



Board of Directors - Teleconference Minutes

DATE: March 7, 2016

LOCATION: Teleconference

TIME INITIATED: 17:32 ET

DURATION: 61 minutes

Board Member Attendees:

Dr. Harvey Schiller, President and Chairman

Bob Djokovich

Attila Agoston

David Palmer

Tomuke Ebuwei

Alan Dizdarevic

Jennie Choi

David Thompson - excused for professional responsibilities

Mike Mcnees - absent

Reita Clanton - Auburn OTS Board Liaison - excused for professional responsibilities

Staff:

Michael D. Cavanaugh - appointed secretary for this meeting

Guest:

Ken Waugh

General: Meeting called to order at 17:32, no conflict of interest voiced about agenda items, quorum established, meeting secretary appointed

President's Report: Dr. Schiller thanked everyone for their time and participation. He indicated that we continue to make organizational progress; we still struggle with funding issues. He spoke that as a Board we need to decide on long range focus. Should our focus be on continuing to be relevant for 2019/2020 and should that include long term goals related to 2024!

CEO Report: **Administrative Assistant** position had 10 applicants, they were paper screened, and three were interviewed by BD and MC. Hire expected within 10 days. The Person hired will be assigned to give some time during their 10 hour work week to social media / website as well as special projects in getting bids out for 2017/2018 Open and College Nationals, updating and reactivating working committees, updating employee handbook, crafting and maintaining a calendar of events for USATH and other assigned duties. **IHF Equipment** has been ordered and locations determined for shipping / receiving. Bulk to be stored at Auburn, Beach to go to safe keeping in Southern California. IHF asked us to see if we could source goals in USA to avoid hefty shipping costs. Research has begun - seen as an opportunity. **Rule Changes** go into effect on July 1. Referee committee tasked with the plan for introduction of rule changes within their community and the general membership. Not expected to be in place for the 2016 College Nationals and Open Nationals. **Bylaw Revision** ready to be started as BD and MC met with retained counsel, Steve Smith, and he is ready to start the calendar for that process. **Foundation** reported that there was \$32,900 to make grant awards in 2016. The Foundation awarded a match grant of \$5,000 to the Men's Beach Team to compete in VEN in April at the Pan Am Championships and they also awarded a matching grant of \$15,000 to the MNT that are qualified for the MPAC on ARG in June. They are keeping \$12,000 in reserve to for club activities and other developmental projects.

Auditor Report: Ken Waugh went over the audit reports and 990 tax report previously sent to the Board. USATH is all caught up with filings and audits and all penalties from previous late filings have been relieved. Recommendation for internal policy was for the Audit Chair to have read access to USATH accounts and that had already been implemented along with a more detailed process for check approvals for internal controls. USATH remains a financial concern due to low revenue sources. KW presented options to eventually establish corporate registration in Colorado and not in Utah. This will be a lengthy process. MC to work with KW to set the process in motion. The current P&L and Balance Sheet generated by Candy Marturano had been sent to the Board prior to the call for their information.

Recruiting: Attila Agoston reported on his experience with a US Volleyball NT Try-Out at the OTC in COS. Attila got 2-3 minutes at their opening meeting where 220 female athletes were assembled to be seen by elite VB coaches for NT consideration. He introduced them to a THB option and invited them to a video session later that night. He reported on several athletes being interested and Attila made a report given to WNT Christian Latulippe for follow-up. AA and MC made the effort to thank USVA for this opportunity noting that several athletes made the transition from VB to THB in the past and we also told them that it reflected highly on USVA for 'sharing' their athletes with us as it demonstrated a caring for the future of their most promising athletes.

Auburn: MC previously forwarded to the Board a report generated by Reita Clanton that detailed the development and out-reach programs that are taking place in Alabama. The report demonstrated the real progress being made to implement THB in area and regional

schools. It was also reported that THB will be featured in the June Alabama Sports Festival and THB WNT and MNT athletes will be Grand Marshalls in the Opening Ceremony, be allowed to have a featured demo match, possibly against a CAN or PUR team and that they expect 12 youth teams to compete in the actual ASF tournament from June 10 -12. MC reported that there are 13 athletes attending classes at Auburn University that includes 3 PhD and 10 in undergraduate programs. There are a total of 14 men and 10 women in resident training with additional athletes in the respective NT pool either playing in Europe or with clubs in the US.

College and Open Nationals: MC reports that he recruited Wade Sutton to serve as Competition Director for the 2016 College National Championships and that UNC-Chapel Hill will be the host site for competition taking place April 22- 24. A survey has 13 men's team and 4 women's team expected to enter. Jim Thome will serve as Competition Director for the 2016 Open Nationals. Jim has announced his retirement after this year and that will leave very large shoes to fill in the opinion of MC. Both Wade and Jim are to be commended as their involvement is greatly appreciated by the national office staff. A men's Beach will represent USATH at the Pan Am Championships in VEN in April. They are largely self-funded but have high aspiration for good results in VEN. Dr. Michael Hinson is their main organizer and serves as their Head Coach. USATH Director of Beach Handball, Dennis Berkholtz, is self-funding to be with the USA delegation in VEN.

Jet Set Sports Rio VIK Activation Plan: HS, BD and Alan Dizdarevic have been in meetings to generate an action plan for the best way to turn this sponsor package into incremental revenue of USATH. While AD remains extremely busy with the full impact of the Rio Olympic Games upon him from a business aspect, he is committed to making the most of this opportunity.

Alumni Legacy, Las Vegas Reunion, Club Membership Rebate, Social Media Enhancement: BD spoke to the Board and announced the launch of the Alumni Legacy pages on the website. Credit is due to Mike Lenard for his painstaking focus and investment in bringing order to this effort supported by the hard work of our webmaster Rachel Gomez. He reported that at the Olympian Reunion in Las Vegas, THB was the best represented sport as nearly 52 Olympians, spouses, family and friends were registered participants. The final dinner of the weekend was a big success for THB in terms of promotion and exposure. The club membership rebate has been well received by the major clubs who have taken advantage of the offer. The key is that they are now aware that they are seen as valued and respected members of USATH and that as an organization we want them to succeed and develop. The new webmaster and the administrative assistant will be tasked to put increased effort into enhancing the presence of USATH within social media. This will be a focus area for USATH.

Dr. Schiller and Bob Djokovich had to leave the call as had been expressed at the start of the call at approximately 6:20 ET. A Quorum was lost so the meeting was effectively adjourned.

MC reminded those still on the call that there was a need for them all to return their COI and COE forms as to date only HS, JC and AA had submitted executed forms. MC asked those that remained if the Annual Assembly at York should be a Saturday evening meeting at the hotel or in an effort to possibly attract more members, if it should be held at the venue on Saturday afternoon. A short discussion followed about how last year's evening hotel meeting was attended. Those remaining on the call agreed that the 2016 Annual Assembly should be

staged at the venue on Saturday afternoon in an effort to possibly involve broader participation.

Respectively submitted,

mc