.

New Jersey-Not present

Marion Oppelt spoke for New York-has had communication with Ray Virgens regarding the merger of districts. Long Island has a bowling league with ATNY and is hosting events when possible.

Jill Pfeuffer spoke for St. Louis. Shiller has had no contact with Jill. Imperial not having events, Concordia has new regulations taking effect Tuesday. 50% operations, food, drive in movies, gym classes.

Liz Eichner spoke for Upper Miss-1 district meeting held. Keystone had severe weather and is still recovering around the area. Looking into virtual meetings in the future. Northwest Davenport celebrating 150 years.

No Western US or Western Penn representatives.

Dan Hoisington spoke for Wisconsin District-Milwaukee has limited hours and attendance, bar and hall have been shut down. Madison is carrying on classes, banquet hall is shut down, the parking lot is rented to the post office, received PPP loan. New Ulm has gymnastics and is running as best as possible.

Tom Bozonelos spoke for Endowment Trust Fund-Had virtual meeting Oct 31. Welcome Dave Mulrooney for 6 more years and Michelle Lesperance to a 6 yr term. Mike Coakley was not voted in, but is still doing financials. Has lost approx \$68K, issued 9 grants in 2020 totaling just over \$9K. Has stayed within budgeted amount. Working on adjustments to 3 grants. Will have new requirements for youths to carry at least National Youth membership if parents are not members. Has 2 outstanding loans, but still not accepting new loan applications. Land is still for sale in Algonquin, IL. Currently listed at \$425K.

Frank Wedl spoke for Jahn Education Fund-end of Oct 2020 down to \$2,147,000. Turner Museum has not been able to break ground yet. Considered aiding societies financially from Covid-19 closures.

David Mulrooney spoke for Kuenzel Memorial Fund-Very limited use of funds so not too much happening with the funds as of yet. Market investments have fluctuated a lot, but is currently up.

Nick Barts spoke for Marketing- has no report.

Giles Hoyt not present for Scholarship Report.

President Zeller calls for a motion to appoint Dan Hoisington as National Corporate Secretary and Cindy Law is appointed as National Treasurer. Motion by Tom Bozonelos, seconded by Sue Knisley. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion to accept all reports given by Dave Mulrooney, Marion Oppelt seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

### **CLOSED SESSION OF THE COUNCIL**

● Honor Key Applicant - Mary Jo Bursig has been nominated by the New York District for the Honor Key for 2020. Votes have been tallied and a majority approved the Honor Key to be awarded.

Motion to destroy ballots by Craig Sniezek, seconded by Dave Mulrooney. Motion carried unanimously.

- Employee review. It is recommended that the Executive Committee shall review then report to Council via email.

### **Old Business**

- Status of Districts

- New York and New Jersey Merger to New York Metro District-Still awaiting new Board and By-Laws--Council to give time frame for completion and organization.

President Zeller is requesting a time frame for completion of the merger. Marion Oppelt has had communication with Ray Virgens and will send an approved letter for him to sign on behalf of the New Jersey District and Marion for the New York District. Once this is signed, a meeting will be held to elect officers to make the merger official. Letter should be sent by certified mail.

- Turner Topics

- There will probably be 3 issues for 2021 depending on COVID.

- Drum and Flag

- Appraiser has been contacted by Craig Sniezek. Next steps are being taken and info will be passed along when ready.
- ATNY withdraws their offer to purchase the drum/flag.

Resolution to be written to correct wording of referendum to state district votes, not society and any following documents.

### **New Business**

- Finances-

- Review Financial statements and budget/forecast

Motion to have the finance committee review actual finances and report back to Council and create a new budget and report back by the end of the year. Seconded by Dave Mulrooney. Motion carried unanimously.

- Society Delinquencies for 2020

- Membership Dues Delinquencies for 2020
  - Providence has reported nothing.
  - Schiller has reported nothing, but communication has been made.
  - There are a few societies that still owe a bit more and have not completed membership yet.
- National Directory Delinquencies
  - Central States
    - Athenaeum owes money
    - Cincinnati and Covington no Directory
  - Illinois
    - Elgin owes money
  - Lake Erie
    - Cleveland East no Directory
  - New England
    - No District Directory
    - Providence-no dues or Directory

- New Jersey
  - Northern New Jersey (Passaic) no Directory
- St Louis
  - No District Directory
  - Schiller-no dues or directory
- Upper Mississippi
  - No District Directory
  - Moline and NW Davenport no directory
- Western US
  - No District Directory
  - No Denver Directory
- Wisconsin
  - East Side and New Ulm owe money
  - Madison and Milwaukee no Directory

- Membership
  - Discuss amount for Membership Dues and participation fees.
  - 2021 Membership cards on order. \$873 10K Cards

- SilkStart
  - New directory is available online.
  - Imports are still challenging, but in the works with the company.
  - Should give another year's events to utilize benefits.
  - Need society participation in order for the benefits to be visible to council.
  - 8 have started the set up. 2 are just about launch ready.

