Minutes

**LAS VEGAS SENIOR SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION, dba LVSSA**

August 11, 2022 – noon

Skinny Dugan’s, 4127 West Charleston Blvd., Las Vegas, NV

**CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL:** The meeting was called to order at 12:04 p.m. by President Kimbo Tenorio with the following Board members in attendance:

President Kimbo Tenorio, Vice President Renn Hjellum-Lim\*, 64 and Under Representative Mike Kaczer\*, 65 and Over Representative Scott Carr\*, Ladies Representative Kathy Kluever\*, Recording Secretary Louise Freiheit\*, Historian Jim Hellerstedt, and Treasurer Erin Burgess\*. At-Large Representative George Fernandes and Assistant Treasurer Rod Adams were absent.

There were six voting members present which constituted a quorum.

Also in attendance, according to a sign-in sheet, were:

John Vernagus, George Kuehnel, Connie Kabeave, Ken Victory, Bob Rink, and Dale Clem. Please note that Mr. Clem arrived during the elections portion of the meeting.

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA (previously emailed to the Board):** Mrs. Freiheit asked to withdraw approval of the executive session minutes and Mrs. Burgess asked to add Elections. A motion was made by Ms. Hjellum-Lim, seconded by Ms. Burgess, and approved unanimously to approve the agenda as amended.

**MEMBER PARTICIPATION (Members are welcome to speak. Discussion and time allotted are at the discretion of the presiding officer.)**

In response to a question from Bob Rink regarding the status of the about the status of the possible charges against former president Jim Whipple, President Tenorio said that we cannot comment about an ongoing investigation.

In response to another question from Bob Rink regarding the situation of not being able to use Lorenzi Park due to the lack of a permit, Kimbo responded that last year the responsible person dropped the ball and applied too late. He continued, however, that this year Vice President Hjellum-Lim had started the process in June. Renn added that the City of Las Vegas added an additional document (regarding legal liability) to the insurance requirements this year and the insurance company and City Parks and Recreation Employees are working together to correct the situation. She continued that we have been using Gallagher insurance out of California for several years and, before next year’s policy is renewed, she will be researching what other companies might be able to provide for our needs.

In response to a question from John Vernagus regarding using Lorenzi without a permit, Vice President Hjellum-Lim said that the City personnel has already warned against doing this. Mr. Vernagus continued with questions about using Avery Park in North Las Vegas until the issue is resolved, to which Renn said that Rod Adams is working on a temporary arrangement to use that field if this issue continues.

There was a discussion about the possible reasons for this situation.

In response to a question from Jim Hellerstedt regarding how long we should wait for a resolution before seeking a new insurance company, President Tenorio opined that, at this point, it would take longer to find another provider than to wait. In response to another questions from Mr. Hellerstedt regarding the wisdom of LVSSA members approaching City leaders, Kimbo said he doesn’t see a problem.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF JULY 14, 2022, REGULAR MEETING:** A motion was made by Erin Burgess, seconded by Kathy Kluever, and approved unanimously to approve the minutes of the July 14, 2022, regular meeting as written.

**OFFICERS’ REPORTS:**

* **President:** President Tenorio reported that the charge against former officers is still under investigation.
* **Vice President:** Vice President Hjellum-Lim pointed out that her report about insurance was covered during the member participation segment.
* **65 and Over Representative:**
1. **Annual Meeting:** Representative Carr said he had been investigating sites for our annual meeting/banquet and that, with the costs of rental spaces so high, he recommends using the grassy area at Lorenzi Park.
2. **Credit Union Membership:** He continued that he had also been investigating membership in the Navy Federal Credit Union and discovered that all signees must be members of the armed services. Mrs. Freiheit shared that she checked into America First Credit Union and any local resident can be a member, there are eleven local branches, and it is Federally insured. This discussion continues during the Old Business portion of the meeting.
* **64 and Under Representative:** Representative Kaczer said his report will be given under the Publicity Committee report.
* **Treasurer:**
1. **Bank Statements/Balance:** Mrs. Burgess noticed while reviewing the old documents from Paul Ruben that bank statements used to be presented every month and she will begin doing so. She presented the last two months’ statements. She continued that the current bank balance is $78,300.
2. **Budget:** She continued that to date we have spent $4958.
3. **Calendar:** Erin shared that she has created a master calendar for events and monthly responsibilities, that it is posted on the Google Drive, and requested all Board members post on that calendar.
4. **Taxes:** She pointed out some of the issues with the Association getting caught up with taxes including the 501c3 and 501c4 designations and discussed a consultation with an accountant familiar with non-profits. A motion was made by Renn Hjellum-Lim, seconded by Scott Carr, and approved unanimously that Erin Burgess continue consulting with an accountant on our taxes with an expense not to exceed $500. A discussion followed about the importance of finalizing the 501c3 and 501c4 designations.
* **Secretary:** Secretary Freiheit distributed restructured binders that are specific to the Board members’ roles. She continued that these binders can be personalized by the member but belong to the Association and need to be passed along to the next person holding that position.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

