**Minutes – Board Meeting**

**LAS VEGAS SENIOR SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION dba LVSSA**

**Thursday, September 8, 2022**

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

**CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL:** The meeting was called to order at 12:10 p.m. by Vice President Renn Hjellum-Lim with the following Board members in attendance:

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\*, At-Large Representative George Fernandes, Historian Jim Hellerstedt, and Assistant Treasurer Rod Adams.

Treasurer Erin Burgess was absent.

The asterisk indicates a voting member. This represents five votes which constituted a quorum.

Also in attendance according to a signin sheet were:

 Carroll Beeson, Dale Clem, Jerry Krause, Chuck Godman, and John Vernagus.

Please note that President Kimbo Tenorio and Fred Smith were present, expressed their opinions, and left before the meeting officially started.

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA (previously emailed to the Board):** Vice President Hjellum-Lim requested that an insurance item be added to the agenda under New Business. A motion was made by Representative Carr, seconded by Representative Kluever, and approved unanimously to adopt the agenda as amended.

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

Secretary Freiheit asked to clarify some comments made by President Tenorio. One of the comments made by him was that he was upset because the Board doesn’t give him a vote. She said that she researched this subject in response to his concerns and found that it is common for the President to not have a vote (unless where there is a tie or a secret ballot) due to the President having sway over other members. Representative Carr expressed his opinion that our Board’s votes are usually unanimous and, therefore, the only vote of the President that would matter is in the case of a tie. Mrs. Freiheit also said that, despite President Tenorio’s claims, the expenditures/actions he questioned were approved by the Board. Vice President Hjellum-Lim explained that she always includes President Tenorio in communications.

In response to a comment about LVSSA holding tournaments with SSUSA posed by Fred Smith before leaving the meeting, there was a discussion about the previous contract negotiations. After this discussion, it was agreed that that this item would be discussed later in the meeting.

Dale Clem questioned why his letters and emails have not been answered. Mr. Fernandes and Mr. Carr answered that the issues are under investigation and we cannot discuss them. Mr. Fernandes also reminded Mr. Clem that letters from the Board to previous members were confidential information and the Board cannot share the facts; however, people could ask the previous members to share that information. Vice President Hjellum-Lim reminded the group that these items were usually discussed in executive sessions and therefore should not be discussed openly.

John Vernagus made some observations and suggestions. One of those suggestions is that the current bylaws are out of date. It was noted that this is on the agenda today. Another suggestion is that there is reference to Code of Ethics but those are not available. His last suggestion is that our organization might be a 501c7 rather than 501c3 or 501c4. He offered his assistance in getting these items cleaned up.

In response to another question from Dale Clem about lifetime expulsions and missing money, Mr. Fernandes and others again suggested that Mr. Clem ask those ex-members to see their documents.

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

* **July 14, 2022, Executive Session:** A motion was made by Scott Carr, seconded by Louise Freiheit, and approved unanimously to approve the minutes of the July 14, 2022, Executive Session.
* **August 11, 2022, Regular Meeting:** A motion was made by Mrs. Freiheit, seconded by Mr. Carr, and approved unanimously to approve the minutes of the August 11, 2022, regular meeting.
* **August 11, 2022, Executive Session:** A motion was made by Representative Kaczer, seconded by Secretary Freiheit, and approved unanimously to approve the minutes of the August 11, 2022, Executive Session.

**OFFICERS’ REPORTS:**

* **Vice President:** Ms. Hjellum-Lim said that her report will be given during the executive session.
* **64 and Under Representative:** Mr. Kaczer reported there have been two to three teams each day.
* **65 and Over Representative:** Mr. Carr shared that everything is good.
* **Ladies’ Representative:** Ms. Kluever announced they are encouraging ladies to run for ladies rep in the upcoming election.
* **At-Large Representative:** Mr. Fernandes had nothing to report.
* **Treasurer:** Although Ms. Burgess was absent due to COVID, she sent a copy of the bank statement to review and shared the following details:
1. The bank balance is $78,270.29;
2. She has an appointment with a CPA on September 27 to finalize our tax filings and to get advice on going forward.
* **Secretary:** Mrs. Freiheit distributed changes for the officers’ binders and requested $75 for paper and ink. A motion was made by Representative Kluever, seconded by Representative Kaczer, and approved unanimously to approve spending $75 for ink and paper.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

