

MINUTES
UNITED STATES SOCCER FEDERATION, INC.
BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S MEETING
NOVEMBER 22, 2003
HOLLYWOOD, CA
9:00 A.M. CENTRAL TIME

- PRESENT:** Dr. Robert Contiguglia, Sunil Gulati, William J. Goaziou, David Askinas, Marypat Bell, John Bouda, Chris Christoffersen, John Doyle, Mike Edwards, Bob Gansler, Don Garber, Evelyn Gill, Richard Groff, John Harkes, John Kerr Jr., Francisco Marcos, Brooks McCormick, Mike McDaniel, Robert McGee, David Messersmith, Bob Palmeiro, Kevin Payne, Nelson Rodriguez, Darl Rose, Alan Rothenberg, Bill Sage, Jim Sheldon, Bruno Trapikas, Peter Vermes, Dante Washington, Matt Weibe.
- VIA PHONE:** Linda Hamilton, Larry Harmon, Marge Madriago, Cameron Rast
- APOLOGIES:** Amanda Cromwell, Tony DiCicco, Werner Fricker Jr., Burton Haimes, Jonathan Kraft.
- IN ATTENDANCE:** Daniel T. Flynn, Jay Berhalter, Rich Matthys, Alison Kocoras, Timothy Pinto, Katherine Hope, Julie Ilacqua, Mike Malamut, Parliamentarian, Kathleen Kopta, Reporter, Dadie Perlov, Brad Hays.
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President Contiguglia called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Katherine Hope took roll call and announced that a quorum was present.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Contiguglia reported that because it was a shortened year, he would not make any recommendations for changes to the USSF committees.

Dr. Contiguglia provided an update on efforts to work with WUSA. He stated that a number of meetings took place between USSF officials and WUSA officials, and that USSF considered a number of options, but was limited by the constraints of its non-profit status. He described the possibilities for a new league in 2005.

Dr. Contiguglia thanked everyone for their help in making the Women's World Cup a success. He noted that the Men's U-20 team was leaving for the FIFA world championship the next day, and that the U-23 team had made a good start in qualifying.

Dr. Contiguglia reported that he and Sunil Gulati had attended the FIFA Congress in Qatar. FIFA approved several new statutes there. FIFA also awarded the 2005 Club Championship to CONCACAF, and USSF is preparing a business model to consider a bid to host. The 2006 World Cup qualifying draw will take place in two weeks.

Dr. Contiguglia reported that he attended a meeting with the USOC national governing bodies. He discussed the new structure of the USOC board.

He noted that the USSF executive committee had approved a proposal for the formation and funding of a governance task force. He introduced Dadie Perlov, a consultant who would be working with the task force. Ms. Perlov provided a brief overview of her company and the plans for their work with the task force.

Dr. Contiguglia reported that 2006 World Cup qualifying for the Men's Team would begin in June. He noted that negotiations were continuing with the Men's player's association on a new collective bargaining agreement, but there were still significant differences of opinion. He also stated that USSF was in



negotiations with the Women's player's association regarding the determination of a fair monthly salary while the women are in residency.

SECRETARY GENERAL'S REPORT

Dan Flynn provided an update on the progress of the referee department in processing registration forms. He reported that forms are being processed within one or two days of receipt, which is a significant improvement over past years.

Mr. Flynn reviewed USSF's business plans for the past three years, and presented Phase IV of the Business Plan. He noted that there are some significant initiatives in the areas of player development, facility development, coaching development, referee development, and event development that would be coming before the board. He described plans to contribute to facility development efforts across the country. He described current player development efforts and how they are growing. He discussed plans for continuing education in coaching, and for improving the referee database. He described plans to increase efforts to host upcoming events. He noted plans to develop and grow current staff. He described plans to focus on quality national team environments. He indicated that the approximate total cost of the initiatives in Phase IV would be \$30 million.

Mr. Flynn noted that a diversity task force was in place, and invited Mr. Gulati to speak more about it. Mr. Gulati explained that the committee had hired a polling company to do a study on the demographics of USSF's members.

