

MINUTES
UNITED STATES SOCCER FEDERATION, INC.
BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S MEETING
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA
FEBRUARY 23, 2007
8:00 A.M. PACIFIC TIME

PRESENT: Sunil Gulati, Mike Edwards, Bill Goaziou, Bill Bosgraaf, Paul Caligiuri, Dr. S. Robert Contiguglia, Daniel Flynn, Don Garber, Burton Haines, Linda Hamilton, Brooks McCormick, Mike McDaniel, Larry Monaco, Kevin Payne, Peter Vermes.

IN ATTENDANCE: Dave Eldridge, Jay Berhalter, Timothy Pinto, Richard Matthys, Gregory Fike, Asher Mendelsohn, Brad Hays.

President Gulati called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

Asher Mendelsohn took roll call and announced that a quorum was present.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The Board reviewed the minutes of the November 11, 2006 Board meeting in Frisco and the December 7, 2006 and January 10, 2007 meetings by telephone conference. Larry Monaco **MOVED** to amend the minutes of the November 11th meeting. The motion **PASSED**. The minutes were **APPROVED** unanimously.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Gulati updated the Board regarding the progress of the Federation since the National Council meeting in Las Vegas. He informed the Board that Kevin Payne has been heading up the technical review of soccer in the United States and that he has focused on the men's side of the game during the last year. He stated that a parallel effort on the women's side of the game would start shortly. President Gulati updated the Board on the progress of U.S. Soccer's mass media efforts. He informed the Board that roughly eight million people watched the U.S. Men's National team beat Mexico on February 7, 2007. President Gulati also told the Board that it was likely that the United States would host the 2009 FIFA Congress. Furthermore, he informed the Board about U.S. Soccer's plan to explore hosting the Men's World Cup in 2018. It was **MOVED** that the Board pass a resolution in support of the United States hosting the Men's World Cup in 2018. The motion **PASSED** unanimously. Sunil informed the Board that U.S. Soccer had hired four full-time referees.

SECRETARY GENERAL'S REPORT

Dan Flynn updated the Board on U.S. Soccer's business plan for the future. He highlighted U.S. Soccer's plans and progress in player development, coaching and referees. He discussed U.S. Soccer's major events including a potential match against Mexico in February of 2008. Mr. Flynn also discussed events and promotion of the Women's program including a special breast



cancer awareness uniform this May. Mr. Flynn told the Board that new jerseys would be released for both the men's and women's teams this year.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Bill Goaziou informed the Board that U.S. Soccer is in a strong financial position. Mr. Goaziou requested that \$10 million be moved into U.S. Soccer's Bear Stearns account. It was **MOVED** that \$10 million be transferred into U.S. Soccer's Bear Stearns account. The motion **PASSED**.

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE REPORT

Kevin Payne updated the Board on the activities of the Technical Committee. It was the consensus of the committee that soccer players in the United States were behind their counterparts around the world and needed to improve to be on par with countries that regularly compete to win the World Cup. The task force has looked at several concepts to improve the quality of our players in the U.S., which address the current weakness in the developmental process. He informed the Board that the Technical Committee would be creating several subcommittees to address different aspects of the development process and the associated challenges.

FOUNDATION REPORT

Brad Hays updated the Board on the activities of the U.S. Soccer Foundation.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

President Gulati updated the Board regarding the nomination of independent directors. He informed the Board that Carlos Cordeiro was currently the only candidate for the independent director position because another potential candidate removed her name at the last minute. President Gulati told the Board that he intended to ask the National Council for permission to extend the time to nominate and elect a new director by 120 days and to have the election by mail ballot. It was **MOVED** to recommend Mr. Cordeiro as an independent director to the National Council. The motion **PASSED**.

WOMEN'S LEAGUE APPLICATION

President Gulati informed the Board that U.S. Soccer received a preliminary application for a first division women's soccer league that would commence play in 2008. Tonya Antonucci reported to the Board the details of the women's professional league and the locations of the teams. President Gulati appointed Burton Haines, Robert Contiguglia and Linda Hamilton to review the application from the league.

NEW BUSINESS

Tim Pinto updated the Board on the status of three grievances recently filed.

CHAMPIONS CUP

Mr. Flynn updated the Board regarding the selection process for inclusion in the Champions Cup, CONCACAF's regional club tournament. The current United States participants in the Champions Cup are the MLS Supporter's Shield winner and the MLS Cup winner. Tim Holt and Francisco Marcos addressed the Board regarding USL's request that the winner of the Lamar Hunt U.S. Open Cup be entered in the Champions Cup. Mr. Payne and Mr. Garber presented the



MLS position that entrance to the Champions Cup should remain the same unless more slots for the United States were added by CONCACAF. The Board discussed the merits of the proposal by USL. It was **MOVED** to continue the current system of entry into the Champions Cup. The motion **PASSED**. Don Garber and Kevin Payne abstained from voting on this issue.

NEW POLICIES

Mr. Pinto informed the Board that Policies 102(4)-1 and 212-1 were on the agenda to be referred to the Rules Committee. It was **MOVED** to refer the above policies to the Rules Committee. The motion **PASSED**.

Mr. Pinto presented the Rules Committee recommendation for Policy 241-1 concerning the recognition of disciplinary actions. The Board debated the merits of the new policy. It was **MOVED** to postpone consideration of this policy until the next live Board meeting. The motion **PASSED**.

Mr. Pinto presented the Rules Committee recommendations for the amendment to Policy 521-1 concerning the authorization of participation in competitions outside of the United States. It was **MOVED** to adopt the amendment to Policy 521-1. The motion **PASSED**.

Mr. Fike presented the Rules Committee recommendations for the proposed amendment to Policy 531-1 and new Policy 531-11 regarding the State Referee Committees. It was **MOVED** to postpone consideration of the proposed amendment and policy until the next live Board meeting. The motion **PASSED**.

Mr. Pinto presented the recommendations of the Rules Committee for the proposed amendment to Policy 531-9 regarding referee assault and abuse. The Board discussed the merits of the amendment. It was **MOVED** to adopt the amendment to Policy 531-9. The motion **PASSED**.

Mr. Fike presented the recommendations of the Rules Committee for the proposed amendment to Policy 531-10 regarding misconduct by referees. The Board discussed the merits of the amendment. It was **MOVED** to adopt the amendment to Policy 531-10. The motion **PASSED**.

Mr. Fike presented the recommendations of the Rules Committee for the proposed amendment to Policies 701-1, 705-1 and 705-2 conforming the Policies to the Appeals Committee jurisdiction under the Bylaws. It was **MOVED** to adopt the amendments to Policies 701-1, 705-1 and 705-2. The motion **PASSED**.

ADA ISSUES

Larry Monaco updated the Board regarding some issues that State Associations have had in determining compliance with the American Disabilities Act. He asked that U.S. Soccer get outside legal advice regarding these issues. Mr. Pinto requested an opportunity to address this issue in Executive Session

GOOD OF THE GAME

Mr. Payne informed the Board about his trip with President Gulati to the Copa America draw. Mr. Garber updated the Board on the success of MLS and the excitement surrounding the



upcoming season. Linda Hamilton expressed her hope that the Women's league would be a success. Dr. Contiguglia told the Board that he took an E-licensing coaching course and was impressed with the curriculum and the quality of the coaches that were taking the course.

[At this point, the Board went into Executive Session. The minutes for this session are contained in a separate document.]

