



Our Mission: *To improve the quality of life for GLBTQ individuals by building community through the sport of volleyball.*

Minutes of the First Meeting of the 2009-2010 Board of Directors Tues. Jun 23, 2009

Location: HAF (Hispanic AIDS Forum) Conference Room
213 West 35th Street

Attendees:

Seth Eichenholtz	Commissioner
Josh Christensen	Vice-Commissioner
Travis Pouliot	Secretary
Rex Chou	Treasurer
Rich Reid	Division 1 Rep
Henry Vera	Division 2 Rep
Greg Hughes	Division 3 Rep
Kleber Suarez	Division 4 Rep
Omar Portillo	Division 5 Rep
Ethan Felson*	Division 6 Rep
Alan Kramer*	Division 7 Rep
Wladimir Thomas	Division 8 Rep
Daryl Cochrane*	Division 9 Rep

Dominic Borgia*	Power Representative
Dan Chen*	Power Representative
Leah Hughey*	Power Representative
Craig Skelton*	Member-At-Large/ League Manager
Billy Bowden*	Member-At-Large/ Power Manager
Joe Hom*	Member-At-Large/ Assistant Secretary
Pam Tong*	Member-At-Large/ Assistant Treasurer
Bob Arcari*	Member-At-Large/ Tournament Director & Programming/Events
Lew Smith*	Member-At-Large/ NAGVA Representative & Website Committee Chair
John Rappaport*	Member-At-Large/ Summer Open Play
Eric Eichenholtz*	Grievance Committee Chairman (Non-Voting)
Rene Deida*	Development Director (Non-Voting)

Bold = in attendance at start of meeting.

¹ = board members who arrived late

* = board members who were appointed at this meeting and did not vote until after their confirmation



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**Minutes of the First Meeting of the 2009-2010 Board of Directors
Tues. Jun 23, 2009**

I. Call to Order

Seth called the meeting to order at 7:23 p.m.

II. Approval of Minutes – May 12, 2009

Motion made by Rich, seconded by Omar: to approve the Minutes from the Tues. May 10, 2008, Meeting (# 08-11). Passed by acclamation.

III. Public Comment

We have many non-Board Gotham members present, many to be appointed to the Gotham Board: Craig Skelton, Billy Bowden, Joe Hom, Pam Tong, Bob Arcari, Lew Smith, John Rappaport, Eric Eichenholtz, Manny Ciccione, Ethan Felson, Rene Deida, Daryl Cochrane, Dan Chen, and Alan Kramer. They have no comment at this time.

IV. Officers' Reports

A. Commissioner

i. Welcome

Seth welcomed the new Board members and discussed some of his objectives for the upcoming year.

ii. Appointments to the Board

Members at large – Terms Expire May 2010

Seth appointed, with the consent of the Executive Board, the following Gotham members to At Large positions on the Board of Directors, with specific assignments:

Craig Skelton	Member-At-Large/ League Manager
Billy Bowden	Member-At-Large/ Power Manager
Joe Hom	Member-At-Large/ Assistant Secretary
Pam Tong	Member-At-Large/ Assistant Treasurer

Bob Arcari	Member-At-Large/ Tournament Director & Programming/Events
Lew Smith	Member-At-Large/ NAGVA Representative & Website Committee Chair
John Rappaport	Member-At-Large/ Summer Open Play

Motion made by Rich, seconded by Josh: to confirm the above-listed appointments to the Board. Motion passed by acclamation.



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iii. Appointments to the Grievance Committee

1. Grievance Committee Members – Terms Expire May 2011

Seth appointed, with the consent of the Executive Board, the following members to the following positions on Gotham’s Grievance Committee:

Joe Bannan	Grievance Committee/ Division 1	Susan D’Addario	Grievance Committee/ Division 9
Rene Deida	Grievance Committee/ Division 3	Eric Eichenholtz	Grievance Committee/ At Large
Leo Padraza	Grievance Committee/ Division 5		

Seth noted that the Division 7 position still needs to be filled and expects to nominate someone to that position by next meeting.

