# MINUTES

# UNITED STATES SOCCER FEDERATION, INC. BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING NEW YORK, NEW YORK SEPTEMBER 23, 2016

9:00 A.M. ET

**PRESENT:** Sunil Gulati, Carlos Cordeiro, Dan Flynn, Jeff Agoos, Chris Ahrens, John Collins, Cindy Cone, Dr. Robert Contiguglia, Don Garber, Jesse Harrell, Arthur Mattson, John Motta, Alec Papadakis, Donna Shalala, Tim Turney

**REGRETS:** Fabian Núñez

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Jay Berhalter, Eric Gleason, Lisa Levine, Greg Fike, Linda Cardenas, Russ Sauer, Ryan Mooney, Nico Romeijn

Sunil Gulati called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Linda Cardenas took roll call and announced that a quorum was present.

#### **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

The Board reviewed the minutes of the Board meetings of May 19, 2016 and June 26, 2016 both in New York, New York. The minutes were **APPROVED**.

# **2017 FIFA REFEREE PANEL**

John Motta updated the Board on the Referee Committee's recommendation for the 2017 FIFA Referee Panel. The Board discussed the Referee Committee's recommendation. It was **MOVED** to approve the Panel. The motion **PASSED**.

#### PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Gulati updated the Board on FIFA and CONCACAF matters. He apprised the Board on the search for an independent director to fill the vacant position on the Board. Mr. Gulati informed the Board about the current status of the NWSL. Mr. Gulati updated the Board on the envoy program.

## **NATIONAL ANTHEM**

Mr. Gulati updated the Board on the issues surrounding the playing of the national anthem during national team games. The Board engaged in a discussion on this issue. The Board discussed a policy regarding national anthems.

# **INCREASING ACCESS TO EXPERTISE**

Mr. Singer, from McKinsey consulting, explained to the Board various options available to close the gap in expertise discussed in previous Board meetings. Mr. Singer recommended specific areas where expertise should be increased. The Board discussed the recommendations.

## **SECRETARY GENERAL'S REPORT**

Eric Gleason updated the Board on the current FY17 financials. Mr. Flynn reminded the Board about the 2017 and 2018 AGM locations and dates. Mr. Flynn and Jay Berhalter updated the Board on the current



follow-up items related to strategic planning. Centralized registration was among the follow-up items discussed. Mr. Remedi updated the Board on the current status of fund raising.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Mr. Gulati updated the Board on the Governance and Nominating Committee. Mr. Cordeiro updated the Board on the Budget and Finance Committee. Ms. Shalala updated the Board on the changes to the Risk, Audit and Compliance Committee description. Dr. Contiguglia updated the Board on the Investment Committee.

## **ODP FUNDING**

The Board discussed the Board's funding commitment to the ODP budget for USYS. It was **MOVED** to approve the funding. The motion **PASSED.** 

#### ADDITIONAL MEMBER FUNDING OPTIONS

Mr. Gulati asked the Board to consider additional member programs that might be available for funding. Detailed suggestions are to be discussed at the December Board meeting.

## **BYLAW AMENDMENTS**

The Board discussed the sets of Bylaws that required approval for recommendation to the full membership.

The Board **MOVED** to approve the housekeeping Bylaws and recommend them to the full membership. The motion **PASSED**.

The Board **MOVED** to approve the individual set of Bylaw amendments and recommend them to the full membership. The motion **PASSED**.

## **2017 INTERNATIONAL TRANSFER WINDOW**

Mr. Gulati informed the Board that the professional leagues were working on agreement for the 2017 international transfer window.

## IN-DEPTH REVIEW OF COACHING EDUCATION

Mr. Berhalter explained to the Board the objectives and practical issues concerning coaching education. Ryan Mooney, head of the sporting development area, gave an update on the current model of coach education. Nico Romeijn, head of coaching education, informed the Board about his past coaching education models and how they can be implemented within USSF. The Board discussed the various coaching education models.

#### **GOOD OF THE GAME**

Mr. Papadakis praised the use of the Video Assistant Referee during MLS games. Mr. Collins thanked the Board for the professional discussion regarding the national anthem. Mr. Motta reminded the Board of USASA's upcoming workshops and mid-year meeting. Additionally, Mr. Motta informed the Board of Kari Seitz' new position with FIFA as head of the women's referee program. Mr. Garber expressed his approval of the Board's new approach to better governance. Mr. Ahrens updated the Board on the U.S. Soccer Paralympic team and highlighted the flag-bearer's personal story.

(At this point, the Board went into executive session. The minutes for this session are contained in a separate document.)



The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

