**Minutes**

**LVSSA dba Las Vegas Senior Softball Association, Inc.**

Wednesday, March 6, 2024

Skinny Dugans, 4127 West Charleston Blvd., Las Vegas, NV

\*BOD meetings are recorded for the purposes of preparing minutes. Recordings are deleted after minutes are approved.

**CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL:** The meeting was called to order at 12:30 pm by President Renn Hjellum-Lim with the following Board members in attendance:

President Renn Hjellum-Lim, Vice President Rod Adams\*, 64 and Under Representative Mike Kaczer\*, 65 and Over Representative Bill Walsh\*, Recording Secretary Christen Herrera\*, Treasurer George Kuehnel\*, Parliamentarian George Fernandes, and Historian James Hellerstedt.

Ladies’ Representative Pinky Rogers is excused due to being on vacation.

This roll call shows five votes which constitutes a quorum.

The asterisk identifies a voting member.

Also in attendance was Laurie Buchman.

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA** (previously emailed to the Board)**:** President Hjellum-Lim added Flag Day Committee formation and Membership Dues under New Business and asked if anyone else would like to make any changes to the agenda. Vice President Adams added Purchase of a new Chalker under New Business. A motion was made by Representative Kaczer, seconded by Treasurer Kuehnel, and approved unanimously to accept the agenda as amended.

**MEMBER PARTICIPATION:** None.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES** (previously emailed to the Board)**:**

* **Regular Meeting, February 8, 2024:** President Hjellum-Lim noted the heading "Old Business" was missing on page 5 (correction was made to original). A motion was made by Representative Kaczer, seconded by Treasurer Kuehnel, and approved unanimously to accept the Regular Meeting minutes of February 8, 2024, as amended.
* **Executive Meeting February 8, 2024:** A motion was made by Secretary Herrera, seconded by Treasurer Kuehnel, and approved unanimously to accept the Executive Meeting minutes of February 8, 2024, as written.

**OFFICERS’ REPORTS:**

* **President:** President Hjellum-Lim reported on the following items:
* Received the countersigned permits from the City.
* Received a coupon from Big 5 Sporting Goods for LVSSA members. The coupon is for 20% off any regularly priced item, valid through April 30, 2024. Vice President Rod Adams will ensure it gets sent out to the membership.
* The insurance claims for the broken windshields are in process. It is unclear whether the claims will be approved.
* Efforts have been made to contact prospective female members, collect outstanding dues, and obtain a shirt size from a specific member. There was a question as to whether Jane Smith was a member in good standing. Research revealed she is, in fact, a member and the date of her payment was confirmed.
* As soon as the District Attorney (DA) filed a case against Mr. Whipple, President Hjellum-Lim filed a $25,000 claim with the Directors and Officers Insurance. Claims are approved if there is enough proof to confirm the organization was a victim of a crime (in this case, embezzlement). The claim filed included the charge sheet from the DA's Office; statements taken by the Officer in Charge from Laurie Buchman, Kimbo Tenorio, Tania Allen, and Renn Hjellum-Lim; bank statements from both accounts for 18 months; credit card statements for the same 18 month period; and the information provided by the Forensic Accountant.

The investigation is now complete and LVSSA has been awarded $20,485.80, to be deposited to the bank after the meeting.

President Hjellum-Lim will author a letter informing the membership of recent events to include this information.

