

81st National Convention

August 7th and 8th, 2026

AMERICAN TURNERS



Part C

(Convention Minutes)

Hosted by Clinton Turners, MA

FRIDAY AUGUST 7, 2026

MINUTES OF THE 1ST SESSION OF THE 2026 AMERICAN TURNERS CONVENTION

Meeting opened at 6:36 pm by President John Beary (NED). The Turner Flag was brought in by Haleigh Dobek and Kylie Dobek of Clinton Turners, followed by the pledge of allegiance and the playing of the national anthem.

Frank Leonard (NED), president of Clinton turners, welcomed the delegates.

President Beary (NED) addressed the delegates and introduced the Executive team (NHPE) and Cultural chairpersons, ETF and Jahn Fund chairpersons, and national district representatives, national historian, scholarship chairperson, and administrative assistant.

Dan Hoisington, (UMWD), National Historian, was invited to introduce the new American Turners traveling exhibit. Dan stated that societies may borrow the traveling exhibit for their societies for a period of up to two months. The only cost to a society is to pay the shipping costs of the exhibit to and from their organization.

President Beary explained the temporary positions that had been assigned and that voting for permanent convention positions will be carried out after the credentials committee minutes are read, President Beary then passed the meeting to temporary convention chairperson, Dale Bojanowski (NED).

Temporary Chairman Bojanowski called for the reading of the credentials committee meeting. Sean Sendlein read the credentials committee minutes.

Temporary Chairman Bojanowski called for motion to accept the reading of the minutes. Frank Leonard (NED), seconded. Motion carried.

Temporary Chairman Bojanowski, called for nominations from the floor for permanent chairperson of the convention. Steve Sargent (NED) made the motion to nominate Dale Bojanowski(NED) for permanent chairperson, seconded by Jim Goetz (NYD). Motion carried.

Chairman Bojanowski called for motions from the floor for nomination of permanent convention vice chairperson. Sean Sendlein (STLD) made motion to nominate Bill Severns (LED), seconded by Jim Goetz, (NYD). Motion carried.

Chairman Bojanowski called for motion from the floor for the nominations for convention secretary. Motion was made by Cindy Law(CSD) to nominate Kathi Colton (ILD) seconded by Sean Sendlein (STLD). Motion carried.

Chairman Bojanowski called for motion from the floor for nominations for convention parliamentarian. David Mulrooney (MAD) nominated Thomas Bozonelos (ILD) seconded by Susan Knisely (ILD). Motion carried.

Chairman Bojanowski called for motion from the floor for nominations for sergeant at arms. Mike Dubis(STLD), nominated Sean Sendlein (STLD), seconded by Nick Barts (ILD). Motion carried.

Chairman Bojanowski called for motion from the floor for nominations for two Assistant Sergeants at Arms. Sean Sendlein (STLD), explained that the assistant sergeants at arms will help with collecting and counting votes. Gale Verdick (ILD) nominated Mark English (ILD) for first position of assistant sergeant at arms, and seconded by Nick Barts (ILD). Motion carried. Motion was made by Mike Debolt (CSD) to nominate Tony Coke (CSD) for second position of Assistant Sergeant At Arms and seconded by Nick Barts (ILD). Motion carried

Chairman Bojanowski called for motion to dispense with the reading of the reports. Motion to dispense with reading all reports was made by Jim Goetz, NYD, seconded by Sean Sendlein (STLD). Motion carried.

Motion was made by Dave Mulrooney (MAD) and seconded by Sean Sendlein (STLD) to accept each report listed by name including president's report, vice president's report, corporate secretaries report, treasurer report, NHPE report, cultural committee report, ETF report, and Jahn Fund report. Motion carried.

Chairperson Bojanowski announced that the chairpersons of the NHPE Committee, Emily Miesner(CSD), and the Cultural Committee, Susan Knisley (ILD) will be the chairpersons of their respective convention NHPE and Cultural convention committees. Instructions were given to the committee secretaries.

