Minutes

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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

Thursday, March 13, 2025

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

\*BOD meetings are recorded for the purpose 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 Rod Adams with the following Board members in attendance:

President Rod Adams, Vice President Louise Freiheit\*, Ladies’ Representative Pinky Rogers\*, 64 and Under Representative Scott Carr\*, 65 and Over Representative Butch Kocher\*, Treasurer Rudy Escamilla\*, and Recording Secretary Jo Smith\*.

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

Also in attendance, according to a sign-in sheet, were Bill Walsh, George Fernandes, Laurie Buchman, John Vernagus, Chuck Godman, and Jerry Kraus (Representative Pinky Rogers did not sign the Attendance Sheet but was present at the meeting).

**SUSPENSION OF THE MEETING FOR PURPOSE OF AN EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

A motion was made by Vice President Freiheit to go into an Executive Session with all members of the lawsuit staying in attendance and the motion was seconded by Representative Scott Carr. Members Chuck Godman and Jerry Kraus were asked to excuse themselves from the Executive Session and they left the meeting. All of the same board members mentioned above were present at the Executive Session.

**REGULAR SESSION RECONVENED:**

The board returned to the regular session at 12:57 pm with the following people in attendance:

President Rod Adams, Vice President Louise Freiheit\*, Ladies’ Representative Pinky Rogers\*, 64 and Under Representative Scott Carr\*, 65 and Over Representative Butch Kocher\*, Treasurer Rudy Escamilla\*, and Recording Secretary Jo Smith\*.

Also in attendance, according to a sign-in sheet, were Bill Walsh, George Fernandes, Laurie Buchman, John Vernagus, Chuck Godman, and Jerry Kraus (Representative Pinky Rogers did not sign the Attendance Sheet but was present at the meeting).

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA:** A motion was made by Vice President Louise Freiheit and seconded by Treasurer Escamilla that the agenda be approved. The motion was approved unanimously.

**MEMBER PARTICIPATION:** . **(Members are allowed two minutes to address the Board with a thirty-second recap. Board members may ask direct questions.)** Jerry Kraus stated that he had been a member of the club for over 20 years and that they ran tournaments and raised money for the organization and that he had been involved with various other activities. He mentioned that Jim Whipple had stolen money from the organization and that there was a lawsuit and the whole thing was very confusing. That in the past there had been many different rules which the Board had to follow and that they have been changed over the years. The committees should be the ones to keep the members informed of what the Board is doing and how our money is being spent. President Adams stated that all of the information is presented in the minutes, and the minutes are posted on our website so all members can read them. Jerry Kraus mentioned that maybe we should have a Hall of Fame for coaches.

John Vernagus mentioned that everything was going great at the fields and that he thought the transition was working very well regarding the new representatives.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

**Minutes of February 19, 2025, regular meeting:**

A motion was made by Vice President Freiheit and was seconded by Representative Carr to approve the minutes of the February 19, 2025, at this time. The motion was approved unanimously, and the minutes were approved.

**OFFICERS’ REPORTS:**

* **President:** -Bat Tester arrived Tuesday. Scott, Butch and Pinky will work with their groups on testing. More on this later in the meeting.

-Permits Reminder. Blackout dates are March 24-March 28 for Corporate Challenge and May 17. The dates have been posted to the website.

-Worked with Chris with the Little League to remind them to pick up their trash.

-Roles and Responsibilities were worked on and Louise has a new update.

-Continued Daily Work with Selling our Merchandise, LVSSA Shed Key Holders, LVSSA.Vegas Website and Facebook Updates, Membership, Goodwill, and Tournament Teams.

* **Vice President:** Vice President Freiheit stated that she has been working on the by-laws and will discuss that later in the meeting. Our community involvement with Better Together has been handed off to Kathy Kluever to be the liaison. We had an opportunity to participate in a mass casualty event and we had no volunteers so that is done.
* **64 and Under Representative:** Representative Scott Carr mentioned that things are going well and the guys just want to play ball. They are grateful for what we do. He will show the members how to use the bat tester after the meeting.
* **65 and Over Representative:** Representative Butch Kocher stated they were going to cancel Friday’s games this week because of cold. Vince Lopez has had some kidney problems. 80’s like the new rules.
* **Ladies’ Representative Pinky Rogers:** Nothing new to report.
* **Treasurer:** Treasurer Rudy Escamilla presented a statement of the accounts to the board members and stated that we currently have approximately $81,376.64 in all our accounts. Box rent is due at the end of this month for $200.00. He has new information on the taxes, and he will work on those. He needs to get up to speed on the PayPal account balance is $295.52. Mr. Escamilla’s report is attached to the official copy of these minutes.
* **Secretary:** Nothing new to report.

**GENERAL TOPICS/COMMITTEES:**

* **Merchandise:** President Adams reported that we have 150 magnets with the LVSSA logo on them and they are at the shed under Magnets.
* **Shed:** -Group of members, usually two members per group, possess a key (Monday/Thursday, Tuesday/Friday, Ladies, Men’s BP and Tournament Teams) that open the shed and prepare for the group’s daily practice/games.

-3/4/2025 - Chalk Ordered and placed in the Shed. Thanks to Bill Walsh! **-**

REMINDERS: The membership list is in a folder beside the First Aid Box. More blank waiver forms have been added. Permit Added – Also beside the First Aid Box.