2. Grievance Committee At Large Vacancy – Term Expires May 2010

There is still an at-large vacancy on the Grievance Committee from when Dominic Borgia left the committee in February 2009 to serve as Power Representative. Seth made the following appointment with the consent of the Executive Board to fill the position:

Donald Orloski	Grievance Committee/ At Large (Vacancy -- Term Exp May 2010)
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Motion made by Joe, seconded by Craig: to confirm all of the above listed appointments to the Grievance Committee. Passed by acclamation.

3. Grievance Committee Chair

Seth appointed Eric Eichenholtz as Grievance Committee Chairperson. He said he based his choice on the recommendation of outgoing Chairman Don Murray.

iv. Board Vacancies

1. Division 6 Representative

The Division 6 Representative position was vacant because Sarah Cullen has moved to Denver. Seth thanked Sarah for all of her hard work on behalf of Gotham. Seth recommended Ethan Felson, who had been serving as Division 6 Grievance Committee member and interim Chairman to fill the vacancy until the election is held in October.

Motion made by Law, seconded by Craig: to appoint Ethan Felson as Division 6 Representative. Passed by acclamation.



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2. Division 9 Representative

The Division 9 Representative position was vacant because David Jordan will be leaving soon to spend a year teaching English in China. Seth thanked David for all of his hard work. Seth recommended Daryl Cochrane for the position until the election is held in October because Daryl has been working closely with David to run Division 9 over the past year.

Motion made by Joe, seconded by Omar: to appoint Daryl Cochrane as Division 9 Representative. Passed by acclamation.

3. Power Representatives

Seth explained that because of a bylaws change that went into effect on June 1, 2009, the system of Power representation changed. There are 3 Power positions on the Board and all need to be filled until elections are held in October. Seth put forward the names of Team Power Assistant Leah Hughey, Power C Assistant Dominic Borgia, and Power D participant Dan Chen as three people who expressed interest in the positions.

Motion made by Rich, seconded by Daryl: to appoint Leah Hughey, Dominic Borgia, and Dan Chen as Power Representatives. Passed by acclamation.

4. Division 7 Representative

The Division 7 Representative position was vacant because Travis Pouliot has become Gotham Secretary. Seth held this vacancy for last because there was more than one candidate who expressed interest in filing the position until elections are held in October, Seth let them both speak to the Board about their interest. The two candidates Manny Ciccione and Alan Kramer gave statements of their qualifications and interest for the Division 7 Representative position. Both candidates were discussed in closed session by the board and an informal poll was taken of the Board's preference.

Motion made by Wladimir, seconded by Rex: to appoint Alan Kramer as Division 7 Representative. Passed by acclamation.

v. Committees

1. Social

There has been much success in planning gatherings at local bar establishments. The long term plan is to incrementally have more Gotham social events away from bars.

a. Dues Waiver Request for Chair Glen Fernandez

Glen is appointed as Social Committee Chair. He has been working on many events that do not have bars as venues and also move forward on creating an alumni association for Gotham.

Motion made by Seth, seconded by Josh: to waive the dues for the full year (on a year to year basis) for the Social Committee Chair (Glen Fernandez). Passed by acclamation.

2. Facilities/Programming



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Bob Arcari will chair this committee, which will help look into additional league programs and venues.

3. Marketing

Mark Yates has developed a marketing plan for Gotham and the Board needs to “vet” out the details.

4. Development/Community Service

a. Dues Waiver Request for Chair Rene Deida

Motion made by Billy, seconded by Lew: to waive the dues for the full year for the Development/Community Service Committee Chair (Rene Deida). Passed by acclamation.

5. Website

Seth has appointed John Wetsell as the webmaster, replacing Sarah Cullen.

a. Dues/Power Waiver Request for Webmaster John Wetsell

John Wetsell has requested that his power dues be waived, in addition to his league dues, because of his position as Webmaster. Seth sent John a list of specific expectations that he agreed to. On that basis, Seth thinks it is appropriate.