* **Vice President:** Vice President Adams reported on the following items:
* Present permit is valid through 7/31/2024. Blackout dates are March 9 (Little League), the week of March 25-29 (Corporate Challenge), as well as the following Saturdays: May 4, 11, 18, and 25. Discussion was had to utilize the soccer fields for batting practice.
* Joe Upperman's Remembrance Service is Thursday, March 14, after the pick-up game. Food will be served by Mark Walsh. The only thing needed from LVSSA is table and chairs.
* Congratulations were given to the women who represented Nevada in the Florida Challenge Cup tournament for taking Second Place.
* Congratulations were given to the new Las Vegas Aces who won their first tournament in Bullhead City.
* Accounting Registers updated.
* **64 and Under Representative:** Representative Kaczer stated the new times starting Monday will be BP at 8:15 a.m., with the scrimmage starting at 9 a.m. Mr. Kaczer also noted a member who would be providing their outstanding membership dues tomorrow (Thursday).
* **65 and Over Representative:** Representative Walsh stated their times would remain as they are for now.
* **Ladies’ Representative:** Representative Rogers was not in attendance but President Hjellum-Lim noted the start times remain as they are now.
* **Treasurer:** Treasurer Kuehnel distributed reports as of March 5, 2024, showing growth in all three accounts and noting the Paypal balance. The current balance in all accounts total $80,022.81; the available balance is $76, 743.36, due to outstanding checks and Visa charges. Mr. Kuehnel discussed each portion of the report as well as some marginal changes as of last night.

Mr. Kuehnel’s report is attached to the official copy of these minutes.

The CD is rolling over on April 22, 2024. Treasurer Kuehnel has done extensive research in an effort to identify the best CD rate for return. Our current CD is highly comparable to the top recommended from FORBES and Nerd Wallet. Mr. Kuehnel recommends he and another Board Member report to the bank at the maturity date of the CD and roll it over as long as it remains comparable to the other rates for convenience sake; there were no objections.

Treasurer Kuehnel next addressed the Savings Account with it's low interest accrual. Through research, Mr. Kuehnel identified a Money Market Savings account offered by our financial institution. The Money Market Savings account interest earning rate is higher than a traditional Savings account and the larger the amount of money maintained in the account produces a higher rate of return (identified as tiers). Mr. Kuehnel recommended moving the money from the current Savings account into a Money Market Savings and stated this could be accomplished at the same time as the CD. Parliamentarian Fernandes recommended increasing the amount placed into the CD with a portion remaining in the Money Market Savings account. Representative Walsh asked about the possibility of purchasing stocks and referenced a particular stock that has produced extremely well. Discussion amongst the Board members revealed the purchase of stocks would be too risky, and it was determined LVSSA would be extremely "risk adverse" when representing the members. In conclusion, Treasurer Kuehnel and another Board member or two will report to the bank once the CD is up for rollover.

Parliamentarian Fernandes stated, "point of order", and reminded the Board about the need for a motion. Treasurer Kuehnel made a motion to Rollover the CD and move the funds from the Savings account into a Money Market Savings account, Representative Kaczer seconded the motion with no opposition. President Hjellum-Lim stated the discussion has been held and a determination has been made.

* **Secretary:** Secretary Herrera reported the purchase of a new Voice Recorder and carrying case from Amazon; total cost of approximately $50 (under the approved $100).
* **Parliamentarian:** Parliamentarian Fernandes had nothing fuirther to add.
* **Historian:** Historian Hellerstedt had nothing to add but did share some personal experiences.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Prior to the reporting, President Hjellum-Lim requested clarification regarding the Annual Banquet Committee. It was determined the members were noted in the February 8, 2024, Minutes; and it was confirmed Vice President Adams is the Chair while George Fernandes, George Kuehnel, Jim Hellerstedt, and Laurie Buchman were also a part of the Committee. No official meeting has been held yet, but the tentative date of Thursday, November 7, 2024, has been discussed as well as the same location as last year (Italian/American Club).

* **Merchandise:** Vice President Adams said the merchandise is still on the website and remains similar to last month. There are shirts, bottle openers, magnets, and 14 of the Lorenzi Park shirts. Parliamentarian Fernandes clarified the items mentioned for sale should not be discussed at the meetings unless they are directly attached to LVSSA.
* **Shed:** Vice President Adams shared the shed was painted on Saturday, February 16, and completed on Sunday, February 17. Thanks to Scott (paint), Glenn (painting), Jan and Rod for painting. Thanks to Mike Warzocha for the sign and its installation the following week.

