Flag Salute

Roll Call - The meeting of the Executive Committee, held on Wednesday, October 14, 2015, at the NJSIAA Administration Building in Robbinsville, New Jersey, was called to order by the President, Gregory Bailey, at 11:01 am.

The following members were present: Maureen Bilda, Dr. Brian Brotschul, John Bulina, Chris Calveley, Tom Coleman, Suzanne Cooley, Paul Crupi, Bill Edelman, Judy Finch Johnson, Dianne Furusawa, Michael Gatley, Richard Giglio, Gerald Glisson, Kathy Goldenberg, Sharron Grady, Robert Grauso, Robert Haraka, Mary Liz Ivins, Monsignor Kelly, Howard Krieger, Jack Lally, Dr. James Lavender, Scott Lodgek, Dr. Thomas McCann, Matthew McFarland, Michael Nitti, Sue Petrone, William Quirk, Danny Robertozzi, Philip Schaffer, Steve Shohfi, Vincent Smith, Beverly Torok, Bruce Watson, and Denis Williams. Also present: Steven J. Timko, Executive Director; Kim DeGraw-Cole, Larry White, Jack DuBois and Bill Bruno, Assistant Directors; Colleen Maguire, Director of Finance; Michael Zapicchi, Project Manager. Steven P. Goodell, Esq., NJSIAA Counsel. The following sportswriters were in attendance: Phil Anastasia, Philadelphia Inquirer; Mike McGarry, AC Press; Steve Falk, Asbury Park Press; Darren Cooper, Record; and Matt Stanmyre, NJ Advance Media. Also present: Paul Anzano of Pringle, Quinn, Anzano, P.C.

Approval of Minutes - A motion was made by Michael Gatley, seconded by Maureen Bilda, to accept the minutes of the September 16, 2015 Executive Committee meeting. Motion carried unanimously. Motion carried with one abstention (Bulina).

Out-of-State Competition/All-Star Games – A listing of Bordering State Sanctions and National Federation Sanctions was distributed for informational purposes.

Executive Director Update – Steven J. Timko

Review of Warren Hills Tragedy – NJSIAA has been gathering information on Evan Murray’s tragic death and will share any findings with the NFHS and NJ Medical Advisory Committees, along with the football committee to help prevent tragedies like this in the future.

NJSIAA/NJSPA/DOE Hazing Symposium – 165 – 175 attended this important symposium on 9/22 which featured outstanding presentations, including one from Sayreville HS Superintendent Rich Lobe. Those who attended concurred that the message really hit home, that there is acceptance in communities about hazing that takes place, and this is unacceptable. Hazing is happening right under noses of administrators and it’s the job of administrators to be more aware. Another eye opener for some is what happened at their school could have been anyone’s school, which was a very humbling experience for many. Hazing is not limited to NJSIAA sports, as this occurs in marching band, cheerleading, etc.

FYE 2015 Financial Audit – Tom Angelo, partner at NJSIAA’s auditing firm, Spire Group, reviewed the June 30, 2015 audit report, which was approved by the Finance Committee. NJSIAA received an unqualified opinion, which means the Association's financial records are
fairly and appropriately presented in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles. Net assets increased from $200,998 from the prior year to $203,997 for the 2014-2015 fiscal year. Total revenues increased by $41,000 while total expenses increased by $38,000, results are consistent with the prior year. The Association’s operating net assets is $1.3 million, which represents approximately a 3-month reserve. Spire Group approves how the association operates, recommended only minor adjustments and has no issues with internal control. A motion was made by Denis Williams, seconded by Rich Giglio, to accept the FYE 2015 financial audit. A roll call vote was taken. Final Vote: Yes-34, No-0, Abstentions-0. Motion carried unanimously.

Legislative Update (Paul Anzano) – Not much has changed since the last meeting. The legislature hasn’t met in months and the entire assembly is up for election this Election Day, 11/3. It is expected that the assembly will remain largely democratic. Governor Codey’s redshirting proposal was discussed. This bill, which has not yet been introduced, could be hard to enforce. Concerns were expressed with Governor Codey. Tom Coleman questioned who enforces this rule at the K-8 level. Discussion took place. Mr. Anzano did report that this problem is not seen as much in the public school setting, but is seen more frequently when a student transfers to a private school.