Motion made by Josh, seconded by Omar: to waive the dues (Season and Power) for the full year for the Webmaster (John Wetsell). Discussion: the going rate for webmasters is much more than the dues for a season let alone a full year. Inclusion of Power dues would make the remuneration closer to market rate for this difficult position. There was an objection to the motion so a hand vote was taken. **Passed 13-2-1 (yea, nay, abstain).**

b. Website Committee – Lew Smith

Goal is to redesign the website. More to follow in the coming weeks.

B. Vice-Commissioner

More in the coming weeks as Josh will work with the League and Power Managers in the coming weeks.

C. Secretary

Joe is taking the minutes for this meeting.

D. Treasurer

i. Budget

1. Reconciliation for 2008-2009

Josh went over the budget tonight that he handed out.

2. Proposed Budget for 2009-2010

a. The budget includes a fee increase to \$135 per season for league play and \$205 per season for Power classes. Team Power classes will increase to \$900 per team. Members are encouraged to use PayPal to pay league dues/fees and will be given a \$5 discount for using PayPal (except for Team Power). The incremental fees for not using PayPal (i.e., paying by cash, check, etc.) will be \$5 for league fees (\$135 total) and \$10 for Power fees (\$205 total).



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Because of the discount, for members using PayPal, league dues will remain the same as last season and Power dues will only increase \$5.

- b. By the end of July, we will look into the availability of the O'Henry gym on weeknights. There is a budget for a 4-2 week night of play. Having this gym will open up Rustin to have both Team Power classes/level in separate gyms on Monday night during the season. Cost of Team Power is \$900 per team.
- c. There is a one-time website redesign (conservative) expenditure that results in a net 2009-2010 fiscal year loss of \$22k; excluding it results in a net gain of \$3k.

Motion made by Rex, seconded by Wladimir: to approve the 2009-2010 budget, including the new dues structure. Passed by acclamation.

V. Old Business

A. Report on Summer League/Open Play

Craig reported that things are progressing nicely. Turnout at the tryouts were great. Had to turn away about 50 people. Seth appreciates the help for tryouts.

There have been issues during open play where people have not put the equipment away at the end of the night nor ref the last match.

B. Summer Division Rep Assignments

Travis will be the Summer Division A Rep and Craig will be the Summer Division B Rep.

C. Pride Wrap-up

Gotham will line up at 55th st. between 5th and Madison at 11:30 AM. The plan is to have volleyball stress balls available as handouts. There will be T-shirts available for marchers with will have the new Gotham logo. The participants will be accompanied by a pick up truck that can be used for storage of peoples' belonging during the route. There will also be a new Gotham banner measuring 4' by 8' or 4.5' by 8'.

D. Community Service (AIDS Walk NY)

There will be a budget for 2010 AWNY. The Gotham team raised over \$17k with more than 30 walkers exceeding the number of T-shirts available for the walk. Glen F. will be on board for 2010 efforts and David Gill is already thinking about next year.

E. Fire Island Tournament

Registration is open though the team confirmations are not posted. So far, though, 43 teams are confirmed.

The party venue (6-9 PM) will be a new gym (with shower facilities) and will include access to the pool. There will be a pre-set up stereo system and a bar serving beer, drinks, soda, food, etc. There should be enough places to sit. Looking to secure a lifeguard and bartenders. There is a potential of raffling off coolers.

There is a cap of 55 teams split into six divisions (4a, b, and c, and 6a, b, and c) on 12 courts. There is no doubles division because this would limit the total number of players who could register for the tournament. Registration closes 7/4 or 5.



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F. Summer Clinics Update

There will be two weekend clinics. The high level Power clinic is 815 and 16 while the lower level clinic runs on 8/22 and 23. The clinic cost is \$100 per person and starts from 9:30 AM to 5:30 PM. This information will be communicated to the membership in a flash e-mail

G. Fall Calendar

The Fall calendar will take into consideration the Boston tournament in that many captains and members participate in that tournament. The proposal for tryouts is as follows:

D1-2: Aug. 27th

D3, 4, and 5: Aug. 30th; because of Fire Island shares will have start time at noon rather than 10 AM

D6, 7, and 8: after Labor Day, the weekend of Boston tournament (Sept. 12)

D9: Sept. 13

Power: To be determined after meeting with Jeff.

