**Minutes**

**L.V.S.S.A. dba Las Vegas Senior Softball Association**

Thursday, March 9, 2023

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

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

**CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL:** The meeting was called to order at noon 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, and Historian Jim Hellerstedt.

The asterisk indicates a voting member.

This represented six votes, which constituted a quorum.

Also in attendance, according to a sign-in sheet was Fred Baniecki, Joe Vaifanua, and John Vernagus.

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA (previously emailed to the Board):** A motion was made by Mrs. Freiheit, seconded by Mr. Kuehnel, and approved unanimously to approve the agenda as written.

**MEMBER PARTICIPATION:** Joe Vaifanua stated that he is here to observe because he is interested in the work that the Board does. The Board complimented him on the volunteer work he is doing.

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

* **February 9, 2023, Regular Meeting:** Secretary Freiheit explained that Treasurer Kuehnel showed her two mistakes in the minutes that were emailed to the Board: one changing the wording from “George Fernandes” to “George Kuehnel”; the other being changing the wording from “money had been spent for the defibrillator” to “money will be spent for the defibrillator.” Both corrections have already been made in the official minutes. A motion was made by Treasurer Kuehnel, seconded by Representative Carr, and approved unanimously that the minutes of the February 9, 2023, meeting be approved with the corrections named.
* **February 9, 2023, Executive Meeting:** A motion was made by Mr. Carr, seconded by Mrs. Freiheit, and approved unanimously that the minutes of the February 9, 2023, Executive Meeting be approved as written.

**OFFICERS’ REPORTS:**

* **President:** President Hjellum-Lim reported the following accomplishments for the past month:
1. appointed John Vernagus as Records Manager;
2. interviewed by Betty Boyd of the Vegas Voice;
3. attended a CPR class;
4. signed the Memorandum of Understanding with the City of Las Vegas and our Spring permits (She noted that the MOU is saving us $10,164 on the Spring permits.);
5. addressed the issue with the SGRO Attorneys;
6. worked with Rod Adams to redo the waiver to include the Code of Conduct and sent emails to members reminding them about that Code.

She continued that she is questioning some future calendar items with a possible plan of holding a Super Softball Saturday the day before the 2024 Super Bowl, moving the Flag Day Celebration to a Saturday, and holding a Labor Day Celebration rather than a Veterans’ Day Celebration due to Veterans’ Day’s proximity to our planned banquet.

* **Vice President:** Vice President Adams shared that he has been working on opening the new account at America First Credit Union, assisting with permits, laminating the Code of Conduct and posting them in the dugouts, swapping out keys for the shed, and working on the Tournament Teams committee. He continued that he wants to concentrate on membership growth.
* **64 and Under Representative:** Representative Kaczer reported that things are good.
* **65 and Over Representative:** Representative Carr also reported that things are good.
* **Ladies’ Representative:** Representative Rogers asked several questions about the money raised through raffles at the ladies’ tournaments. In response, President Hjellum-Lim said she doesn’t have all the details but she knows that some of the raffled items are donated and some are purchased with raffle money, and that Vicki Oltean, who organizes many tournaments, likes having the raffles. Mrs. Freiheit added that she has read that some umpire expenses are paid from it and that members from Vegas Strong (Ladies) donate items for the raffle.
* **Parliamentarian:** Mr. Fernandes explained that he has been educating himself on Roberts’ Rules of Order and he has suggestions for improvements in our meeting habits. They were:
1. Non-Board members should not be allowed to take part in the meeting except during the member participation portion.
2. Items should be discussed only after a motion has been made. The order needs to be: motion made, discussion, and then vote.
3. Members wishing to address the group should only do so after being recognized by the President.
* **Treasurer:** Treasurer Kuehnel distributed a report of account balances and voiced that the total of all accounts is $80,751.57. A copy of this report is attached to the official minutes of this meeting. In response to a question from Mr. Fernandes, President Hjellum-Lim said that we are in transition from using Nevada State Bank for everyday transactions to America First Credit Union and that the full transfer would be made soon. In response to another question from Mr. Fernandes regarding why the transfer is being made, Board members said that Nevada State Bank charged a monthly fee and gave no interest/dividends while America First pays dividends and does not charge a monthly fee, and that the 501c3 requirements are that we bank with a credit union that is insured through NCUA. Treasurer Kuehnel added that he has requested an update from Linda Keeton, CPA, on the status of our tax refund request.
* **Secretary:** Secretary Freiheit distributed updated versions of the Board Member contact list to be placed in the member binders.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

