

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

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DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA STATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

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DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA STATE ATHLETIC COMMISSION

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WINTER MEETING

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TUESDAY

DECEMBER 17, 2019

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The D.C. State Athletic Commission met in Eleanor Holmes Norton Room I, 1050 First Street NE, Washington, D.C., at 6:07 p.m., Rosalyn Overstreet-Gonzalez, Chairperson, presiding.

PRESENT

ROSALYN OVERSTREET-GONZALEZ, Chairperson
KAREN CURRY, Commissioner
DWAYNE FOSTER, Commissioner
DWIGHT FRANKLIN, Commissioner
MICHAEL HUNTER, Commissioner
LARRY CARROLL, Commissioner

ALSO PRESENT

CLARK RAY, Executive Director, DCSAA
SITO NARCISSE, DCPS
KENNY OWENS, DCSAA
SHELBY SWANN, DCSAA
MICHAEL BRYANT, DCPS

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER: The Chairperson called the meeting to order at 6:07 p.m.

ASCERTAINMENT OF QUORUM: The Chairperson determined that there was a quorum. The Commission introduced and welcomed Commissioner Larry Carroll Sr.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM SEPTEMBER 17, 2019 MEETING: The Chairperson entertained a motion to approve the Minutes of the September 17, 2019 Fall Meeting of the Commission. Upon a motion duly seconded the Minutes of the Fall Meeting were unanimously approved.

DIRECTOR'S UPDATE: Director Clark Ray gave the report.

Director Ray remarked that Commissioner Carroll had attended the ceremonial swearing in but had not yet been confirmed by the D.C. Council. Therefore, he may participate but cannot vote, according to the Mayor's Office of Talent and Appointments. General Counsel Aniton was absent on leave.

D.C. fall championship season was successful, with Maret prevailing as Class A football champions and Friendship Collegiate won the Class AA football title under the coaching of Commissioner Mike Hunter. Other fall sports highlights included soccer season at Catholic University as well as cross country at Kenilworth Parkside and volleyball at Trinity. The Director thanked the staff for all their work.

The Director relayed the request of General Counsel Aniton for the Commission to review and move on their Rules of Governance, which were posted for comment via Google Docs after the Fall Meeting. The Rules are coming upon the end of their 30 day comment period per the D.C. Register.

The Director wished everyone a happy holiday.

Commissioner Lynch remarked that he was very impressed by the championship games that he attended.

NEW BUSINESS: The Chairperson relayed a comment from the parent of a charter school student interested in whether the DCSAA could introduce golf into charter school athletics. Director Ray remarked that he had never been asked about golf in charter schools, but that some private schools as well as DCPS offer golf in their athletics curricula, and that the DCSAA would entertain the idea.

Commissioner Lynch commented that money is an issue for athletics programs, noting the addition of boys' volleyball, where the Association, Council, or other stakeholders would have to allocate the resources. Commissioner Foster remarked that DCPS offers

golf in the fall and spring. The Chairperson promised to relay the information to the parent.

Commissioner Franklin asked about the process of adding a sport. The Director said he was not certain. Commissioner Foster echoed the desire to add volleyball among other sports. Commissioner Lynch said volleyball is effective for introducing students to team sports at an early age and with a low cost. The Director remarked that U.S. Volleyball previously approached the Association to develop a sports program. The relationship was not pursued, but the Association could relook at the matter. The Director said volleyball is a Title IX equalizer for boys.

Commissioner Franklin asked Director Ray about the eSports pilot program. The Director replied that the students were interested in participating in the programs but there were issues on the public school side with firewalls blocking access. The Association is working with the Office of the Chief Technology Officer to resolve the issues. The Director communicated with Zach Leonsis of Monumental Sports about the Wizards' investment in the growth of eSports. He would have to circle back to their eSports contact to organize the championships, and identify coaches of the appropriate demographic.

Commissioner Lynch raised the matter of budget issues. The Association had asked for an \$80,000 enhancement for coaches' certification and training as well as an additional \$13,000 to fund fringe and salary benefits for one full time equivalent. Instead, the Mayor gave the Association a \$66,000 cut from last year's budget. The citywide budget would be released in January.

DCSAC RULES OF GOVERNANCE: A copy of the Commission's current Rules of Governance had been posted for comment and review via Google Docs, and was hereupon distributed to the Commissioners. There did not appear to be any comments, and the Chairperson entertained a motion to approve the Rules. She remarked upon the particular need to address leadership.

Commissioner Lynch made a motion to approve the Rules of Governance to open the question to discussion and amendment. Commissioner Franklin seconded the motion.

Commissioner Lynch stated that he had no objection to the rules. Commissioner Foster took exception to Article VIII regarding the length of time required to amend to the Rules of Governance. The Chairperson and Commissioner Hunter remarked that amending the Rules of Governance would ultimately be a question of notice regarding when and for how long Commissioners may submit in writing, deliberate upon, and receive comments upon amendments to the Rules of Governance prior to voting on such amendments at the next regularly scheduled Commission Meeting.

When amending its Rules of Governance, the Commission proposed to submit the proposed draft amendment to the Commissioners in writing, commencing a discussion and comment period of 30 days which must expire before the next regularly scheduled Commission meeting in order for the Commission to vote upon said amendment at said meeting. The Chairperson stated that she would recommend such language to General Counsel Aniton instead of the extant language in Article VIII.

Commissioner Lynch amended his motion to approve the Rules of Governance with the exception of Article VIII, pending the amendment to that article. The amendment was seconded by Commissioner Franklin. The Chairperson called the question and the Commission voted unanimously to approve.

The Chairperson expressed that she'd like for the Commission to have a retreat on a Saturday in the near future to welcome Commissioner Carroll and strategically develop the Commission's mission. The Commissioners said they would be open to a retreat.

ADJOURNMENT: On a motion duly seconded the Commission voted unanimously to adjourn the Winter Meeting at 6:41 p.m.