



**United States Blind Athletes Association  
Board of Directors Meeting  
November 1, 2018**

**Directors Present:** Michael Bina, Amy Wasson, Larry Dickerson, Ken Hannah (phone), Gary Remensnyder, Paul Shields, Matt Simpson, Britany Wozny (phone)

**Directors Absent:** Timothy Vlach, Danelle Umstead

**Staff Present:** Mark Lucas

The meeting of the Board of Directors for USABA was called to order by Michael Bina at 8:30 a.m. in Colorado Springs, CO. Roll call conducted by Secretary Matt Simpson.

Mike Bina welcomed the directors and thanked them for taking the time to participate in the meeting and for all their support.

Mike asked the board to introduce themselves and answer a few ice breaker and professional questions, including their long-term goal for USABA. Each board member answered as follows:

- Matt Simpson: Double revenue in 5 years
- Gary Remensnyder: 2-5-million-dollar revenue increase in 3-5 years
- Larry Dickerson: Solidify Paralympic Sport Organization (PSO) membership with USOC
- Amy Wasson: exposure—amplify what USABA does through Anthem
- Paul Shields: Grow in influence, pipeline, etc.
- Ken Hannah: Every blind child has the opportunity to compete in sports
- Britany Wozny: After solidifying PSO status, gain more notoriety for USABA, grow smart, enhance board engagement
- Mike Bina: Double revenue, increase membership (children and youth need the opportunity to compete), impact (getting more people involved), change public attitudes about blindness
- Mark Lucas; Increase revenue to 1.5 million in the next two years, in four years to 2 million, in 6 years 2.5-3 million—all to add more life-changing sports opportunities for people who are blind

The minutes of the August 10, 2018, board meeting were provided in advance and reviewed by the directors. There being no objections, Matt Simpson moved to approve the minutes as written. Seconded by Larry Dickerson. Motion carried to approve.

**Chairman's report: Mike Bina**

Dr. Bina reports that he is pleased with staff on the progress of current initiatives. Dr. Bina and Mark Lucas continue to have regular weekly meetings on strategic advancement and staff goals.

Regarding the pending changes to USABA bylaws, Dr. Bina asked the attorney from the Maryland School for the Blind for assistance. Plans for these updates continue to move forward. We will plan to have a special meeting to adopt the bylaws in the upcoming months.



Dr. Bina reports that he has two revisions to the meeting agenda: an executive session before we adjourn. Second, decide on our annual board meeting; should we visit another city and or add additional in-person meetings throughout the year.

**Executive Director's report:** Mark Lucas

Several key initiatives to report include:

- This year, USABA received its largest foundation grant ever which is from the Anthem Foundation.
- Our application for Paralympic Sport Organization status continues to move forward. This initiative sets us up well to strengthen our current partnership and relevance within the United States Olympic Committee.
- USABA and partnership with Turnstone continues to strengthen as Turnstone recently received their USOC Paralympic Site Designation from the USOC.
- Plans continue to move forward with USABA and IBSA co-hosting the 2019 IBSA Goalball & Judo Qualifying Event in Ft. Wayne, Indiana, June 30-July 10. More than 500 delegates are expected to attend including 16 men's & 16 women's goalball teams and approximately 200 judo athletes.
- The organization added two staff in 2018; National Fitness Challenge Program Consultant Tracy Kinoshita in June, and Director of Development Pam McGonigle in September.
- Staff continue to oversee, monitor and are transparent on implementing the USOC's Safe Sport initiative including our own policies.
- Established a newly-formed Fundraising and Revenue Generation Committee with five non-board members advising staff.

**Nominating and Governance Report:** Matt Simpson

Paralympic Sport Organization (PSO) application and the corresponding updates to the bylaws are the most pressing governance issues at the moment.

Paul Shields moves to transition the current NGC into a Bylaws Transition Committee with its current membership plus the board chair and executive director. The committee will be chaired by the current chair of the Nominating and Governance Committee.

Seconded by Larry Dickerson. Motion passes

Dr. Bina adjourned the Morning session at 11:30 a.m.

Afternoon session convened at 1:00 p.m.

Call to Order by Dr. Bina.

**Strategic Direction Committee Report:** Larry Dickerson

Slight modifications have been made to the previous plan.



Initially suggested to include a statement about our emphasis on goalball, but after listening to discussion this morning, not necessary or advisable given that we can reflect that emphasis in our management plan which is reflected in our strategic plan.

Motion to approve 2019 strategic direction plan by Larry Dickerson. Seconded by Matt Simpson. Motion passes

### **Budget Report:** Gary Remensnyder

The Veteran's Administration (VA) allocated 18k less than proposed.

The Anthem Foundation grant is 342k, our largest ever single grant which will impact 450 participants from 17 agencies across U.S.

We missed our target of 40 individual, 1k donors. Remainder of shortfall was explained by doing only one direct mail campaign instead of four.

We are expected to make 2018 revenue budget of 1.2 million, on target for 1.44 million in 2019.

Motion to approve the budget by Amy Wasson. Seconded by Larry Dickerson. Motion approved.

### **Staff presentations**

Kevin Brouard (Membership and Outreach Manager):

- In general, we want to expand grassroots programs that touch the average blind person

Courtney Patterson (Marketing Director):

- We want to place an added emphasis on analytics and data in our strategic efforts to educate and reach as many people as possible.

Pam McGonigle (Development Director):

- With the new position we will be evaluating new fundraising strategies from the ground up.

### **Executive Session**

Dr. Bina moves to go into Executive session. Seconded by Matt Simpson. Motion passes.

Executive session ends at 4:30 p.m.

### **Adjournment**

Larry Dickerson moved to adjourn. Paul Shields seconded. The motion passed, and President Bina adjourned the meeting.



**November 2, 2018, 8:30 AM**

Chairman Bina reconvened the board of directors for a special elections meeting.

Present: Matt Simpson, Larry Dickerson, Michael Bina, Garry Remensnyder, Amy Wasson, Paul Shields.

Dr. Bina being the only director whose term expired at the end of the year, Matt Simpson, chair of the nominating and governance committee recommended Dr. Bina for another four-year term pursuant to the current USABA bylaws. Having been appropriately vetted and nominated in accordance with the bylaws, Dr. Bina's nominating was duly considered and approved by the nominating and governance committee. Matt Simpson moved to vote on the nomination of Dr. Bina for another term. Larry Dickerson seconded. The motion to elect Dr. Bina for another four-year term as board chair was passed unanimously.

Matt Simpson moved to adjourn. Gary Remensnyder seconded. Dr. Bina adjourned the meeting at 8:35 AM.