



USA Rugby Board Meeting

Private Dining Room 1
Hilton Hotel
South Michigan Avenue
Chicago

Friday 31st, October, 2014

MINUTES

Role Call: Bob Latham (Chairman), Will Chang (Vice-Chairman), Peter Seccia, Rob King, Chad Keck, Bob Kimmitt, Gary Heavner, Brian McClenahan, Pam Kosanke.

Nigel Melville (CEO, Jim Snyder (CFO)

Meeting Commenced: 8am

Section 1 - Chairman

- 1.1 Chairman's Address (Bob Latham) Bob welcomed the board to Chicago, an exciting weekend ahead. Congratulated the Trust Board on a fine Gala Dinner the previous evening and was looking forward to more events later in the day and the game tomorrow. A lot of interesting developments taking place with the setting up of Rugby International Marketing, partnership with IMG, Olympic qualification and RWC 2015 now just months ahead. Bob then introduced special guest Brett Gosper (CEO IRB) and thanked him for his support of USA Rugby and commended him on the progress he is making for the global game.
- 1.2 Minutes of meeting August 22nd, 2014 approved electronically.
- 1.2 Matters arising (NM) – There were no matter arising.
- 1.3 Special Guest (IRB CEO Brett Gosper) – Brett congratulated the USA Rugby Board on the progress being made growing the game in the USA. The event at the weekend was a great opportunity to raise the awareness of the sport in the USA and around the world. Outlining his role as CEO, he admitted that it was very different to working in the 'for profit' world where decisions and progress happen at greater pace. The good news is that rugby is a growth sport at all levels, participation, broadcast, commercial, interest in live sport continues.

Bret fielded questions form the Board.

Section 2 – Reports

2.1 CEO Report (NM) – CEO report circulated ahead of the meeting (attached)

2.2 Finance Report (Jim Snyder, CFO) – Jim Snyder and Audit Chairman, Rob King updated the board on the financial position and confirmed that USA Rugby are set to exceed their planned surplus for 2014. (Financial report attached).

2.3 IRB (BL) – Bob updated the board on his recent IRB meetings specifically relating to the challenges facing North America. It is unlikely that change will happen before the Rugby World Cup.

2.4 Rugby International Marketing (CK) Chad confirmed that the company is now set up and the board have met. The license agreement between USA Rugby and RIM is being finalized. Chad then presented the Mission for RIM and outlined the next steps. Presentation attached.

2.5 Fundraising – Nikki Wiederaenders (Executive Director, USAR Trust) Nikki joined the meeting and outlined her plans for the continued development of the Trust, specifically increasing the number of Board Members, creating improved resources that clearly set out the goals of the trust and the programs that the Trust are supporting. Nikki thanks those on the board who had donated to the Trust and encouraged others to follow suit. Bob Kimmitt outlined the process for engaging with Government and how this may help the Trust in the future. Bob to support this process and also connect Bob/Nigel with the US Ambassador in London.

2.6 Athlete Advisory Council (BM/PK) Brian and pam gave a brief over view of the progress they are making, a more comprehensive presentation will be made at the next Board meeting as the meeting had to adjourn to

2.7 Rugby World Cup Sevens 2018 (WC)

2.8 2015 Congress Meeting (BL)

2.9 2015 Board Schedule (BL)

The meeting closed at 11.35am.