* **Merchandise:** Mrs. Freiheit read from Rod Adams’ report that new Lorenzi Park/LVSSA.Vegas shirts are available at a cost of $30 each. The report also stated that we have softballs, batting gloves, and fielder’s gloves. It continued that softballs have been sold to Sin City Summerlin and SSUSA for $5.00 each, leaving 144 balls in storage.
* **Shed:** Mr. Adams’ report stated that there have been no changes to the shed.
* **Website:** The report said the website received 1,328 hits in July and 314 to date in August for a GoDaddy score of 95.
* **Publicity:** Mr. Kaczer has arranged a meeting on August 16 with a sports reporter from Vegas Voice for an interview about the Association and he has asked several members to meet him. Mike continued explaining details of a proposal from Vegas Voice that would include a ¼ page ad, ad banners, inclusion on their website, and interviews on the podcasts and morning shows. Mr. Kaczer added that the magazine is placed in 35,000 mailboxes and is distributed at casinos and other locations. There was a discussion about the wisdom of purchasing print advertising, how many new members we need to break even, the popularity of the Vegas Voice, and the timing of the contract. A motion was made by Renn Hjellum-Lim, seconded by Scott Carr, and approved unanimously to contract with Vegas Voice for publicity for three months at a total cost of $2,250. A copy of the Vegas Voice proposal is attached to the official minutes.
* **Goodwill/Welfare:** Mr. Adams’ report was read that Star Golia and Don Sobieray and still out with surgery and illness. Ms. Freiheit added that Laurie Buchman and Charlotte Mitchell have been ill. Mr. Tenorio reported that Glenn De Gracia, who was a member but has moved, recently passed away. The website will be updated to reflect these members.
* **Membership:** Mr. Adams’ monthly report said that we have 211 members. Mr. Kaczer and Ms. Hjellum-Lim voiced plans that came from a Membership Committee meeting held August 3. A copy of the information from that meeting is attached to the official copy of these minutes. Specific suggestions discussed included:
1. **Player Profiles:** Regularly on the website, individual players will be profiled on our website and the future Facebook page.
2. **2023 Membership Fee:** To attract additional members, we should lower the membership fees. A motion was made by Scott Carr, seconded by Renn Hjellum-Lim, and approved unanimously to impose an annual membership fee for 2023 of $50.00, with the short-term memberships remaining at $20.00 per time period.
3. **Leagues:** Mr. Kaczer will talk with the City of Las Vegas Parks Department about providing league play in the future.
4. **Facebook:** A new Facebook page will be started.
5. **Brochure:** The current brochure needs to be improved at a cost of $300. This item was tabled until the September meeting.
* **Hall of Fame:** Louise Freiheit announced that a Review Committee has been established, announcements have gone out on the website and through emails, and nominations are starting to be turned in.
* **Banquet/Annual Meeting:** Vice President Hjellum-Lim reported that Mr. Adams has organized a committee. In response to a question from Renn regarding the banquet not being in our 2022 budget, Treasurer Burgess responded that there were budgeted expenses that have not been spent and can be used.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

* **City of Las Vegas Memorandum of Understanding:** Renn said that she has contacted the attorney and there has been no answer, but she will contact them again.
* **Non-Profit Expert Consultation:** Erin Burgess reminded the members that the only item remaining to be done from the consultant’s suggestions is to open a banking account with a credit union. There was a discussion about the history of what members should have signing ability wherein most people agreed that the Vice President, Assistant Treasurer, and Secretary have been signers with the Treasurer receiving statements. The discussion also included the need for us to have two signatures on checks. A motion was made by Scott Carr, seconded by Erin Burgess, and approved unanimously that $10,000 be deposited into America First Credit Union to open an account with all Board members on the account. A discussion followed the vote about finding interest-producing accounts to build the money.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

* **Elections:** Mrs. Burgess requested that an email and other announcements be sent out with the details of the upcoming election for President, Treasurer, and Women’s Representative.
* **Sponsors:** President Tenorio announced that he is seeking sponsors who will buy shirts for the Association as a donation.
* **Veterans’ Day Celebration:** Ms. Burgess reminded the group that, at a previous meeting, we decided that the representatives would sit on a committee to play special events and may invite other people to assist. Representative Carr offered to chair the committee to plan a Veterans’ Day celebration. Treasurer Burgess asked for a proposal that includes financial needs.
* **Transparency:** There was a discussion about rumors going around that LVSSA money is being wasted. It was agreed that copies of the minutes and bank statements should be posted in the dugouts for all members to see.

**SUSPENSION OF MEETING FOR PURPOSES OF AN EXECUTIVE SESSION:** A motion was made by Vice President Hjellum-Lim, seconded by Secretary Freiheit, and approved unanimously to suspend the regular meeting for the purpose of an executive meeting.

**REGULAR SESSION RECONVENED:** The regular session of the Board was reconvened at 2:35 p.m. with the same members as previously named with the exception that Representative Kluever was no longer in attendance.

**ADJOURNMENT:** A motion was made by Rod Adams, seconded by Scott Carr, and approved unanimously that the meeting be adjourned. The meeting adjourned at 2:39 p.m. with the next meeting scheduled for September 8, 2022, at noon.