* **Merchandise:** Mr. Adams reported that we have a couple cases of softballs, sixteen batting gloves, two fielder’s gloves, and Lorenzi Park shirts. There was a discussion about holding a raffle for the fielder’s gloves.
* **Shed:** Mr. Adams continued that there is a new combination on the field locks and that new keys have been issued. He thanked Kathy Kluever for donating 60 softballs. He continued that we currently have three pitching screens for the men and one for the women, and that he has taken two of the men’s screens home to use the good parts of each to make one good one.
* **Website:** Mr. Adams added that the website had 1396 hits in January but only 1235 in February, and that we have a GoDaddy rating of 99. He said he has posted the agenda, birthdays, pictures of the Bullhead City tournament and CPR classes, and updates the calendar daily.
* **Publicity:**
1. **Summerlin Parade:** Mike Kaczer reported that the application for the Summerlin Patriotic Parade is due March 20 and he is working on the details to complete it.
2. **Aging and Travel Expo:** Mr. Kaczer distributed a proposal from Beasley Broadcasting Group inviting us to participate in the Aging and Travel Expo to be held on April 15 at a cost of $595. A copy of the proposal is attached to the official minutes of this meeting. After a discussion about locals vs. out-of-towners, cost vs. benefit, and possibly coordinating with the two other softball groups in town, it was agreed that we would not be a part of this function at this time.
* **Goodwill/Welfare:** Mr. Adams shared that Dale Palmer is in the Mayo Clinic for a bone marrow transplant, Don Sobieray is in the hospital for a bone marrow transplant, Charlotte Mitchell had gall bladder surgery, Felix Mendiola will have open heart surgery, and Joe Pellegrino is very ill.
* **Membership:** Mr. Adams also said that we currently have 210 members, up from 194 this time last year. He reminded everyone that the membership list is in the shed and blamed the nasty weather for lack of new members. Mr. Fernandes expressed concern that the membership list in the shed should not have complete contact information for security reasons. Several options were discussed.
* **Tournament Teams:** Mr. Adams reported that the committee has created a working definition for an LVSSA Tournament Team and has sent this to all managers asking for comments. After this comment period, he will report back. There was a discussion about extending the permit periods at Lorenzi for additional team practices.
* **Banquet/Annual Meeting:** Vice President Adams shared that the banquet has been scheduled for November 9 and that the committee is currently considering the Italian American Club and Springs Preserve. Negotiations are continuing for those sites. In response to a request from Mr. Vernagus, President Hjellum-Lim said that this banquet would be instead of the picnic held last year. She continued that she will work on getting us the tax exempt status to help with the costs.
* **Flag Day Celebration:** Representative Carr explained that the committee has decided the Flag Day celebration will be held on Saturday, the ROTC will attend, Lou Bellino will bring desserts, teams will be organized as people arrive, sandwiches will be purchased from a provider to be named later, and members will be asked to bring their own drinks. In response to a question from Scott, Mr. Kuehnel said that the budget item is $1600.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

* **Big 5 Incentive Program:** Mrs. Freiheit said that a personal shopping day has been requested but has not yet been set.
* **CPR Classes and Purchase of Defibrillator:**
1. **CPR Classes:** Mrs. Freiheit shared that we have about ten members already trained, several more scheduled for March 16, and she will attend the 64 and Under Session to get more volunteers.
2. **Purchase of Defibrillator:** Treasurer Kuehnel announced that, after his phone calls checking on the delivery date of the backordered unit, the company has agreed to send an upgraded unit to us at the same price. He added that his research shows the unit must be stored in no less than 32 degrees which is not an issue, but that the heat of the summer requires us to make other storage plans. Several suggestions were considered.
* **Articles of Incorporation:** Ms. Hjellum-Lim aired she has been working with the Secretary of State’s office to file the Articles of Incorporation but has been running into technical obstacles.
* **Sale of Drag:** The arranged sale of the drag for $25 has not yet been completed.
* **Code of Conduct:** President Hjellum-Lim gave a summary of progress of making the Code of Conduct known to members including placing laminated copies in the dugouts and sending an email to the members. She requested that anyone witnessing a violation of the Code make a written notation.
* **Purchase of Equipment:**
1. **Ball Caddy:** Mr. Adams explained that a line drive broke the wheel on a ball caddy. A motion was made by Mrs. Freiheit, seconded by Mr. Kuehnel, and approved unanimously that a new ball caddy be purchased at a cost of $89 plus shipping.
2. **Pitching Screen:** A motion was made by Scott Carr and seconded by Mike Kaczer that two new pitching screens be purchased at a cost of $289 each plus shipping. The discussion included the constant stress on these screens, the need for safety, and the possibility of combining good parts of older screens. The motion was approved unanimously.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

* **Super Softball Saturday:** A motion was made by Representative Kaczer, seconded by Treasurer Kuehnel, and approved unanimously to amend the agenda to discuss Super Softball
Saturday. A motion was made by Mr. Carr, seconded by Mr. Kaczer, and approved unanimously to add a Super Softball Saturday event to our calendar the Saturday before Super Bowl 2024.

**SUSPENSION OF MEETING FOR PURPOSES OF AN EXECUTIVE SESSION:** A motion was made by George Kuehnel, seconded by Louise Freiheit, and approved unanimously that the regular session be suspended for the purpose of an executive session. The meeting was suspended at 1:36 p.m.

**REGULAR SESSION RECONVENED:** The regular session was called back to order at 2:05 p.m. with the same Board members in attendance as originally named.

**ADJOURNMENT:** A motion was made by Mike Kaczer, seconded by Rod Adams, and approved unanimously to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 2:08 p.m. with the next meeting set for April 20 at noon.