

Minutes -- Chapel Organ Committee

Meeting 1 - May 6, 1986, 1:30 p.m.

1. Meeting was opened with prayer by Pres. Panning. Committee members present: James Tiefel, Paul Manthey, David Valleskey. Tiefel was elected chairman of the committee; Valleskey was elected secretary.
2. Reviewed briefly the document "The Recommendations of the Faculty to the Board of Control (and their Rationale) Concerning the Installation of a Pipe Organ in the Seminary Chapel," emphasizing the following:
 - a. the need for a new organ;
 - b. the purposes it would serve;
 - c. kind of organ: classically voiced, with the question of tracker or electro-pneumatic yet to be determined;
 - d. size of organ: 10-15 stops; 15-25 ranks (present organ consists of 10 ranks and 23 stops, made possible through a process of borrowing);
 - e. placement of organ: difficult acoustics, seating problems, and possible future chapel expansion will have to be taken into account;
 - f. funding: have on hand approximately \$30,000; will need \$70,000-\$95,000 in addition, a portion of which could come from selling the old pipe organ if its pipes are not used in the construction of the new one. It was noted that the funding "drive" would be intentionally low-key in nature.
3. Time schedule (cf attached agenda)

The Seminary Board of Control meets in October and February. The proposed organ design could be submitted to the October meeting for board approval (if the design stage of the program is complete). The name of the recommended organ builder would be brought to the February meeting of the board. Other recommendations, as well as progress reports, should be submitted to the executive committee of the board.

4. Consultants (cf attached agenda for brief resume of consultants Paul G. Bunjes, Edward H. Meyer, and Scott R. Riedel, all three of whom have expressed an interest in the project)
5. Strengths and minuses of proposed consultants
 - a. Paul G. Bunjes
 - 1) Strengths
 - a) experience
 - b) knowledge of pipe organs
 - c) fairly close proximity
 - d) softspot for WELS (taught at Winnebago; consultant for pipe organ projects at NWC and DMLC)
 - e) retired and therefore has time (but cf weaknesses d) below)
 - 1) Weaknesses
 - a) insists on being in complete control with the result

- that apparently certain organ companies (e.g., Cassavant and Schlicker) won't work with him
- b) involved in other organ projects at present

b. Edward H. Meyer

1) Strengths

- a) commitment to the music ministry of the WELS
- b) knows the WELS
- c) appears to be easy to work with
- d) would strengthen the relationship between WLS and DMLC

2) Weaknesses

- a) builds too many Wicks organs
- b) perhaps has an insufficient knowledge of acoustics
- c) distance from Mequon

c. Scott R. Riedel

1) Strengths

- a) an acoustician
- b) lives in Milwaukee
- c) likeable
- d) knowledgeable

2) Weakness: least experienced of the three

Cost: Both Bunjes and Riedel charge 3% + all expenses;
Meyer charges expenses + whatever you give him

6. Selection of consultant

Prof. Tiefel will contact each of the above three men to arrange for them to meet individually with the committee. Possible time of meetings: during summer quarter, June 25-July 11.

7. Initial publicity: Publicity will begin with a program insert at the 1986 WLS Christmas concert.

8. Next meeting: To be held at such times as the consultants can be brought in.

9. Adjourned at approximately 2:30 p.m.

CHAPEL ORGAN COMMITTEE

Meeting 1 - May 6, 1986

Agenda

1. Opening Prayer - President Panning
2. Review of Project: Cf. "The Recommendations of the Faculty to the Board of Control (and their Rationale) Concerning the Installation of a Pipe Organ in the Seminary Chapel"
3. Time schedule
 - aa. June, 1986 - Selection of a contracting with an organ consultant
 - bb. June - October, 1986 - Organ design
 - cc. November, 1986 - Selection of several builders and the letting of bids
 - dd. January, 1987 - Selection of and contracting with an organ builder
 - ee. January, 1987 - June, 1988 - building of pipe organ
 - ff. June - August, 1988 - Installation in Seminary Chapel
4. Consultants
 - aa. Paul G. Bunges, Ph.D. app. 72. Professor emeritus at Concordia College, River Forest, IL. "Prolific composer and author. It is said of his treatise, 'The Praetorius Organ' that 'it is perhaps the most significant contribution to the literature on the organ yet to appear in the English language.'" Has designed over 100 pipe organs for churches, colleges, and university chapels in the U.S. and Canada. Editor of Lutheran Worship, LCMS' new hymnal
 - bb. Edward H. Meyer, Ph.D. app. 50, Professor and head of the Music Division at D.M.L.C. Has designed almost 30 pipe organs, mainly in WELS churches
 - cc. Scott R. Riedel, app. 35, Minister of Music at Sherman Park Lutheran Church, Milwaukee. Organ and acoustical consultant. Has had about 12 projects in Wisconsin, not all in organ design. Presently the consultant for the new pipe organ at Wisconsin Lutheran College.
5. Strengths and minuses of each of the above
6. Selection of consultant
7. Initial publicity
8. Next meeting
 - aa. date and time
 - bb. place
9. Adjournment