



USATT Board Teleconference Minutes December 6, 2021

Board Chair **Richard Char** called the Board Teleconference to order at **6:05 pm** US Mountain time.

Board Members in attendance: **Tara Profitt, Thomas Hu, Dan Reynolds, Kelly Watson, Arjun Chowdri, Will Shortz, Tom Feng** and **Board Chair Char**.

Board Members Not Present: **Brandon Lawrence**

USATT Outside Counsel: **Brian Moran, Esq.** and **Stephen Hess, Esq.**

USATT Foundation: **Tim Crawley, Carl Danner** and **Sheri Cioroslan**

USOPC: **David Patterson**

USATT Staff Present: **Virginia Sung** (CEO), **Mark Thompson** (COO, Athlete Protection Officer, General Secretary), **Jasna Rather** (Para High Performance Director)

Other Persons Present: **Willy Leparulo** (NCTTA), **Kagin Lee, Niraj Oak, James Budenholzer, Michael McFarland**

Board Chair Call for Conflicts

Board Richard Char acknowledged an item on the agenda, specifically the issues related to the election of a Board Chair, on which he will have a potential conflict and states that he will recuse himself from discussion on that issue. Otherwise, no conflicts were noted.

Approval of Minutes from Board Meeting of October 27, 2021

Upon Motion properly presented and seconded, the following Resolution was unanimously approved:

RESOLVED: That the Minutes from the Board Meeting held on October 27, 2021, are approved and formally entered into the record.

Approval of Minutes from Special Board Meeting of December 1, 2021

Upon Motion properly presented and seconded, the following Resolution was approved Seven to One (Thomas Hu voting no):

RESOLVED: That the Minutes from the Special Board Meeting held on December 1, 2021, are approved and formally entered into the record.

Report of the CEO

USATT Chief Executive Officer Virginia Sung reported that the World Table Tennis Championship Finals and the Ping Pong Diplomacy Gala held during the World Championships were a tremendous success. Ms. Sung expressed her sincere gratitude for all who presented, supported and participated in the tournament, the Ping Pong Diplomacy



Gala, including the ITTF, the Houston Sports Authority, and USATT Board Members and USATT Foundation Board Members. Ms. Sung expressed her sincere thanks to Dragomir Cioroslan of the USOPC for his unwavering support and commitment throughout the event. Ms. Sung noted that there were some tough moments at the Annual Governors' Meeting held during the World Championships, but that the support she received from the USATT community during this event was heartening. Ms. Sung and Board Chair Char congratulated Joseph Yick for his appointment to the ITTF Umpire and Referee Committee and Kagin Lee for his appointment to the Equipment Committee for the ITTF.

Ms. Sung expressed her special thanks and support for the US Athletes who participated in the World Championships and particularly Lily Zhang, who became the first US participant to earn a medal since 1959, and Kanak Jha who had an equally historic run to the quarterfinals in the Men's Singles event.

Ms. Sung stated that USATT is about to host the 2021 US Open Table Tennis Championships at the Mandalay Bay Convention Center in Las Vegas, Nevada. There are over 750 participants signed up for the event. USATT is excited for this tournament but is cognizant of the ongoing pandemic and intends to be vigilant to protect the health and safety of the participants.

Ms. Sung also reported that US athletes had tremendous performances at the Junior World Championships, where the US earned two silver medals, and the Pan Am Junior Games, where US athletes won a pair of bronze medals.

Ms. Sung closed by noting that USATT membership is the highest that it has been since before the pandemic and that the organization is in strong financial health but is motivated to continue to learn and improve services for members.

Election of the First and Second Athlete Positions

USATT General Secretary to the Board reported that elections being conducted to choose First and Second Athlete Positions for the USATT Board of Directors are underway with seven candidates vying for two positions. Mr. Thompson stated that USATT is working with the independent election management firm YesElections to ensure that all eligible voters receive a ballot and have a fair opportunity to cast their vote. Mr. Thompson stated that voting on this election will conclude on December 30, 2021, and he expects the election to be certified shortly after the polls close.

Election of the Board Chair

Discussion turned towards the procedures and timing for the election of the USATT Board of Directors Chair. Current Board Chair Richard Char recused himself from the discussion. Board Member Kelly Watson was appointed the temporary Chair for the purpose of managing any motions or other matters during the discussion. USATT outside counsel Stephen Hess, Esq. gave a detailed analysis of the relevant Bylaw provisions impacting the election of Board Chair. Considerable discussion was had amongst the Board Members and counsel, including pro bono outside counsel, Brian Moran, Esq. regarding the term of current Board Chair Char. A motion was made and a roll call vote was held.



Upon Motion properly presented and seconded, the following Resolution was approved five to two (Richard Char abstaining) (Dan Reynolds voting no) (Thomas Hu voting no):

RESOLVED: That Richard Char is elected as Chair of the Board effective as of January 1, 2021 to serve until January 1, 2023 or until his successor is duly elected and qualified. The Board acknowledges and ratifies Richard's service as Chair from January 1, 2021, to date."

Update on the Board of the USATT Foundation

USATT Board Chair Richard Char referenced the USATT Special Board Meeting on December 1 regarding the appointment to the Board of Directors for the USATT Foundation of Tim Crowley, John McFadden and Wai Wong. Mr. Char has spoken to the Foundation Board Chair Carl Danner and advised him of the Board's decision. Mr. Char confirmed that Tim Crowley and Wai Wong have agreed to serve on the Foundation Board and that he is waiting for confirmation of John McFadden's agreement to serve on the Board.

Board Chair Char took a moment to express his sincere gratitude on behalf of USATT and all of its staff and members to Carl Danner for his many years of fine service as the Chair of the USATT Foundation Board. Mr. Danner thanked Mr. Char for his kind words and noted his dedication to doing what is in the best interest of the organization.

Upon Motion properly presented and seconded, the following Resolution was unanimously approved:

RESOLVED: That Carl Danner is hereby recognized and thanked for his years of dedication and service provided as the Chair of the USATT Foundation.

Next Board Meeting – February 7, 2022

Adjournment

It was properly moved, seconded and approved to adjourn the meeting. Board meeting adjourned at 7:14 pm US Mountain time.

Respectfully submitted.

Mark Thompson
USATT General Secretary

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