Sectional Meetings – There was great interaction about the upcoming legislation at all five meetings. Mr. Timko thanked Millburn HS, Montclair HS and Washington Twp HS for hosting.

Monsignor Kelly expressed some concerns regarding the sectional meeting and the wrestling proposal. He was under the impression that a poll would be sent to coaches regarding the 5th place discussion since coaches understand rules better than principals but that hasn’t taken place. He also doesn’t understand how schools can vote on a 9th region when they don’t know what it’ll look like/where it will take place. He expressed that a region is a region, a region shouldn’t be statewide and that that non-public schools will have to travel hours, which could hurt them financially.

In regards to the football proposal, no one in his area is in agreement and no schools have complete schedules. He also feels that the SEC violated their conference bylaws since Seton Hall Prep has been not been scheduled for games. Michael Zapicchi spoke of the pre-planning meeting that took place. All non-public schools were invited, and many attended, to develop criteria and groundwork in advance should the non-public football conference pass. This would help schools have a big picture and get ahead in planning, but there was not a lot of participation. The Super Essex Conference is attempting to address the football issues and makes schedules for all schools so if this successful, the Executive Committee may be asked to pull the non–public football conference proposal from the December ballot.

Public/Non-Public Committee – The committee continues to meet. In the last meeting, there was strong discussion about recruiting middle school students going to high school but no consensus was reached. The next meeting is scheduled for 10/27. Mr. Zapicchi’s efforts chairing the committee are appreciated.

Reinstatement of Amateur Eligibility Request – Last year, a bowler from a member school accepted a monetary prize for bowling in an adult league. When the bowler was made aware this was against amateurism rules, he returned the money. According to USBC rules, if a bowler does that, it is considered clean slate but according to NJSIAA rules, the bowler lost his amateur status when he accepted the money and only the Executive Committee can reinstate the status. The bowler’s Athletic Director verified that the money was returned. A motion was made by Bill
Edelman, seconded by Tom Coleman, to reinstate the amateur status of said bowler and make him eligible for NJSIAA competition. Motion carried unanimously.

NFHS Section I Meeting – This meeting, which was attended by the eight Section I states from NJ to Maine, took place in Massachusetts. The hot topics of discussion were sanctioning, drones policy, transgender policy, transfers, cooperative sports teams, legislation and site management at the local level.

NJSIAA Bollinger HOF – Class of 2015 – A motion was made by Kathy Goldenberg, seconded by Paul Crupi, to accept the following Class of 2015, to be inducted into the NJSIAA Bollinger Hall Of Fame on 12/7/15: Clary Anderson, Frank Budd, Jordan Burroughs, Jeffrey Hammonds, The 1989 Hoffman HS Girls Basketball Team, Alan Santorini, Jeff Torborg, Art Still, and Gary Williams. Motion carried unanimously.

Assistant Director Reports

Kim DeGraw-Cole

Girls Tennis – Millburn HS won both the singles and doubles state tournament with Stephanie Schrage winning the singles championship vs. Vineland HS’s Tess Fisher and the combo of Isabella Waung and Sydney Zirlin winning the state doubles championship vs. Newark Academy’s duo of Sydney Loh and Rebecca Slater.

The team tennis tournament brackets were distributed.

Field Hockey – Cutoff is 10/20 and seeding will be 10/22.

Soccer – Cutoff is 10/24 and seeding will be 10/28.

National High School Activities Month – October is National HS Activities month. This is a good time to honor coaches and advisors.

Website Update – Updating School Manager is critical for classification and having a principal listed is necessary for disqualification notification. If a principal is not listed in School Manager, that school will not receive notice of a disqualification since info is sent to principals via email, based on the information listed in School Manager.

National Girls and Women in Sports Day – This event will take place on 2/7/16 at Seton Hall University at 11:30 am. Ms. Cole hopes each school will send an honoree.

Jack DuBois

Football – Four championships games will be played at Rutgers and eight games will be played at MetLife. Kean University can only host five games so a sixth game was added to Rowan University. Football Intent Cards are due 10/26.