Bill Walsh donated 15 bags of chalk that were loaded into the shed by Rod, Bill and Jan. There should be enough chalk to last through the summer.

Mr. Adams reminded everyone to document any items borrowed out of the shed.

* **Website:** Vice President Adams stated the website received a record 2,329 visitors in January; February was 2160; and as of today, there are 260 hits. The website is getting a 97 Rating Score, A rating from GoDaddy. Mr. Adams reported the agenda for this meeting, March birthdays, an updated goodwill list, new jokes, and a new members welcome list were all added to the website. Mr. Adams also spoke of the Co-Ed page with the schedule, and the new section for 2024 photos. The Calendar is updated weekly on Sunday morning for the followimg week. There is also an Event Calendar that reveals any upcoming events. Mr. Adams concluded the LVSSA Facebook is updated regularly. Parliamentarian Fernandes asked if there is any way to determine how many "hits" result in new membership. According to Mr. Adams. there is no way to make that determination.
* **Goodwill/Welfare:** Vice President Adams stated Chaz Ward is back at the field after dislocating his shoulder in December 2023.

Lou Bellino is in California undergoing treatment (bone marrow transplant).

Don Sobieray is in and out; he gets real tired. Don is receiving three (3) infusions per week.

Dale Palmer is on the Results Roster, but Mr. Adams has not seen him.

Marcia Sobieray had her ankle replaced.

President Hjellum-Lim stated Star Golia should remain on the list as she is battling Cancer.

* **Membership:** Vice President Adams reported there are 226 members; LVSSA did not reach this point until July 2023. Membership is up 10%, primarily due to Tournament teams. SSUSA Director Joel Hawk is going to be joining the Gambler's 60's. LVSSA has added 21 new members since January 1, 2024.

The Membership List is located in a blue folder within the shed, next to the First Aid box. Parliamentarian Fernandes asked how to obtain a copy of the list for the Representatives to assist them in their duties. Vice President Adams stated he would send a copy to them and reiterated there is a copy in the shed.

President Hjellum-Lim provided Vice President Adams with a name of an individual who is listed as a member but has not paid and does not respond to any type of correspondence. This individual will be removed from the Membership List.

* **Tournament Teams:** Vice President Adams reported Vegas Eiite 60's under Dave Cherry; Custom Trucks 60's under Chaz; Drifters 60's under "Texas" Tom (Mr. Adams and Mr. Walsh are working with Tom to get his guys to join); Sin City Mob 65's; Gamblers 65's; Mr. Adams formed a new recreational team made up of members of the Mob and Gamblers called the Aces; Family 70's under Fred Baniecki; Results 70's under Jeff Satterly; Tharrladson 75's under Russ, and Chuck's EIS 80's.

The AED process remains the same. Treasurer Keuhnel added the new parts for the machine were purchased and have been put in place (First Aid box) with no anticipation of having to purchase any other parts for this year or the next year unless it has to be used and new pads are needed.

Discussion was had on who has been trained on the AED machine and indicated it would be possible to coordinate an additional class; however, there was limited interest for the original class. It was determined inquiries will be made to see if a new class is needed.

Representative Walsh discussed field preparations and asked who was responsible on the weekends. For the Women, it is a collaborative effort; and for the Men, the Tournament Director (Vice President Adams).

* **Publicity:** No new information to discuss.
* **Hall of Fame:** No new information to discuss.
* **Co-Ed Games:** Ten (10) games are scheduled for this year and are noted on the new Co-Ed page on the LVSSA website. The dates are a result of a collaboration between the President and Vice President.

March 30, Easter weekend, is the next scheduled Co-Ed game. Representative Kaczer and Vice President Adams will work on the logistics together. No food will be provided for this event.