**Reminder:** Please check-out items (portable pitching screens, etc.) by using the clip board in the shed – left side near the front.

* **Website:** Mr. Adams shared that we received a 99 rating from GoDaddy based on hits on our site. Our website is LVSSA.vegas. He also said that he has added the March birthdays to the website. Our calendar is updated weekly, and our Facebook page is updated on a regular basis. Bat Tester Notice, Roles and Responsibilities Notice, Workers for Southwest have been posted. Mike Hula will be needing workers to work for the Southwest tournament and this will probably be at 7 different complexes. There was a discussion of people using our softball fields who were not authorized to do so and someone broke a window at some point. Since the fields are going to be used by an app to open the fields, hopefully this will lessen that use by others. There are some long videos posted on our website recently. We are a public group but maybe we can go to a private group so only those who want to watch the long videos can so do. Pinky Rogers asked if we ever post our budget so people can see how much money we have and what we spend our money on. President Adams stated that our money is posted on the minutes which are on the website. We have specific fields which we have permits for and with the coming of the app to open the fields, we should have less problems with others using our fields.
* **Publicity:** MLK was handling this in the past. Hopefully someone will volunteer for this. We probably will not do the Summerlin parade this year.
* **Goodwill/Welfare:** Mr. Adams named the following members who need our thoughts and support: Marcia Sobieray has had a 4th surgery on her ankle and is recuperating at home, Star Golia is back out on the field, and Norm Shue. Don Sobieray has been hitting of a T and will shag balls. Linda Mendiola had a stroke last August and is still in physical therapy, but she is doing well. Jerry Kraus stated that the city gyms will allow us to put up posters about softball. Summerlin has a newsletter, and you can put advertisements in it. Also, maybe YMCA.
* **Membership:** President Adams stated that we had 5 new members in February and were added to the 2025 Membership list. The new members will be $50 for 2025. We have 259 members to date. The membership list is in the Shed. June - 2026 Membership Committee – tentative it is Rod, Rudy, Pinky, Scott and Butch. Keep in mind what we might want to charge for next year.
* **Tournament Teams:** President Adams said that Teams request a Saturday time slot through him, and he updates the LVSSA.Vegas calendar for that Saturday. So far, we have (12): (1) Ladies With Balls 40’s; (2) Custom Truck 60’s\*; (3) The Drifters 60’s – Finished first at the Bullhead Winter Classic; (4) Las Vegas OutKast’s 65’s\*- Finished second at the Bullhead Winter Classic; (5) Vegas Elite 65’s\*; (6) The Family 70’s; (7) Desert Heat 70’s – Finished first at the Bullhead Winter Classic; (8) Ryan’s Way 70’s\*\*- Finished first at the Bullhead Winter Classic; (9) Vegas Stronger 70’s; (10) Neons 75’s - Finished second in their division in Palm Springs (added to the list during this meeting); (11) Rezults 75’s; and (12) EIS 80’s

\*=Are Out Most Saturday’s \*\*-Practice on Tuesday’s

The same process used during the regular pick-up games for the defibrillator is used on Saturday between the AED Teams for the men and the women. Most of the time the leading AED Team for Saturday is Rod Adams, Pinky Rogers, and Renn Hjellum-Lim.

* **Banquet/Annual Meeting:** Usually held the first Thursday of November. We have a budget for this of $7,000. Mr. Adams wants to obtain a venue by mid-April of the current year. Vice president Freiheit stated that we have a committee consisting of Pinky Rogers, Star Golia, Marco Cardono and Lou Bellino, and Laurie Buchman is running the raffle again. A meeting will be scheduled soon next month.
* **Flagday Tournament:** It is tentatively planned for Friday, June 13, 2025, for the Tuesday/Friday guys and Saturday, June 14, 2025, for the ladies and tournament team guys. There will be meals on both days. Representative Carr has volunteered to handle this event. Jimmy Mack will have the Honor Guard at the field.
* **Big 5 Discount Coupon:** Vice President Freiheit got a permit again from Big 5 Sporting Goods and it is good through April 30, 2025, so we can use it as many times as we want until then.
* **Discipline:** This will be discussed later in the meeting.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

* **Update on purchase of Bat Tester and progress of organization and procedures.** The bat tester is here at the meeting and will be demonstrated after the meeting.
* **Updating By-Laws by Board Members.** Vice President Freiheit has requested one more month to incorporate some of the ideas she has received about changes and then Louise Freiheit and President Adams will review her changes and then maybe we can vote on them next month if approved by the rest of the board members.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

* **Update on disciplinary committee:** Chuck Godman had volunteered to be the head of this committee at the last board meeting but the By-Laws state that the head must be a Board Member. President Adams will now head the committee and right now the age gender representatives will be on the committee. We might want to make a change in the By-Laws that committee heads can be members of the organization but do not have to be current Board Members. We have had a few disciplinary issues over the last few years, but they are very few. There was a discussion regarding past disciplinary actions and members of the committee. It was noted that disciplinary matters are supposed to be private and not discussed during the regular board meetings.

**ADJOURNMENT AND NEXT MEETING:** A motion was made by Vice President Freiheit, seconded by Treasurer Escamilla, and approved unanimously to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 1:54 p.m., with the next meeting scheduled for Wednesday, April 16, 2025, at 12:30 pm.