Boy’s Soccer – NJSIAA is assigning all state tournament games. Mike Gatley asked if leagues are still picking soccer officials for the tournament. Answer – no. Cutoff is 10/24.
NJSIAA Sports Awards – A listing of recipients who will receive a NJSIAA sports or service award at the HOF program on 12/7/15 was distributed. Mr. DuBois congratulated Executive Committee Bev Torok, who will receive the volleyball award and Darren Cooper who will receive the Sports Reporter honor. Amy O’Keefe will receive the lacrosse award – her name was missing from the list that was distributed. Don Danser will receive the Award of Honor posthumously. His contributions were great in his 25 years at NJSIAA.

Corporate – Mr. DuBois received verbal agreement from NJ Advance Media to co-sponsor the Scholar Athlete luncheon and be a media partner.

NFHS State Coach of the Year Honorees – Mr. DuBois distributed a listing of honorees chosen by the NJSCA Board of Governors to receive NFHS State Coach of the Year awards. These honorees may also be selected by the NFHS for regional and national honors.

Finding the Line Symposium – Mr. DuBois attended a symposium with speaker, Dr. David Leigh, Psy. D., Director of Special Services at West Morris Regional School District. Dr. Leigh has agreed to come to NJISAA on 12/10 to present the same workshop for coaches and administrators.

Larry White

Gymnastics – All sites set and dates/times were distributed. Cutoff date is 10/27. All five sectionals will take place on 11/7. The team and individual state championship will be 11/12 and 11/14 respectively, both at Montgomery HS.

Volleyball – Cutoff date is 10/21 with seeding on 10/28. The highest remaining seeded teams host the sectional finals with two separate sectional sites per the five brackets. Group Finals and all T of C games will be played at William Paterson University.

Bill Bruno

Cross Country – Mr. Bruno experienced his first drone complaint when a South Jersey school called about a drone following a runner. All dates are set. Mr. Bruno explained the adjustment made to the entry process. For the Group Meets and Meet of Champions, coaches are now given flexibility to make roster changes up to the night before each event. Public school entries are due 10/21; non-public entries are due 10/28.

Approval of Cooperative Sports Program – A motion was made by Steve Shohfi, seconded by Monsignor Kelly, to approve the following two cooperative sports programs:

i. Freehold Boro HS / Raritan HS - Ice Hockey
ii. Mountain Lakes HS / Boonton HS – Ice Hockey

Motion passed with one abstention (Goldenberg).

Colleen Maguire – Director of Finance Report

NJSIAA Summary of Financial Results For Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2015 – Ms. Maguire distributed a handout that compares fiscal years 2013-2014 to 2014-2015. The report shows revenue is split 50/50 between sports and non-sports revenue and expenses are 48% sports
related; 52% non-sports related. Ms. Maguire also distributed a profit/non-profit breakdown by sport. Some sports don’t charge admission for events, therefore no profit is made.

2015-2016 Annual Dues, Resolution Cards, Affidavits – A listing of 104 schools with outstanding dues, resolution cards, affidavits or receivables past 90 days was distributed. This information needs to be received by 10/16 to be eligible for participation in NJSIAA’s upcoming fall tournaments. These outstanding lists have been shared regularly on the AD Forum and distributed at the monthly Leagues and Conferences Officers meeting.

Fall Ticket Price Submissions – The request for ticket prices was submitted to the Department of Education, but before approving they came back with questions. NJSIAA is now waiting for approval from the Commissioner.

Finance Committee Update – Greg Bailey

Approval of Monthly Checks – Mr. Bailey complimented Colleen Maguire for doing such an excellent job in managing NJSIAA’s finances so efficiently. He then gave finance committee update. The September 2015 checkbook was approved by the finance committee and all checks were approved per policy before they were disbursed. Denis Williams made a motion, seconded by Dianne Furusawa, to approve the September check registers. Motion carried unanimously.

Report of Counsel (Steven P. Goodell) – There is no outstanding litigation. Mr. Goodell has been working on the legislative proposals for placement on the ballot at the annual meeting. The Protest Committee met on 10/13 regarding a transfer case.

Old Business / New Business – none

Adjournment – A motion was made by William Quirk, seconded by Danny Robertozzi, to adjourn the meeting at 12:00 pm. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Steven J. Timko
Executive Director

SJT: ln