Chairman Bojanowski called for bid to host the 2028 American Turners National convention, to be considered at the 2nd session of the convention on Saturday, August 8th.

Being no further business, Chairman Bojanowski called for motion from the floor to convene the 1st Session of the 2026 National Convention. Motion was made by Brenda English and seconded by JB Dunne (NED). Motion carried.

The 1st session of the convention was adjourned by Chairman Bojanowski at 7:15 pm.

Minutes By:



Convention Secretary

Attested By:



Convention Chairperson

SATURDAY, AUGUST 8, 2026

MINUTES OF THE SECOND SESSION OF THE AMERICAN TURNERS NATIONAL CONVENTION

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Bojanowski at 2:19 pm

Chairman Bojanowski called for a motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the 1st session of the convention. Motion was made by Jim Goetz (NY) and seconded by Dave Mulrooney (MAD) to dispense with the reading of the minutes. Motion carried.

Chairman Bojanowski called for reading of the NHPE Committee minutes, which were read by Emily Miesner, National NHPEC Chairperson (CSD). The committee voted to nominate Emily Miesner as NHPEC chairperson. Michelle Lesperance (CSD) stated that was a correction to the minutes in that the German Turnfest will be in 2029. Cindy Law stated that children of nonmember parents who would like to compete in the national festival will need to become youth members. Emily Miesner (CSD) made the motion to accept the committee report, seconded by Cindy Law (CSD). Motion carried.

Chairman Bojanowski called for reading of the Financial Committee minutes, which were read by Thomas Bozonelos (ILD). Tom stated that the financial status of the American Turners is the best it has ever been. He stated that money that was deposited in the new PNC investment account from the sale of the Cleveland East society's building was to be used to finance the Young Adult Leadership Conference (YALC), but since that was cancelled, the money will be used for other marketing purposes. Tom stated that \$120,000 will be moved from the general checking account into a short-term money market or other type of investment account. Motion was made by Tom Bozonelos (ILD) and seconded by Liz Eichner (UMSD) to accept the financial report as read. Motion carried.

Chairman Bojanowski called for reading of the Cultural Committee minutes, which were read by Susan Knisley (ILD). She stated that the committee had recommended not to allow AI-generated submissions for cultural exhibits. The committee voted to nominate Sue Knisley for Cultural Chairperson. Motion was made by Sue Knisley and seconded by Nick Barts to accept the cultural report as read. Motion carried.

Chairman Bojanowski called for reading of the ByLaws Committee minutes, which were read by Andrea Boettger (UMWD). Motion was made by Andrea Boettger (UMWD) and seconded by Dave Mulrooney (MAD) to accept the minutes as written. Motion carried.

Chairman Bojanowski announced that a simple majority for the votes consists of 72 votes.

Chairman Bojanowski called for the reading of the Nomination Committee minutes, which were read by Stephanie Minster (UMWD). The nominating committee recommended nominations of John Beary (NED) for President, Michelle Lesperance (UMWD) for Vice President, Dan Hoisington (UMWD) for Corporate Secretary, Cindy Law (CSD) for Treasurer, Emily Miesner (CSD) for NHPEC chairperson, Sue Knisley (ILD) for Cultural Chairperson, and two ETF Trustees, David Mulrooney (MAD) and Michelle Lesperance (UMWD). The chair asked each nominee if they accepted the nomination. All accepted the nominations.

The chair called for nominations from the floor and stated that the job descriptions for each position were listed in the portfolios which were supplied to each delegate.

Chairman Bojanowski called three times for nominations from the floor for President. Dave Mulrooney (MAD) made the motion to close the nominations and cast one ballot in the name of John Beary by acclamation, seconded by Nick Barts (ILD). Motion carried.

