



United States Blind Athletes Association
Board of Director's Meeting
February 1, 2017

Directors present on conference call: Mike Bina, Larry Dickerson, Michael Elliott, James Mastro, Lauren Lieberman, Nancy Louraine, Gary Remensnyder, Peter Paulding, Amy Wasson

Directors absent: Ken Hannah, Danelle Umstead

Staff on conference call: Mark Lucas, Ryan Ortiz

The Board of Directors for the USABA convened for its board meeting via phone conference on February 1st, 2017. The meeting was called to order at 11:00 a.m. by President Michael Bina.

Mike Bina welcomed directors and thanked them for taking the time to participate in this call.

Roll call conducted by Secretary Nancy Louraine. It was verified that a quorum was present for the meeting.

Gary Remensnyder presented a motion to approve the November 4th, 2016, November 5th, 2016 and December 14th, 2016 meeting minutes as corrected. (It was noted that Lauren Lieberman's name was spelled incorrectly). Motion seconded by Jim Mastro. Motion passed unanimously.

Chairman's Report:

Mike Bina provided a written report to the directors prior to the meeting. This report was sent via email with the agenda and other attachments. Highlights of this report included his meeting with Mark Lucas, Executive Director. Items discussed during this two day meeting with Mark included:

- benchmarking successful nonprofits and how critical the relationship is between the board chair and the Executive Director
- the need to develop an operational effort to move forward in future
- formulating a USABA 2020 2X framework to help envision annual phases for growth
- keeping focus on effort to achieve goals in Tokyo in 2020
- brainstorming how to stretch resources and work with others to achieve goals

To help keep on track, Mike and Mark will meet once a week via phone.

Standing Committees:

Mike reviewed committee assignments. Committees are as follows:

- Audit/Finance: Gary Remensnyder, Chair
Mike Bina
Mark Lucas
Ryan Ortiz
- Strategic Direction: Larry Dickerson, Chair
James Mastro
Michael Elliott



Amy Wasson

Mark Lucas

- Fundraising/Revenue and Resource Enhancement: Nancy Louraine, Chair

Ken Hannah

Amy Wasson

Lauren Lieberman

Danelle Umstead

Michael Elliott

Ryan Ortiz

Mark Lucas

- Governance/Nominating: Peter Paulding, Chair

Nancy Louraine

Mike Bina

Mark Lucas

Mike and Mark discussed the possibility of restructuring the board to gain better traction. There were no questions with regards to the Chairman's report.

Board of Director's Commendation:

It was decided to develop a Board of Director's special commendation to be presented to individuals who have helped advance the mission of USABA.

Motion presented by Gary Remensnyder to present the first commendation to Ryan Ortiz for his courage to champion his idea of a goalball Center of Excellence in Fort Wayne. Motion seconded by Larry Dickerson and unanimously approved by the board. Ryan thanked the board, expressed his appreciation and stated this project was a team effort.

Gary presented a motion to present a second Board of Director's commendation to Mark Lucas for his courage in taking this idea to reality. Peter Paulding seconded the motion. Motion approved unanimously. Mark expressed his pride in receiving this award; commended Ryan on his idea as well as the entire team that made it happen.

Executive Director's Report:

Mark updated the board on the goalball Center for Excellence in Fort Wayne. Time has been put into the MOU and developing the Turnstone partnership. The certificate of occupancy has been issued and the team is ready to kick off the goalball season. Teams are on their way to working toward double gold in Tokyo.

Mark announced several programs that will be conducted in the next month.

Mark expressed his excitement in working with Mike Bina as President to help raise the bar and achieve goals of USABA.



Old Business:

Nancy reviewed the draft of the board inventory that has been prepared to identify the skills of the current board. Directors were asked to review the document for accuracy and inform Nancy of any changes. The final copy will be forwarded to Peter for use by the Governance/Nominating committee as a tool in recruiting future board members.

Nancy requested that staff send a current board of directors contact list to all directors.

Committee Reports:

Finance: Gary reported the year-end financial report will be finalized soon and then distributed to directors. A letter of intent has been signed with an independent auditor to conduct the annual audit in late March/early April.

Strategic Direction: Larry requested the current strategic plan be sent to committee members.

The other committees had nothing to report at this time.

Turnstone/USABA Memorandum of Understanding:

The entire MOU and a report by the MOU subcommittee were distributed to directors prior to the meeting. Subcommittee members who reviewed the MOU were: Peter Paulding, Jim Mastro, Michael Elliott and Larry Dickerson.

Peter summarized the work of the subcommittee. At the conclusion of the review, the subcommittee voted unanimously to recommend approval to the board and proceed with executing the MOU between USABA and Turnstone. The recommendation was seconded by Nancy Louraine. No questions or discussion from directors. Recommendation of subcommittee to proceed with signing of the MOU was approved unanimously by the board.

Mike expressed his appreciation to the subcommittee for their work in vetting this document.

Directors were reminded that the next board of director's meeting is May 3rd, same time, same phone number.

Other Business/Announcements:

Peter suggested we consider having someone speak to the board about how to approach fundraising and establish a planned giving program.

Lauren thanked Mike for his leadership. Mike stated he is looking forward to everyone's involvement. With no further business to come before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 11:37 EST.

Respectfully submitted: Nancy Louraine, Secretary