

MINUTES
UNITED STATES SOCCER FEDERATION, INC.
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
VIDEO CONFERENCE
AUGUST 25, 2022
9:00 A.M. CENTRAL TIME

PRESENT: Nelson Akwari, Nicole Barnhart, Jessica Berman, Sean Boyle, Lisa Carnoy, John Collins, Cindy Cone, Mike Cullina, Don Garber, Richard Groff, Patti Hart, Michael Karon, Todd Lockhart, Garrison Mason, John Motta, Oguchi Onyewu, Danielle Slaton, Bill Taylor, Juan Uro, Will Wilson, Dr. Pete Zopfi

REGRETS: Chris Ahrens, Lori Lindsey

IN ATTENDANCE: David Applegate, Neil Buethe, Kay Bradley, Caitlin Carducci, Greg Fike, Leah Holt, Alison Kocoras, Karen Leetzow, Mike Magnifico, Kiran Nigar, Mel Radke, Pinky Raina, Dan Russell, Ann Seeney, Earnie Stewart, Helen Syreggelas, Tim Vernon, David Wright, and Perry Yee

Cindy Cone called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m.

Leah Holt announced a quorum.

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

There were no conflicts of interest disclosed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

At this time, the Board reviewed the minutes from the Public Session meeting on May 20, 2022. It was **MOVED** to approve the minutes. The motion was **SECONDED**. Hearing no objections, the motion **PASSED** by unanimous consent.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT AND CEO/SECRETARY GENERAL REPORT

Ms. Cone gave the President's Report, and Will Wilson gave the CEO/Secretary General Report. Mr. Wilson then reviewed the agenda for the meeting.

SAFESPORT UPDATE

Alison Kocoras provided the Board with a reminder about reporting requirements under SafeSport, including who must report, what to report, where to report, and when to report. She then reviewed information about how to report to the Center for SafeSport and U.S. Soccer. Finally, she provided an update on the Center for SafeSport administrative audit of U.S. Soccer.

GENDER EQUITY BOARD RESOLUTION UPDATE

Dan Russell gave the Board an update on the proposed resolutions from the March Board meeting, including the plan and timeline. Earnie Stewart then reviewed the YNT and Senior National Team hiring processes. Mr. Russell then provided the next steps.

LAMAR HUNT U.S. OPEN CUP POLICY

David Applegate reviewed the updates to Policy 102(4)-1, which were approved by the Open Cup and Rules Committees. Discussion ensued. It was **MOVED** to approve and adopt the changes to Policy



102(4)-1 Lamar Hunt U.S. Open Cup. The motion was **SECONDED**. Hearing no objections, the motion **PASSED** by unanimous consent.

LIFE MEMBER NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Richard Groff reviewed the recommendation to add Kevin Payne and Bill Bosgraaf as Life Members. It was **MOVED** to approve the grant of Life Member to Kevin Payne and Bill Bosgraaf. The motion was **SECONDED**. Hearing no objections, the motion **PASSED** by unanimous consent.

INNOVATE TO GROW UPDATE

Mel Radke provided the Board an overview of recommended changes to the Innovate to Grow (“ITG”) program, including the change to allow funds to cover a portion of salaries for new staff fully dedicated to the proposed program and to add a cap of \$200,000 for the ITG-funded portion of the program. Discussion ensued amongst Board members. It was **MOVED** to approve and the changes to the ITG program. The motion was **SECONDED**. Hearing no objections, the motion **PASSED** by unanimous consent.

GAME CHANGERS UNITED RECOMMENDATIONS

Patti Hart reviewed the recommendations from Game Changers United, including the suggestion to add a question to the ITG application to capture the potential DEIB impact. She also reviewed the recommendation to move to a five-person review committee focused on independence and diversity. Discussion ensued. It was **MOVED** to approve the changes to the ITG application review process and composition of the ITG Committee (Juan Uro, Todd Lockhart, Nelson Akwari, Lori Lindsey, and Dan Russell). The motion was **SECONDED**. Hearing no objections, the motion **PASSED** by unanimous consent.

AGM UPDATE

Caitlin Carducci provided an update on the 2023 AGM. Ms. Hart then gave an overview of the Kim Crabbe Game Changers Award, and Ms. Carducci reviewed the Carla Overbeck Leadership Award.

COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT

David Wright provided an overview of commercial development, including the department’s priorities. He then reviewed the development, events, and partnership departments.

FIFA WORLD CUP QATAR STRATEGY

Kay Bradley gave the Board an update on the FIFA World Cup Qatar strategy, beginning with the campaign objectives. She then reviewed the fan segmentation study and the Federation’s approach. Discussion ensued.

COMMERCIAL COMMITTEE CHARTER UPDATE

Mr. Wright reviewed the Commercial Committee Charter. It was **MOVED** to approve the updated language in the Commercial Committee Charter to capture development. The motion was **SECONDED**. Hearing no objections, the motion **PASSED** by unanimous consent.

The meeting adjourned at 10:20 a.m.