A number of board members asked questions regarding the overall capital investment plan outlined by Mr. Flynn. Mr. Rothenberg then **MOVED** to approve the plan outlined by Mr. Flynn, with the understanding that more specific details on initiatives would be brought before the Board as the plans become more focused. The motion **PASSED** by majority vote.

ADDITIONAL REPORTS

Dr. Contiguglia introduced Brad Hays, the new president of the U.S. Soccer Foundation. At Dr. Contiguglia's request, Mr. Hays described the goals of the Foundation and its desire to support the Federation.

Dr. Contiguglia asked Don Garber to give a report for the Pro Council. Mr. Garber noted that Nelson Rodriguez was taking the board seat of Kevin Crow, and that Matt Weibe was taking the board seat of Lynn Morgan.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Bill Goaziou reported on the current state of USSF assets and liabilities. He asked Dan Flynn to comment on a large accounts receivable due from Champions World. Mr. Flynn noted that the funds were overdue, but that he had a lengthy conversation with the president of Champions World, and USSF expected the money to be paid in the next few days.

Dave Eldridge presented the budget for 2005. Bob Palmeiro **MOVED** to approve the budget. Dave Askinas **MOVED** to amend to budget to add \$25,000 for a joint venture between USASA and USL involving a match with the England's National Game 11. The amendment **PASSED** by majority vote, with representatives from USASA and USL abstaining. The motion to approve the budget, as amended, **PASSED** by unanimous consent.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The Board reviewed the minutes of the August 14, 2003 Board meeting in Chicago. The minutes were **APPROVED** unanimously. The Board also reviewed the minutes of the portion of the August 14, 2003 Board meeting that took place in executive session. These minutes were **APPROVED** unanimously.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Dr. Contiguglia reported that the National Council meeting would take place on Sunday, March 7, 2004. He also presented a tentative schedule for the rest of the AGM meetings. Mr. Gulati **MOVED** that the date and location of the AGM in New York City be approved. The motion **PASSED** by unanimous consent.

Marypat Bell **MOVED** for the adoption of an amendment to USSF Policy 601-5, proposed by the United Soccer League, which would set the date for defining age groups in youth age groups as January 1. After



discussion of the proposal by the board, Mr. Askinas on behalf of United Soccer League **WITHDREW** the proposed amendment.

Mike Edwards **WITHDREW** his motion from the previous meeting to set a moratorium on fees.

NEW BUSINESS

Marypat Bell **MOVED** for the adoption of an amendment to USSF Policy 214-1, proposed by Bill Goaziou, which would set new deadlines for the payment of fees and the calculation of registration totals. Dave Messersmith **MOVED** to amend the proposal so that the payment schedules for National Affiliates, National Members, and Other Affiliates is the same as it is for National Associations. The motion to amend **PASSED** by unanimous vote. The motion, as amended, **PASSED** by unanimous vote.

Brooks McCormick **MOVED** to approve the nominees put forth by the Referee Committee for the FIFA International Panel of Referees, Assistant Referees, and Futsal Referees. The motion **PASSED** by unanimous consent.

INFORMATIONAL UPDATE

Katherine Hope provided an update on the election process for the new referee directors. It was agreed that a reminder would be sent out by the USSF Communications Center to remind those eligible to vote.

Dave Messersmith raised the issue of suspensions and how they are recognized between organizations. He noted that there had recently been a situation between two state associations, and asked Alison Kocoras to explain the details. There was a discussion about suspension issues and the need to have increased communication about suspensions.

GOOD OF THE GAME

Bob Palmeiro congratulated the Women's team on their performance in the Women's World Cup. Brooks McCormick noted that the deadline for naming participants for the Open Cup was a week before the Region 3 tournament, and asked that the deadline be moved back. Mike Edwards thanked Dan Flynn for his work with USASA on several issues. Linda Hamilton noted how important WUSA is, and hoped that everyone would work to bring it back.

President Contiguglia adjourned the meeting at 1:25 p.m.

