



## **NWBA Board of Directors Meeting Minutes**

April 6, 2016

Call to Order: 9:14 a.m.

Location: National Tournament, Louisville, KY

### **Present:**

**Board of Directors:** Jay Abraham, Michelle Alban, Sarah Castle (President), Bruce Fischbach (Vice President), Curtis Lease, Pat McCoy, Lee Montgomery, Jon Pritchett, Jim Scherr (Ex-Officio/Executive Director) and Scott Voskovitch (Secretary)

**Staff:** Anthony Bartkowski (Director, Marketing, Communications, Events)

**Absent:** Mark Crear, Tim Howell, Jon Pritchett

### **Discussion Topics:**

1. President Sarah Castle opened the meeting.
2. The minutes from the January 21, 2016 were reviewed.
  - a. Motion to approve minutes as presented made by Pat McCoy, seconded by Curtis Lease.
  - b. Passed unanimously. Approved.
3. Castle reviewed the annual delegate meeting agenda with the board. Discussion about the vision of the membership is the desire for "teamwork."
4. Executive Director Jim Scherr provided a management report.
  - a. Strategic plan dashboard and initiatives for 2016
  - b. National Team progress reports
    - i. Men's team has 16 players and cuts need to happen for a roster of 12 athletes.
    - ii. The women's team is carrying 11 athletes, and has potential to add one more in the future.
  - c. Brand & Sponsorship overview program
    - i. The NWBA is a great cause and the brand are sellable. We need to confirm brand attributes to lead logo revamp. Overview of the branding campaign we anticipate to start leading into the Paralympic Games and the start of the 2016-17 season.
    - ii. Sponsorship. Review of process. Target list coming. Tournament asset review. Merchandising program is under developed.
  - d. Organizational Relationships Report
    - i. ECAC, USA Basketball, USOC, NBA
    - ii. We are in a rebuilding phase with USA Basketball and the NBA. Grants were not given and we need to identify and develop a plan to re-institute.
    - iii. Need to work on perceived lack of interest with NBA and work on plan for future events.



- iv. The ECAC came back with a new proposal where the NWBA would provide support through referees and potential coach education for new programs.
  - v. Need to review team affiliations (how much, impact, etc.)
- e. Building Sale Update
  - i. An offer was made by one potential buyer, however it was contingent upon buyer's other property selling. Unfortunately deal did not happen. The building is still listed for sale.
- f. Lakepoint Update – It is not feasible for the NWBA to move headquarters presently. We are continuing to work with the facility on potential camps and events at their site.
- g. National Tournament Review – By Anthony Bartkowski
  - i. Provided an brief overview of the history of the event. Gave a financial review for the 2016 NWBT and that in line with prior years as contracts were pre-existing. We have interest from several cities to host the event in 2017-18, and feel that several cities will be competing for the NWBA event.
- h. Communications Review – By Anthony Bartkowski
  - i. Initiative to increase communication efforts to internal constituents and externally. Divisional leaders were invited to conference calls and a new member newsletter has been developed.
  - ii. Website and Social Networks are very active with views and interactions increasing dramatically from prior year.
- i. Employee Job Responsibilities – Tabled until Executive Session
- 5. Financial Reports – Jim Scherr gave a 2011-Present Cashflow report. He stressed the importance of reversing cash flow trends and annual deficit spending. As presented with the 2016 operating budget, the goal of the organization is to have a slight positive result of revenues over expenses.
- 6. By-law Amendment Review
  - a. President Castle spoke about the goal of reviewing all current policies over the summer and have the board of directors adopt at its summer meeting.
  - b. The proposed by-law amendments are not in an acceptable format, and should be re-evaluated for implementation as NWBA policies.
- 7. Classification Presentation – President Castle asked for Jen Ruddell and Jayne Chilutti to present to the board a classification update in regards to NWBA policy.
- 8. Board member selection/extension
  - a. President Castle reviewed that the independent members of the board have expired and that she will discuss extensions individually and report to the board at a meeting before the 2016-17 season.
- 9. Committee Appointments – Tabled
- 10. Event Attendance
  - a. Board expressed the importance of sending U.S. teams to the U23 Men's World Championships and U25 Women's World Championships. The staff will evaluate and prioritize these emerging elite level events.
  - b. The Kitayushu Cup event has been a self-funded trip in the past. The Board expressed the importance to try to identify a more competitive team and look at a trying to



identify a developmental coach for the team. President Castle recommends self funding again in 2016.

11. Able-Bodied Playing in NWBA/College Division
  - a. This was voted down by the Board of Directors last year, however the college division had one season pilot program.
  - b. The Board has not received any reports and data from the college division.
12. New/Other Business
  - a. Classification issues regarding two athletes prior to start of NWBT. The board discussion centered on the fact that bylaws and policy offer no remedy for this issue. The board decided no hearings will be conducted and that the athlete classification on record with the NWBA classifiers will remain.
13. Full Board session concluded at 3:24 p.m. Eastern
14. Executive Session convened at 3:24 p.m. Eastern
15. Executive Session concluded at 3:42 p.m. Eastern.
16. Motion to adjourn by Pat McCoy, seconded by Lee Montgomery. Motion passes unanimously. Approved.

Meeting concluded at 3:45 p.m. Eastern.

Respectfully Submitted

Scott Voskovitch, Secretary