Minutes

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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

Tuesday, September 5, 2023

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 2:00 p.m. 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 Scott Carr\*, Ladies’ Representative Pinky Rogers\*, Recording Secretary Louise Freiheit\*, Treasurer George Kuehnel\*, Parliamentarian George Fernandes, Historian Jim Hellerstedt, and Records Manager John Vernagus.

This roll call indicated six votes, which constituted a quorum. The asterisk indicates a voting member.

Erin Burgess was also in attendance.

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA** (previously emailed to the Board): Secretary Freiheit requested that the Election Committee report be moved to New Business. Representative Mike Kaczer moved that the agenda be adopted as amended. The motion was seconded by Vice President Rod Adams and approved unanimously.

**MEMBER PARTICIPATION:** No members asked to speak.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF AUGUST 15, 2023, REGULAR MEETING** (previously emailed to the Board): A motion was made by Treasurer Kuehnel, seconded by Representative Carr, and approved unanimously that the minutes be approved as written.

**OFFICERS’ REPORTS:**

* **President:** President Hjellum-Lim said that we now have our certificate of insurance. She then shared a letter of thanks that went to Lou Bellino for the food he has provided to members.
* **Vice President:** Vice President Adams explained that Ms. Hjellum-Lim has been cc-ing him on all correspondence. He continued that the Labor Day coed games went well and everyone had a good, with the only flaw being that the City workers are not opening the gates to Lorenzi early enough.
* **64 and Under Representative:** Representative Kaczer reported that things are good and they are getting a list of people attending the banquet.
* **65 and Over Representative:** Representative Carr shared that Chuck has been out of town. He continued that there are some issues with Chuck’s rules, especially his rules about runners. It was decided that a group of people would speak with Chuck.
* **Ladies’ Representative:** Representative Rogers said that things are good and that she, also, is collecting names for the banquet.
* **Parliamentarian:** Parliamentarian Fernandes had no issues to report.
* **Treasurer:** Treasurer Kuehnel explained that our current bank balance is $70,787.32 and that we have earned $371.30 in dividends through our CD. He then distributed copies of a working document for the 2024 budget and asked for feedback before October 1.
* **Secretary:** Secretary Freiheit had no issues to report.
* **Historian:** Historian Hellerstedt also had no issues to discuss.
* **Records Manager:** Mr. Vernagus voiced that his report would be given during the Bylaws portion of the meeting.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

* **Merchandise:** Mr. Adams said that he has updated the website with current merchandise and that we currently have keychain/bottle openers, about 300 magnets, and 30 Lorenzi Park shirts. He added that Gary Pro is selling used bats.
* **Shed:** He shared that Glenn Brunner has been added to the shed worker list, that the new ball caddy nets are in, that the netting has been repaired on the metal pitching screen, the lower temperatures are allowing the defibrillator to be stored in the shed, and we have new cold packs. Thanks were given to Bill Walsh for donating chalk. There was a discussion about making sure that purchases are approved by the Board and within the budget.
* **Website:** Rod continued that the website received 1,687 hits in August which earned a 97 (A) score from GoDaddy. Also, he shared said that he added the Board agenda, tournament pictures, September birthdays, banquet and Hall of Fame notices, and updated the goodwill list.
* **Goodwill/Welfare:** Mr. Adams reported that Lou Bellino, Dale Palmer, Don Sobieray, Charlotte Mitchell, Felix Mendiola, Joe Calzadillas, Dave Barnes, Norm Anderson, Jane Smith and Jo Smith are ailing and need our thoughts.
* **Membership:** Rod voiced that we currently have 236 members. The 2024 membership forms will be available October 15.
* **Tournament Teams:** Vice President Adams commented that there are six teams practicing on Saturdays and the same defibrillator assignments are used as the rest of the week.
* **Publicity:** Mr. Kaczer shared that the Association had received a certificate from the Summerlin Parade organizers recognizing our participation. He continued that he sent sympathy cards to the Pellegrino and Upperman families and that name plaques have been ordered for second and third base in their memorial. There was a discussion about ordering another in honor of Marcy Villanueva. Mr. Kaczer announced his plans for February 10 for Super Softball Saturday and asked that the permits be secured.
* **Banquet/Annual Meeting:** Mr. Adams repeated that the banquet/annual meeting is scheduled for 6:00-9:00 p.m. on November 9 at the Italian-American Club with banquet, no-host bar, smoking section outside, and a 45-minute dance session. He added that the cost is $5241.20.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

