

**Special Olympics Iowa
Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting
Monday, April 18, 2016 5:30 p.m., Grimes, Iowa**

Board Members present: Steve Palmer (Chair), Jill Southworth (Vice Chair), Brian Wessels (Treasurer), Neil Berns (Secretary), Lynn Clayton, Charity Hodson, Lana Voga, Ted Oberlander, Jill VanDerPol, Dr. Mary Stevens, Joanne Whitmore

Board Members present via conference call: Kathy Lively, Michael Lightbody

Board Members not present: Joe Ramirez, Stu Sorrel, Ken Rizer, Deb Eldred, Keith Saunders, Jack Ohle

Meeting Recap

1. Welcome

2. Athlete Update

Charity has a new job at the YMCA, and works Tuesday's and Thursday's, and is watching kids up to 9 years old. She will be competing in the 100m and 200m dash. Feedback from some of the swimmers who will be competing at districts at the YMCA, and have requested that there be a souvenir stand at the competition. Charity also shared an experience from districts in track where she had another athlete so proud of his friend who was competing in the wheelchair races.

a. Charity spoke at End the Word

3. Acceptance of Prior Meeting Minutes

Steve asked for additions or deletions to the minutes. Jill Southworth motioned to approve minutes from the prior meeting, seconded by Lana Voga, and approved by unanimous consent.

4. Introduction of New Staff Members

Stephanie Kocer: Marketing and Communications manager from Austin, MN graduated from Drake with journalism major.

5. CEO Update

- a. Kim Lively got recognized at Big 12 championship, received championship ring, on channel 5
- b. All Iowa Elite program with Peyton Manning is coming up on June 18th. Gary has arranged for Special Olympic athletes to meet and take a photo with Peyton Manning.
- c. Picking up additional speaking opportunities for athletes (Wakonda, Business Solver, Miss Teen America, Farm Bureau others)
- d. License plate bill has passed the house and senate and on to Governor to sign. Looking to include athletes in the signature. Also looking to get on Governors list of top charities
- e. Setting up first regional meeting of all CEOs of Special Olympics, which is expected to open up training opportunities.

- i. Gary was elected to the United States Leadership Council (USLC) on the national level.
- f. We put together an ask for Unified Strategies for schools grant for \$100k.
- g. Applied for healthy athlete grant – got 150 fit bits
- h. New “inclusion” banner is displayed in lobby, and will be prominent at Summer Games
- i. Worked with Lana to rebuild the board book.
- j. Finished audit with 3 small notables
 - i. Some prepays need rebooked
 - ii. Reclassified some items from one item to another
 - iii. Got Lindburgh Trust reclassified
- k. Marathon is this weekend in Indianola
- l. \$284k check from ISU

6. Departmental Update

- a. Development Report: see report
- b. Program Report: see report
- c. Financial Report
 - i. Expect to be a deficit at this time due to January expenses, and delayed revenue.
 - ii. Motion to approve financial report and seconded by Jill Southworth and Ted Oberlander. The financial report was approved unanimously.
 - iii. We will ask McGowan-Hurst to present the audited results at the July 18th meeting.

7. Board Involvement with Events – Steve Palmer

- a. Steve encouraged board members to get involved, especially when the event is nearby. Please stop by and thank donors, volunteers and coaches.
- b. Encouraged everyone to provide feedback on groups to approach for plane pull, and for the board to push out the Pigskin Madness tickets, as it has the potential to be a significant fundraiser (up to \$90k).
- c. Ask that board find 5 people to reach out to for the Tailgate for Teammates event.
- d. Steve reminded the board that 100% giving was important to SOIA fundraising efforts.

8. Old Business

- a. Retreat: Scheduled for next Tuesday at Jeanes bottle at 3839 Merle Hay Road at 8:30am. Ted and Stu will step up, and we will work on the strategic plan. Steve encourages SOIA staff to participate as well.
 - i. Process will start by looking at SOIA international plan, and compare to Special Olympics Iowa plan. We will then discuss how to develop and modify the SOIA plan. Will then determine what we will look to accomplish in 2016, and give direction to working committee and allow them to get together to meet over lunch.
 - ii. Handout includes comparison between SOIA and SOI strategic plans. Ted requested that everyone review prior to the retreat, and build a familiarity to the plans.
 - iii. Steve requested RSVPs, and we took them from those present at the meeting.

- iv. Gary emphasized that he would like to come out of the retreat with a strategy and some tactics as well.
- b. Strategic Plan Update
- c. Committee Work – will plan to get on task after the retreat.

9. New Business

- a. Summer Games: Handed out a full schedule, but some events are still subject to change at this point. Had walk through in Ames today with several key committee members.
 - i. Handbook has been updated, and is much easier to use and follow.
 - ii. Opening ceremonies script is being drafted now.
 - iii. We are on schedule and not behind on anything at this point, so we feel we are in good shape.
 - iv. Sally updated group on Bocce ball, which has 120 competitors this year, so we had to accommodate the additional participants by expanding the competition by an hour and adding an additional court. Has allowed us include all athletes, and not turn anyone away this year.
 - v. Jordan updated group on record keeping for volunteers. Expect 1,500 to 2,000 volunteers. We have extended volunteer sign-up deadline.
 - vi. Registration deadline was extended from April 15th to April 19th.
 - vii. Have hired Terry Barthelmes part time to help with summer games.
 - viii. Steve Palmer encouraged staff and board to attend the VIP reception and opening ceremonies. It is a great opportunity for board members to thank key committee members, and others who make the summer games happen.
- b. New Board Member Discussion: Pam Jochum – Keith Saunders
 - i. Lynn Clayton asked the question of whether or not Pam Jochum was on the appropriations committee, and would cause a conflict of interest.
 - ii. She is also located in North East Iowa, so could also bring some recognition to that area.
 - iii. Unanimous Vote to appoint Pam Jochum to board
- c. Steve asked the board if we should establish Special Olympics hall of fame. Steve has criteria from two other states who have implemented (Texas and Missouri). We already have a kiosk of the Iowa Hall of Pride, but it is not a hall of fame.
 - i. Gary suggested that our current kiosk is out of date.
 - ii. Thought is that we could launch a hall of fame in 2018 for our 50th anniversary to inaugurate the hall of fame.
 - iii. Charity suggested that the athletes would be very excited about this, especially if it were in a place that athletes could easily visit this place.
 - iv. Ted suggested that it fits well in the strategic plan.
 - v. Steve volunteered to lead the effort, but is asking for other volunteers to help with the development of the idea.
- d. John Kliegl asked if anyone has a connection at Nationwide to help with the reach out help connect with Peyton Manning and Dallas Clark.

- e. Motion and second to go into closed session by Neil Berns and Dr. Mary Stevens.
10. Closed Session (Private)
 11. Adjournment: Motion to adjourn and second by Neil Berns and Lana Voga and passed unanimously.