* **Merchandise:** Mr. Adams shared that he still has shirts for sale for $30 each that were financed personally through him. Secretary Freiheit added that this project was discussed at the June Board meeting and that there was no vote taken because there was no LVSSA money involved. Rod continued that we now have 27 pairs of batting gloves, two fielder’s gloves, and some softballs stored. He continued that he has posted some used merchandise on the website for members who are attempting to resell.
* **Shed:** Rod explained that a shed report was sent out. A motion was made by Mrs. Freiheit, seconded by Ms. Kluever, and approved unanimously to purchase a new drag for a price not to exceed $200.
* **Website:** Mr. Adams voiced that we have 121 hits more than July and that items have been posted including Board agenda, birthdays, player profiles, and pictures of Sin City Mob winning at a California tournament.
* **Publicity:** Representative Kaczer announced that our interview is now in the Vegas Voice, page 30, and these are available at libraries. Mr. Kaczer added that he has been in contact with Channel 8 and that representative is interested in doing a report on senior softball.
* **Goodwill/Welfare:** Members reported that Star Golia is still out with shoulder surgery, Jane Smith and Laurie Buchman are having knee replacements, Don Sobieray will have surgery soon, and Erin Burgess and Charlotte Mitchell are out with COVID.
* **Membership:** Rod shared that we had four new members with a total membership of 215.
* **Hall of Fame:** Mrs. Freiheit voiced that there are three nominees, a committee has been chosen, and a review meeting has been scheduled.
* **Banquet/Annual Meeting:** Members have been investigating venues with no luck. There was a discussion about options including using Lorenzi fields, Italian-American Club, and Springs Preserve.
* **Bylaws:** Secretary Freiheit forwarded information from Erin Burgess that the Bylaws adjustments are awaiting decisions on how to move forward. Mr. Vernagus brought out that the current Bylaws do not match the election process that was posted and suggested a correction to that.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

* **State of Nevada Tax Filings:** Vice President Hjellum-Lim reminded the group that no tax filings were done in 2020 or 2021 and that Erin Burgess has a meeting with a CPA on September 27.
* **City of Las Vegas Memorandum of Understanding:** Mrs. Hjellum-Lim stated that she had requested that President Tenorio follow up with the attorneys about this and she has had no communication from him or the attorneys. In response to a question from a member, she responded that the MOU with the City is an agreement the Association has had for several years that allows us to use Lorenzi Field without paying for permits.
* **Credit Union Account:** Secretary Freiheit said that she requested this item be back on the agenda because the discussion and motion from last month were not in agreement. After a discussion reminding the group that we had discussed moving our funds to a non-profit credit union to match the needs of our association, a motion was made by Representative Carr, seconded by Representative Kaczer, and approved unanimously that we open an account with America First Credit Union with Assistant Treasurer, Vice President, and Secretary being named on the account.
* **Elections:** There was a discussion about that the elections will be run by George Fernandes, Erin Burgess, and John Vernagas. Mr. Vernagus mentioned a discrepancy between the bylaws and the election rules that were published and it was agreed to make the election rules match the bylaws.
* **Field Maintenance:** In response to a question from Scott Carr, there was a discussion that there are concerns with the legality of hiring field maintenance workers and that this would be discussed in the consults and included in the 2023 budget.
* **Refund of Dues to Member:** Secretary Freiheit reminded the group that, during this past month, there was an email vote done with the Board approving a refund of dues to Mark Litman.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

* **Veterans’ Day Celebration:** There was a discussion about holding a celebration/scrimmage game for Veterans’ Day, after which a committee was formed consisting of Scott Carr, Jerry Krause, Kathy Kluever, Chuck Godman, and Mike Kaczer.
* **Big 5 Incentive Program:** Secretary Freiheit explained that she has been speaking with Big 5 which runs incentives and fundraising opportunities for non-profits. After a discussion regarding avoiding pitfalls that would interfere with our non-profit status, it was agreed that she would get more details and report back to the Board.
* **2023 Budget:** With the treasurer ill, this item was tabled until the October meeting.
* **Officers/Crime Insurance:** Vice President Hjellum-Lim announced that the Association has been covered by an officers and crime insurance policy which now needs renewing. After a brief discussion explaining this policy, a motion was made by Louise Freiheit, seconded by Scott Carr, and approved unanimously for this insurance policy to be renewed at a cost not to exceed $900.

**SUSPENSION OF MEETING FOR PURPOSES OF AN EXECUTIVE SESSION:** A motion was made by Louise Freiheit, seconded by Mike Kaczer, and approved unanimously that the regular meeting be suspended for the purposes of an executive session.

**REGULAR MEETING RECONVENED:** The regular meeting reconvened at 2:13 p.m. with the same Board members in attendance as previously listed.

**ADJOURNMENT AND NEXT MEETING:** A motion was made by Kathy Kluever, seconded by Louise Freiheit, and approved unanimously to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 2:16 p.m. with the next meeting of the Board scheduled for October 20, 2022, at noon.