* **City of Las Vegas Permits:** Mrs. Hjellum-Lim said that the permits have been received.
* **Liability Insurance Renewal:** President Hjellum-Lim reported that the policy has been paid.
* **Bylaws Adoption:** Mr. Vernagus addressed questions and comments that have been posed during the last month while Board members and members reviewed the proposed bylaws including:
1. With the multiple notices being given to members for review/comment and ample time provided for that, the Board can move forward with adopting the bylaws and then posting them for members to read;
2. Most of the revisions are simply bringing our bylaws into compliance with regulations;
3. The wording “Clark County” shall stand because our association functions mainly within Clark County;
4. The president needs to have a vote when an appointment is being made to fill an empty seat;
5. Election wording can be more general regarding dates but should state that the elections will be held during the fourth quarter and shall have a 21-day voting window;
6. The gentlemen who run scrimmages should be called “commissioners” while the member running ladies’ practices and batting practices should be called “coordinators;”
7. Commissioners should not be a part of the Discipline Committee and that committee shall consist of the Chairperson appointed by the Board and the three representatives;
8. The Field Commissioners and Coordinators shall be appointed by the Board rather than elected.

After this discussion, a motion was made by Vice President Adams, seconded by Treasurer Kuehnel, and approved unanimously that the Bylaws be approved with the amendments suggested.

* **Game with Bavarian Royals:** Mr. Adams reminded the Board that LVSSA members will be playing the Bavarian Royals on Thursday and Friday September 28 and 29. Players have been identified and practices have started. The details included shirts being prepared, umpires will be Mike Kaczer and George Kuehnel, international coed rules will be used, and a potluck lunch will be served on Friday.
* **Elections:** Election Chairperson Louise Freiheit explained to the Board that the nomination forms and ballots are ready to go and the only thing the Board needs to approve is the timeframe as follows:
1. September 6: announcements would be made on website and forms would be available;
2. October 5: last day to apply;
3. October 6: Board would approve applicants at Board meeting;
4. October 20 through November 9: voting period;
5. November 9: last opportunity to vote at annual meeting/banquet;
6. November 15: voting results will be accepted at the November Board meeting.

A discussion followed that included counting votes at the annual meeting, the need for transparency, and past methods of counting ballots. After this discussion, it was agreed that ballots will be counted at a table at Lorenzi Park on Friday, November 10, and members will be invited to observe.

* **Hall of Fame:** Hall of Fame Chairperson distributed revamped nomination forms and explained that the committee recommends using a point system for considering nominees. A discussion ensued that the emphasis for induction should be based upon service to the Association rather than skill at tournaments, the possibility of using a point system within the review committee, and the short amount of time left for nominating this year. After this discussion, it was agreed that we proceed this year with the previously-approved forms and rules and have the committee continue to work on revisions to be ready for next year. A deadline of September 21 was set for nominations and the committee will make recommendations for induction at the October Board meeting.
* **Discipline Committee:** A motion was made by Scott Carr, seconded by Rod Adams, and approved unanimously that the Code of Conduct be amended to state that the Discipline Committee shall consist of a Chairperson appointed by the Board and the three representatives.

**NEW BUSINESS:** There was no new business to be discussed.

**SUSPENSION OF MEETING FOR THE PURPOSE OF AN EXECUTIVE MEETING:** A motion was made by Louise Freiheit, seconded by Scott Carr, and approved unanimously that the regular meeting be suspended for the purpose of an executive meeting.

**REGULAR MEETING RECONVENED:** The regular meeting reconvened at 4:32 p.m. with the same Board members in attendance as previously named. Please note that Ms. Burgess was no longer in attendance.

**ADJOURNMENT AND NEXT MEETING:** A motion was made by Louise Freiheit, seconded by Rod Adams, and approved unanimously that the meeting be adjourned. The meeting adjourned at 4:33 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Friday, October 6, at 2:00 p.m.