

MIDDLE ATLANTIC CONFERENCES

MINUTES OF PRESIDENT'S MEETING

MORAVIAN COLLEGE
SNYDER ROOM

October 27, 2010

In attendance: Steve MacDonald, David Black, Mike MacDowell, Tom O'Hara, Ken Andrews, Dave Martin, Tom Flynn, Jim Douthat, Ted Long, Ken Greene, Bernie O'Connor, Lex McMillan, Kim Phipps (via phone)

Steve MacDonald called the meeting to order at 9:10 AM.

Jim Douthat introduced Sue Gaylor, Lycoming Vice President for Administration and Planning.

Sue Gaylor presented a Power Point on NCAA Division III financial aid regulations and reporting. After highlighting the NCAA financial aid requirements, she outlined the major components of the annual report our schools submit. The MAC report includes those data that are comparable between and among institutions. After reviewing the material that is not comparable, she summarized institutional compliance and sanctions over the past five years. The presidents agreed that a presentation to our coaches on the report (not the data) might help diminish their complaints about the financial aid process. They also asked Ken Andrews to share with all MAC presidents NCAA correspondence for those conference schools that exceed the 4% variance.

After some discussion about a formal motion on pursuing new members, the group decided to defer to the position delineated in the strategic plan. They also noted that a process for identifying and evaluating potential members has a framework, but the directors of athletics should review those criteria and recommend others at their December meeting.

One of the key issues for the directors of athletics is communication and decision making with the MAC presidents. After much discussion, the group agreed to these initiatives:

Two members of the Operations Committee will join president's meetings. There will be times that the presidents will go into executive session and excuse the athletic administrators.

Continue roundtables at the annual meeting to discuss matters of consequence.

The Chair of Operations will conduct a conference call with the athletic directors after presidential meetings.

The Operations Chair will send the Executive Committee Chair a summary of athletic director meetings.

Ken Andrews will schedule one meeting of the directors of athletics on the campus of the Executive Committee Chair so s/he can attend that meeting.

Several motions emerged regarding membership and sport sponsorship, and all were approved unanimously.

Although we no longer need the football scheduling arrangement with the NJAC, we will honor that agreement through 2013.

Offer Freedom affiliate membership to Rutgers-Newark in men's tennis.

Offer MAC affiliate membership to Stevenson in women's golf.

If we are able to attract an affiliate in Freedom men's and women's lacrosse, proceed immediately with the Commonwealth AQ in both of these sports.

The group then discussed the 2012 Centennial Celebration.

The first questions centered on timing – how long would the celebration extend and what are the official dates for the conference founding.

The first organizational meeting was at Lafayette on December 1, 1912 (Saturday in 2012).

The first official meeting occurred at Lafayette on May 16, 1913 (Thursday in 2013).

The first competition (track & field) took place at Lafayette on May 17, 1913.

The MAC annual meeting will be at Fairleigh Dickinson-Florham on May 1, 2012.

A six person committee will plan the event:

David Black, President, Eastern University

Ken Greene, Provost, Fairleigh Dickinson-Florham

Bill Stiles, Director of Athletics, Alvernia University

Janice Luck, Director of Athletics, Albright College

Jon Coren, FAR, Elizabethtown College

Doug Burns, FAR, DeSales University

Ken Andrews indicated we could use NCAA conference grant money if the program involved conference identity and integration issues. It was suggested that the discussion center on the MAC Philosophy and Principles Statement. The strategic plan encourages participation by various campus constituents; this would be an opportune time and agenda to engage those groups.

How would we involve the 55 current and former conference members?

We would want to strategize national media exposure.

Develop floor/field markings, uniform patches, and other tangible identity pieces.

Roll out a “President’s Cup” that would include recognition for prowess in sports, academics, sportsmanship, and service.

What competitive events, sports festivals, and the like could we use to incorporate student-athletes into celebration?

Would this be good time to start a MAC Hall of Fame?

To help plan and implement this program, hire an intern, either through an NCAA grant or an increase in the MAC budget of \$1,250 per school.

There were several miscellaneous items that Ken Andrews presented.

Unless our structure is threatened, the group agreed not to take an official conference position on NCAA momentum to legislate against “umbrella” conferences. At this time, the powers that be have indicated we will be exempted from any change in the status quo.

In late spring, the Mid-America Conference had asked that we change a few things relative to marketing and identity, but Ken Andrews did not agree to any of them. Subsequently, he has not heard from the attorneys on either side.

Ken Andrews appealed to the Board of Finance and Revenue to reinstate our Pennsylvania sales tax exempt status and was granted the request.

The group reviewed elements of the strategic plan that were not discussed earlier in the meeting.

Ken Andrews will coordinate posting NCAA/ECAC committee assignments on the MAC web site.

Once we have 11 football schools, we will need to consider an all-conference schedule (coaches would prefer to have one non-conference game) and our relationship with Stevenson (we have a five year rolling contract with them).

Ken Andrews will inform the presidents of conference reimbursements (from NCAA grant) for athletic department searches of minority and women candidates.

In a quick survey of presidents attending meeting, only a couple indicated plans to attend the NCAA Convention in San Antonio. We will get a formal count soon.

Future dates:

January 13-15	NCAA Convention	San Antonio	
	Thursday (1/13)		
	3 PM	Opening Business Session	
	5:30 PM	Delegates Reception	
	Friday (1/14)		
	7:30 AM	President's Breakfast	
	9 AM	Issues Forum	
	11:30 AM	President's Forum & Lunch	
	1:30 PM	MAC Meeting	
	7 PM	MAC President's Dinner	
	Saturday (1/15)		
	7 AM	Delegates Breakfast	
	8 AM	Business Session	
	11:30	Delegates Lunch	
March 15	Executive Committee Conference Call		10 AM
April 3	Dinner Meeting	Harrisburg Hilton	6-9 PM
April 5	Executive Committee Lunch	Harrisburg Hilton	11:30 AM
April 6	Executive Committee Conference Call		10:15 AM
May 3	Annual Meeting	Alvernia University	
	9:00 AM	Presidents	
	9:15 AM	Athletic Administrators	
	10:30 AM	Joint Meeting with "round tables"	
	Noon	Honors Lunch	
	1:30 PM	Adjourn	

The meeting adjourned at 11:50 AM