Chairman Bojanowski called three times for nominations from the floor for Vice President. Frank Leonard (NED) made the motion to close the ballot and cast one ballot in the name of Michelle Lesperance by acclamation, seconded by Liz Eichner (UMSD). Motion carried.

Chairman Bojanowski called three times for nominations from the floor for Corporate Secretary. Mike Dubis made the motion to close the ballot and cast one ballot in the name of Dan Hoisington (UMWD) by acclamation, seconded by Nick Barts (ILD). Motion carried.

Chairman Bojanowski called three times for nominations from the floor for Treasurer. Steve Sargent (NED) made the motion to close the ballot and cast one ballot in the name of Dan Hoisington (UMWD) by acclamation, seconded by Ralph Elias (MAD). Motion carried.

Chairman Bojanowski called three times for nominations from the floor for Cultural Chairperson. Mike Dubis (STL) made the motion to close the ballot and cast one ballot in the name of Sue Knisley (ILD) by acclamation, seconded by Gale Verdick (ILD). Motion carried.

Chairman Bojanowski called three times for nominations from the floor for NHPEC chairperson. Cindy Law (CSD) made the motion to close the ballot and cast one ballot in the name of Emily Miesner (CSD) by acclamation, seconded by Andrea Boettger (UMWD). Motion carried.

Chairman Bojanowski called three times for nominations from the floor for two ETF Trustees. Ralph Elias (MAD) made the motion to close the ballot and cast one ballot for the first ETF Trustee, Dave Mulrooney (MAD), seconded by Andrea Boettger (UMWD). Motion carried.

Chairman Bojanowski called three times for nominations from the floor for the second ETF Trustee. Mike Dubis (STL) made the motion to close the ballot and cast one ballot for the second ETF Trustee, Michelle Lesperance (UMWD), seconded by Tony Coke (CSD). Motion carried.

Chairman Bojanowski called for old unfinished business. There was none.

Chairman Bojanowski called for new business.

Chairman Bojanowski called for bids for the 2027 National Council Meeting. Cindy Law (CSD) made the motion for Louisville Turners to host the 2027 National Council Meeting. Chairman Bojanowski made three calls for further bids for the 2027 National Council Meeting. Sean Sendlein (STL) seconded the motion. Motion carried. The 2027 National Council Meeting will be held at Louisville Turners.

Chairman Bojanowski called for bids for the 2028 National Convention. Motion was made by Gale Verdick (ILD) for Aurora Turners to host the 2028 National Convention. Chairman Bojanowski made two more calls for other bids and no other bids were received. Sean Sendlein (STL) seconded the motion. Motion carried. The 2028 National Convention will be held at Aurora Turners.

Tom Bozonelos (ILD) made the motion that \$120,000 from the general fund be moved to a short-term money market or other interest-bearing account that can be easily accessed. Jim Goetz (NYD) questioned why we were not moving more than that. Cindy Law (CSD) stated that the budget showed we would need what we were leaving in the account. Mark English (ILD) seconded. Motion carried.

Mike Dubis (STL) made the motion to accept all 14 resolutions by acclamation. Gale Verdick (ILD) stated to vote on Resolution #10 individually. Chairman Bojanowski announced a 10-minute break for each district to go over the resolutions to determine if they would like to vote on any resolution individually.

Chairman Bojanowski called for resumption of the convention and stated the resolutions would be voted on individually. The chairman called for a motion to combine these resolutions for one vote by acclamation: Resolutions #1, #2, #3, #4, #5, #6, #7, #8, #9, #11, #12, #13, and #14, with Resolution #10 to be excluded from the vote. Mike Dubis (STL) made the motion to combine all resolutions for one vote, including Resolutions #1, #2, #3, #4, #5, #6, #7, #8, #9, #11, #12, #13, and #14 as written, with the exception of Resolution #10, seconded by Cindy Law (CSD). Motion carried.

Chairman Bojanowski opened the floor for discussion of Resolution #10. Gale Verdick (ILD) made the motion to vote against Resolution #10, seconded by Jim Goetz (NYD).

