

**Summary of the Meeting of the  
Board of Directors of the United Soccer Coaches Association**  
Sunday, April 29, 2020  
Board Call



Board Members in attendance: Lynn Berling-Manuel (non-voting, *ex officio* board member – CEO), David Carr, Ashlee Fontes-Comber, Andy Haile, Haroot Hakopian, Warren Mersereau, Rusty Oglesby, Missy Price, Sue Ryan (voting, *ex officio* board member – Advocacy Council Chair), and Kevin Sims.

Staff Members in attendance: Beth Sullivan

**Call to Order**

President Kevin Sims commenced the conference call at 9:00am Eastern Time, Wednesday, April 29, 2020.

**1. Welcome Remarks – K. Sims**

- Mr. Sims provided brief welcome remarks and checked in with all Board and staff members in attendance. The Board discussed various preliminary issues, including that the Association may need to start focusing its programming on the reintegration of players back into the game once governing authorities have allowed play to resume.

**2. Approval of Minutes – A. Haile**

- **Minutes from the April 8, 2020 and April 15, 2020 Board conference calls were approved.**

**3. 2021 Board Election Discussion – K. Sims/M. Price**

- Mr. Sims asked Missy Price (Board liaison to the Nominations and Elections Committee) to lead discussion related to various issues relating to the election of a new director in 2021 in light of the COVID-19 concerns.
- Ms. Price presented the Board with several questions for consideration, including whether to adjust the election process or timing based on the potential impact on participation due to coronavirus.
- Board members expressed consensus that at this point, with elections scheduled for almost nine months away (January 2021), the Nominations and

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Elections Committee should continue to proceed as if elections will occur according to regular schedule.

- Board members also suggested that the Committee may want to consider creating a video or some other way to explain to members that when voting for the fourth vice-president, that person will ultimately serve as the Association's president.
- Ms. Price requested that national staff look at opportunities for an app (either as part of the Convention app or in conjunction with it) that will allow Convention attendees to vote for the new Board member using their phone. Lynn Berling-Manuel said that previous efforts to use such an app have run into security concerns. She offered, however, that the staff will research whether any technological improvements have been able to address this concern.
- With respect to "succession planning," Ms. Price mentioned that Rusty Oglesby has been suggested as serving as the next Board liaison to the Nominations and Elections Committee. Mr. Oglesby expressed no objection to assuming this role.

**4. Summer Board Meeting – K. Sims**

- Mr. Sims discussed with the Board whether to proceed with the summer Board meeting in Kansas City.
- Due to safety and financial considerations, the Board agreed that the July Board meeting should take place remotely, rather than in person.
- Typically, the Board would consider the next fiscal year's budget proposal at the July Board meeting. The Board asked that Ms. Berling-Manuel begin budget discussions in several conference calls leading up to July, to allow the Board adequate time and opportunity to consider various budget alternatives.

**5. Advocacy Council – S. Ryan/K. Sims**

- Sue Ryan, Advocacy Council Chair, updated the Board on developments within the Advocacy Council. Ms. Ryan shared a Disabilities Allies Advocacy Group newsletter, which demonstrated substantial interaction between that advocacy group and the Latino Coaches Advocacy Group. Ms. Ryan said that the various advocacy groups are finding more ways to communicate with their members and interact with other groups.
- Ms. Ryan reported that the current advocacy group leadership and structure are both working well, with members finding creative and new ways to take advantage of the community of coaches with common backgrounds and interests.

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*Following that discussion, a motion to adjourn was made, seconded, and approved.*