A pros/cons list should be submitted to evaluate if the cost is worth it. Maybe a sub-committee to evaluate the overall usefulness of the system.

Tom Bozonelos moved to create a subcommittee to review all aspects of SilkStart and give a recommendation to the National Council for a final review by Jan 1, 2021. Seconded by Frank Wedl. Motion carried unanimously.

What can National do to help societies struggling from COVID? Jahn Education Fund Committee has been having discussions about possibilities for distribution. Endowment Trust President Tom Bozonelos spoke of his concerns of amounts and eligibility parameters. Each of the aforementioned committees shall collaborate with the Executive Committee to establish a relief fund. Send correspondence to each society to start evaluating what the needs are for the societies for approximately the next full quarter.

- Upcoming Events and Locations
  - Senior Volleyball - None
  - Open Volleyball - None
  - Gymnastics –
    - 2021-None scheduled yet-
  - 12" Softball –
    - 2021- Aurora
    - 2022- Ft. Wayne
  - Basketball - None
  - Golf –
    - 2021- Aurora
    - 2022- Bids from Holyoke and Rochester
  - Bowling
    - 2021-Akron
    - 2022-Syracuse
- Possible Pickleball National Tournament-Nothing until COVID is released.
- Jr. Golf & Jr. Bowl procedures
  - Communicate more with societies to promote for more participation
- Health & Phys. Ed.-
  - Discussion of "virtual" meet and use local facilities and send videos for judging.

- Discuss how to avoid host society not participating and not having a qualifying amount of districts participating.
- Nick Barts moved that in order to host an American Turner event, the host society needs to have a program of the same activity. Youth Members are National members, so they will always be able to participate in National Events. Seconded by Sue Knisley. Motion carried. East Side Turners will not be allowed to host a virtual gymnastics meet since they don't have their own gymnastics program.
- Craig Snizek moved that the host society of a National Event is required to have participants of said event. Seconded by Kevin McCart. Motion carried.
- Michelle Lesperance has agreed to act as NHPE Chairperson until the seat can be filled, but cannot do another Festival.
- Council members should reach out and look for more NHPE committee members from their districts.
  
- Council to reach out to societies about if there is a need in the by-laws to cover virtual meetings. Recommended to just take out terms beside one meeting annually.
  
- 2021 National Council Meeting - Aurora- Turners David Mulrooney moved and seconded by Liz Eichner to allow Aurora to host 2021 National Council Meeting. Motion carries.
- 2022 National Council Meeting – Louisville Turners
- 2022 National Convention-Louisville Turners

Good and Welfare of the American Turners.

A 'Turner Applause' for using technology successfully.

Announcements to Council Members.

Motion to adjourn the 2020 National Council Meeting by Marion Oppelt, seconded by David Mulrooney. Motion carried.

## Dennis Zeller

---

Attested by PRESIDENT DENNIS ZELLER

## Kate Payne

---

Written by Kate Payne-National Administrative Assistant

# 32nd ANNUAL MEETING AMERICAN TURNERS, INC.

**Virtually November 14, 2020**

Annual Meeting of American Turners, Inc. – Called to Order at 4:33pm by Dennis Zeller, President.

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.

1 - Roll Call

National President – Dennis Zeller  
National Vice President – Craig Sniezek  
National Administrative Assistant - Kate Payne  
National Health & Physical Education Chairperson – Michelle Lesperance  
National Cultural Chairperson – Sue Knisley  
National Bowling Chairperson – Frank Jones  
District Representative - Central States – Kevin McCart  
District Representative - Illinois District – Nick Barts  
District Representative - Lake Erie – Bill Severns-Absent  
District Representative - Middle Atlantic - Dave Mulrooney  
District Representative - New England – John Beary-Absent  
District Representative - New Jersey - Ray Virgens-Absent  
District Representative - New York District - Marion Oppelt  
District Representative - St. Louis – Jill Pfeuffer  
District Representative - Upper Mississippi – Liz Eichner  
District Representative - Western Pennsylvania –George Petrik-Absent  
District Representative - Western United States – Alexander Hast-Absent  
District Representative - Wisconsin – Dan Hoisington  
Jahn Education Fund President - Frank Wedl  
Endowment Trust Fund President - Thomas Bozonelos

2 - David Mulrooney moved and Marion Oppelt seconded 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.?. Motion carried.

3 Good and Welfare.

4 Motion by Craig Sniezek, seconded by David Mulrooney to adjourn the American Turners, Inc. Meeting for 2020. Motion carried.

**Dennis Zeller**

**Kate Payne**

---

Attested by PRESIDENT DENNIS ZELLER

---

Written by Kate Payne-National Administrative Assistant