Frank Leonard (NED) explained that Resolution #10 was needed because the National Council sometimes has to make quick decisions regarding whether or not to remove an officer. Mark English (ILD) stated that it is easy to do a ZOOM meeting if a separate unbiased committee is formed to make these types of recommendations. Cindy Law (CSD) pointed out that the National Council has a representative from every district. Mike Dubis (STL) stated that a motion regarding a resolution has to fail before any change can be made and must have a first and second; therefore, it must be voted on as written. He also stated that a motion cannot be made to reject, so the motion to reject Resolution #10 needed to be rescinded in order for the voting on this resolution to move forward. Gale Verdick (ILD) made the motion to rescind his motion to reject Resolution #10, seconded by Jim Goetz (NYD). Motion carried.

Mike Debolt (STL) made the motion to accept Resolution #10 as written, seconded by Mike Dubis (STL). Chairman Bojanowski stated that a two-thirds majority vote was needed to accept the motion.

Chairman Bojanowski stated that a motion was still needed to accept Resolutions #1 through #14, with the exception of Resolution #10, "as written". Sue Knisley made the motion to accept Resolutions #1 through #14 as written, with the exception of Resolution #10, seconded by Dave Mulrooney (MAD). Motion carried.

Chairman Bojanowski brought the discussion back to Resolution #10. He stated that a two-thirds majority consisted of 96 Federal Votes. Ballots were passed out to each district, and the votes were tallied by the Sergeant at Arms and the two Assistant Sergeants at Arms. After the votes were tallied, the votes totaled were as follows: 98 Federal Votes For, 45 Federal Votes Against. The motion to approve Resolution #10 passed.

Chairman Bojanowski called for Good and Welfare.

Chairman Bojanowski announced the times for the gym show. He announced that George Zink will be awarded the Ed Colton Award at the Saturday evening dinner.

Andrea Boettger (UMWD) gave thanks to Clinton Turners for the great job hosting the convention and thanked the Administrative Assistant, Kathi Colton, for her efforts with the portfolios and other efforts.

Cindy Law (CSD) announced that Louisville is holding a Pickleball tournament at Louisville Turners in October along with an Oktoberfest and Trunk or Treat for the kids and invited Turner members to join them.

Kathi Colton (ILD) gave thanks to President John Beary for his help with setting up the portfolios and helping to keep organized while preparing for the convention.

Chairman Bojanowski announced the following events:

- 2026 – Pickleball Tournament in Louisville
- 2027 – National Bowling Tournament in Rochester Turners.
- 2027 – National Golf Tournament at Monaca Turners.
- 2027 – National Council Meeting in Louisville Turners.
- 2027 – National Festival at New Ulm Turners.
- 2028 – National Golf Tournament at Keystone Turners.
- 2028 – National Convention at Aurora Turners.

Chairman Bojanowski called for donations to the Endowment Trust Fund. Tom Bozonelos (ILD) stated that George Zink made a donation of \$3000 to the ETF. Cindy Law (CSD) announced a donation of \$300 from Louisville Turners. Frank Leonard (NED) stated that the New England District is donating \$500 to the ETF.

John Wamser (UMWD) stated to add the International Gymnastics Tournament in Munich, Germany will be held from May 9-13, 2029.

Chairman Bojanowski called for Turner Applause for Clinton Turners for holding the National Convention. A hearty Turner Applause was given.

Hannah Schultz (CSD) announced the 100-year celebration for Toledo Turners and issued an invitation for all members to attend.

Chairman called for installation of all newly elected officers who were sworn in by the chairman. Motion was made to adjourn by Dave Mulrooney (MAD) and seconded by Cindy Law (CSD). Motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 4:34 pm.

Minutes By:

Kathi Colton

Convention Secretary

Attested by:

Dave Boyanowski

Convention Chairperson