**OLD BUSINESS**

* **Sale of pitching machine:** Joe V. has provided $100 (deposit) to Representative Kaczer. President Hjellum-Lim will deposit the money into the LVSSA account and provide a receipt. The remaining balance owed is $50.
* **LVSSA shirts for membership in 2024:** Representative Walsh compiled a list of as many members as he was able to contact and provided the information to Vice President Adams. There will be two rounds of shirt orders. Mr. Adams created a Master Spread Sheet of the membership as of February 29, reflecting 188 shirts that were ordered February 16, 2024, with a second order of 40 to be placed soon. Pick-up of the shirts should be this Friday with distribution to begin next week. The distribution process is being worked out by Mr. Walsh and Mr. Adams.

Parliamentarian Fernandes asked if the issue with an individual ordering shirts without LVSSA approval had been resolved. It was determined 14 shirts were ordered that will require payment from those individuals who initiated the order; collection of those monies is in progress. Representative Walsh has donated monies to pay for shirts for the honorary members which will be ordered on the second round.

The previously approved number for shirts is 200 (January 2024); Vice President Adams made a motion to increase the number of shirts to 240 (anticipated growth); Representative Kaczer seconded the motion, and it passed without opposition.

Treasurer Kuehnel discussed the appropriate placement (line item) of the purchase within the Budget.

* **Insurance claims:** Refer to President Hjellum-Lim's statement made under Officers' Reports.
* **Internal Audit:** President Hjellum-Lim requested paper receipts versus the ones that have been scanned in an effort to speed up the process. Vice President Adams provided a document listing all expenses for 2023. President Hjellum-Lim stated she would take the receipts Mr. Adams has without him having to organize/scan them.
* **Bob "Train" Lane Octogenarian Award:** Award purchased for $29.26 (receipt provided), and was picked-up Friday, March 1. Bob will be presented the award at the Life Legacy venue on April 13, 2024, as requested. for his 80th birthday celebration. The cost will be incorporated into the Budget under Banquet.`

**NEW BUSINESS:**

* **Monthly Commiittee Reports:** President Hjellum-Lim suggested if there has been no movement under reports such as Merchandise, Tournament Teams, Shed, and possibly Co-Ed, that the Board not discuss the same information in an effort to shorten the meetings. Discussion was had and it was agreed any report that did not have any changes from the previous month would be so noted.
* **Membership Dues:** A motion was made to discuss Membership Dues by Treasurer Kuehnel and seconded by Representative Kaczer; there were no objections. An extensive discussion was had regarding "giving back" to current members in good standing by waiving membership dues in 2025.

The discussion ventured into Membership Fees to include the Annual Banquet and the possibility of charging members wishing to attend due to taking losses for people who did not attend after confirming they would be there. Several ideas were discussed until such time it was determined the Banquet Committee would discuss the different possibilities and bring recommendations back to the Board.

It was determined 2025 dues will be waived for those members as of June 30, 2024.

* **Flag Day Committee formation:** Scheduled for Saturday, June 15, 2024. Vice President Adams will ask Jim McEvoy and Mr. Kuehnel asked if we could ask Scott Carr to also participate. Both individuals will be contacted and the Board will be advised at the next meeting.
* **Purchase of a new chalker:** A motion to discuss the purchase of a new chalker for the fields was made by Representative Kaczer and seconded by Vice President Adams; there were no objections. Two different options were presented and it was determined the two-wheel option would be optimal. The Board approved the purchase unanimously with an amount not to exceed $250.

**SUSPENSION OF MEETING FOR THE PURPOSE OF AN EXECUTIVE MEETING:** A motion was made by Secretary Herrera, seconded by Vice President Adams, and approved unanimously to suspend the meeting for the purpose of an Executive Session. The meeting was suspended at 1:48 p.m.

**MEETING RECONVENED:** The meeting reconvened at 1:55 p.m. with all Board members present as originally listed.

**ADJOURNMENT AND NEXT MEETING:** A motion was made by Representative Kaczer, seconded by Treasurer Kuehnel, to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 2:06 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for April 3, 2024, at 12:30 p.m.