

USS Board of Directors 09/30/19 Meeting Minutes

In attendance for the conference call on 09/30/2019 of the USS Board of Directors (“BOD”) were USS BOD President; Mark Carleton, Vice President; Susan Sandvig-Shobe, Treasurer; Andy Kelly, Secretary; Rusty Smith, Pat Maxwell, Sheree Mehring, Ryan Bedford, Ellie Ochowicz, and Duncan White. The listed members in attendance constitutes a quorum of the Board. USS Executive Director Ted Morris, USS Director of Finance Dale Schoon and USS AAC Chairman Carlijn Schoutens were also in attendance.

Meeting minutes were recorded by USS Membership Coordinator Sara Bowles

1) **Welcome**

Meeting was called to order by Mr. Carleton at 6:04 p.m.

2) **Finance Report**

Mr. Schoon shared that the independent audit has been completed with no issues reported. The USS 2018/19 990 tax filing is also complete and posted on the USS website. USS ended the year with a net surplus of \$53,000.

Mr. Schoon presented an updated forecast for the 2019/20 budget which currently shows a small surplus. Revenue is up due to additional grants, sponsorship and successful fundraising programs including the VIP bike camp in June.

Mr. Morris shared that there is still concern with a significant amount of revenue still to be secured before USS hits its targets.

3) **U.S. Speedskating Foundation (USSF) Report**

Mr. Schoon reported that the approved USSF bylaw amendments were filed with the state of Missouri and they issued a certificate of approval. The USSF is looking at two-chapter events during this year. The first one is planned in the Atlanta area and the second one would be held in the Bay Area.

4) **USOPC Update**

Mr. Morris shared his update from the recently concluded U.S. Olympic Assembly. The USOPC Leadership stressed the importance of becoming a more athlete centric organization. There’s concern from many NGB’s on the escalating costs for the US Center for SafeSport. The Center continues to deal with an increased number of reports and needs to increase staff to deal with the volume.

Mr. Morris will meet soon with the USOPC to discuss funding for our development pipeline. The USOPC has expressed an understanding that they need to help with grassroots growth if USS is going to have continued success at the Olympic Games.

The USOPC feels good about their revenue through 2028 given the fixed contributions from LA2028 and their continued success with fundraising. Mr. Morris also shared that US Speedskating received an award for growth in Diversity and Inclusion from the USOPC, which came with a \$5,000 grant.

5) AAC Update

Mr. Bedford reported that the USOPC AAC is working with others to engage with a lobbyist to push legislation that would provide increased federal funding for The U.S. Center for SafeSport.

Ms. Schoutens shared that staff brought a report forward to the AAC about a relationship between a staff member and an athlete. The AAC deliberated and made a recommendation to staff that the relationship should be shared with all staff and athletes, the parties should acknowledge the conflict of interest, and proper boundaries will be set.

6) ISU Update

Mr. Morris reported on the work of the ISU Event Marketing Group of Nations and the follow-up meeting held in Switzerland last week. The ISU has agreed to increase their event hosting support beginning in the 2020/21 season. There was also a sharing of best practices on how to promote ISU events. There continues to be excellent collaboration between the U.S., The Netherlands, Poland, Japan and Canada.

7) Executive Director Report

- High Performance / Staff – USS is fully staffed. Thibaut Fauconnet was hired as the Short Track Assistant Coach. He was an elite athlete for France for much of the last decade and brings a tremendous amount of experience and knowledge. Ryan Shimabukura is still recovering from his health issues. In the interim, Matt Kooreman is stepping up and taking on Ryan's responsibilities while he is out. Long Track coach Gabriel Girard is in Salt Lake and making strong connections with the team. Short Track World Cup Trials will be held this weekend in Salt Lake City.
- Development / Membership – USS hosted a development camp in August for both long track and short track athletes. Both disciplines were able to train with the respective National Training programs and they attended many educational activities and seminars. Matt and Andrea did a great job leading the camp. Skaters, parents, and coaches were all extremely pleased. Chris Needham hosted an American Development

Model (ADM) Summit in Milwaukee which went very well with many coaches in attendance. Membership numbers look strong for the coming season.

- Marketing / Fundraising / Communications – Apollo Ohno is being inducted into the USOPC Hall of Fame on Nov 1! We have officially renewed our partnership with Toyota. They will be an active partner of USS' at least through the 2022 Olympic Games. USS is looking to host corporate events at the Speed Factory to generate revenue for the organization and athletes. Staff shared a marketing piece with the BOD to promote those opportunities and try to get athletes involved to put money in their pockets. 88 and Counting is scheduled for Nov 1 at the Blind Dog in Park City.

8) Legal Update

No Update.

9) New Business

No new business.

10) Conclusion

Meeting was concluded at 7:14 p.m.