

MINUTES
UNITED STATES SOCCER FEDERATION, INC.
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
IN-PERSON/VIDEO CONFERENCE
MAY 20, 2022
9:00 A.M. CENTRAL TIME

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

REGRETS: Chris Ahrens, Don Garber

IN ATTENDANCE: Steve Brickey, Neil Buethe, Greg Fike, Leah Holt, Alison Kocoras, Karen Leetzow, Kiran Nagar, Mel Radke, Pinky Raina, Dan Russell, Ann Seeney, Earnie Stewart, Tim Vernon, David Wright

Cindy Cone called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

Ms. Cone began with an acknowledgment of the team that worked on the CBAs. She also acknowledged the men's and women's para teams, the deaf men's and women's teams, and the youth teams for their accomplishments.

Leah Holt took roll call and announced that a quorum was present.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The meeting began with a request for disclosure of any conflicts of interest. Hearing none, the meeting proceeded.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Board began by reviewing the minutes from the Board meetings on March 4, 2022, and April 28, 2022. It was **MOVED** to approve the minutes, with edits. The motion was **SECONDED**. Hearing no objections, the motion **PASSED** by unanimous consent. The Board next reviewed the National Council meeting minutes from the National Council meeting on March 5, 2022. It was **MOVED** to approve the minutes. The motion was **SECONDED**. Hearing no objections, the motion **PASSED** by unanimous consent.

CEO/SECRETARY GENERAL REPORT

Will Wilson gave his report and then went through the agenda.

SAFESPORT UPDATE

Alison Kocoras gave the Board a review of the SafeSport requirements.

GENDER EQUITY BOARD RESOLUTIONS

Mr. Wilson reviewed the proposed resolutions, and the feedback they heard from different groups, including the Game Changers United, Nominating & Governance Committee, and specific board members. He then reviewed the key themes. Discussion ensued amongst the Board members. Mr. Wilson then provided the Board the plan and timeline for the resolutions. Discussion continued. It was



MOVED to add gender to the resolution that was passed in 2014. Discussion ensued regarding what constitutes a minority. The motion was **SECONDED**. Hearing no objections, the motion **PASSED** by unanimous consent.

GOVERNANCE TASK FORCE UPDATE

Juan Uro gave the Board an update on the Governance Task Force, beginning by thanking the 21 people on the task force. He noted that the group moved into a new phase to focus on potential options for board structure.

HUMAN RESOURCES UPDATE

Ann Seeney provided the Board an overview of what she had worked on her first 60 days with the Federation. She then reviewed the inclusion assessment.

FINANCE UPDATE

Pinky Raina provided the Board with the FY'22 preliminary results, noting that these were preliminary and subject to change. Ms. Raina then reviewed the revenues and expenses, followed by cash and investment.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS

Greg Fike provided the Rules Committee recommendation to provide provisional approval subject to some changes to the applicant's bylaws and rules to come into technical compliance by end of year. It was **MOVED** to approve the Down Syndrome Sports Association for provisional membership as a disabled sports organization. The motion was **SECONDED**. Hearing no objections, the motion **PASSED** by unanimous consent.

NEW POLICY 521-1

Mr. Fike reviewed the new Policy 521-1 regarding discriminatory chants at international games and noted that the Rules Committee found that whether to adopt was a decision for the Board. Discussion ensued. It was **MOVED** to approve and adopt Policy 521-1 with the change to add "ticketholder or attendee". The motion was **SECONDED**. Hearing no objections, the motion **PASSED** by unanimous consent.

INTERNATIONAL GAMES FEE TASK FORCE

Mr. Fike provided the Board an update on the International Games Fee Task Force. Discussion ensued.

UNIVERSAL BACKGROUND CHECK TASK FORCE

Ms. Kocoras provided the Board an update on the Universal Background Check Task Force.

BOARD STRATEGY OFFSITE

Mr. Wilson reviewed the upcoming Board offsite and the agenda for the meeting. Discussion ensued regarding membership on task forces.

NOMINATING & GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

Patti Hart began by thanking her Committee for their work on the Federation's governance. She gave an overview of Board expectations, beginning with the Board Code of Conduct. She then reviewed the remainder of the expectations. The Board then discussed the expectations. Next, Ms. Hart went through staff expectations. Discussion ensued.

FUTURE MEETINGS

Ms. Cone reviewed future meetings.

The meeting adjourned at 10:48 a.m.