VI. New Business

A. Power Representatives Constituencies for Fall 2009 Elections

Seth explained that the Bylaws allow the Board to determine who elects the three Power Representatives, as long as there is equal representation. He wants the Board to think about how to do this before the October elections. He sees two viable options – having all three elected at large, or having a Saturday, Sunday, and general (overall) representative. He recommends the latter approach and we will vote on it next meeting.

B. 2009-2010 Retreat

TBD – there is money allocated in the budget.

C. Equipment Issues

There is an ice pack sign out sheet to keep track of usage. Please treat the equipment with care.

VII. Reports

A. League Manager – Craig Skelton

ii. Division A/Division B

The gym opens at 6:30 PM. Only board members are permitted access to the Gotham closet at Rustin. Also note that there is only water allowed in the gym meaning no food nor other beverages.

B. Power Manager – Billy Bowden – No report.

C. Tournaments Director/Programming – Bob Arcari

Bob is considering making 10 days is the earliest to sign up for Friendship tournaments using PayPal. Fees will be non-refundable to discourage teams from dropping out. Bob is also looking into the Armory in Brooklyn, and other venues, for availability and suitability for Gotham events.

D. NAGVA/International Tournaments Coordinator – Lew Smith

- a. Copenhagen – there are two beach teams and two hard court teams that have Gotham members



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- b. Golden/Green Apple – scheduled for Nov. 7-8
- c. Work with Team Power to push new BB teams to participate in program

E. Social – Glen Fernandez – no report.

F. Development – Rene Deida – no report.

G. Marketing

H. Website – Lew Smith/John Wetsell

Sarah is not in the NYC area so John R., Ethan, and Dom B. will volunteer to be on the committee. By the July meeting the committee will look at other websites to see what features should be incorporated into the Gotham websites. Though Seth is self-taught on updating the website (uploading minutes, calendar, etc.) more enhancements are needed for the Gotham website.

I. Misc

For the Fall season the board will change the way volunteer coaches are utilized for captains and teams. The board would like to recognize the volunteer coaches as well as get them “certified” by Jeff Lipton with formal training to coach teams/players.

VIII. Announcements

IX. Adjournment

Motion made by John, seconded by Rich: to adjourn. Passed by acclamation.

Meeting adjourned at 9:55 PM.

UPCOMING BOARD SCHEDULE:

Next Board Meeting -- August 18, 2009

Division 1 and 2 Tryouts – August 27, 2009 at 6:30 PM

Power Coaches Meeting – August 29, 2009

Division 3, 4 and 5 Tryouts – August 30, 2009 at 11:00 AM

Fourth Board Meeting -- September 8, 2009

Divisions 6/7/8 Tryouts – September 12, 2009 at 9:00 AM

Division 9 Tryouts – September 13, 2009 at 11:00 AM

Division Rep/Power Rep Sign Ups Begin Sept. 16 through Oct. 4, 2009

Division Rep/Power Rep Elections – October 4 through October 11, 2009

Fifth Board Meeting -- October 13, 2009



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Minutes of the Second Meeting of the 2009-2010 Board of Directors Tues. July 14, 2009

Location: HAF (Hispanic AIDS Forum) Conference Room
213 West 35th Street

Attendees:

Seth Eichenholtz	Commissioner
Josh Christensen	Vice-Commissioner
Travis Pouliot	Secretary
Rex Chou	Treasurer
Rich Reid	Division 1 Rep
Henry Vera	Division 2 Rep
Greg Hughes	Division 3 Rep
Kleber Suarez	Division 4 Rep
Omar Portillo	Division 5 Rep
Ethan Felson*	Division 6 Rep
Alan Kramer	Division 7 Rep
Wladimir Thomas	Division 8 Rep
Daryl Cochrane	Division 9 Rep

Dominic Borgia	Power Representative
Dan Chen	Power Representative
Leah Hughey*	Power Representative
Craig Skelton	Member-At-Large/ League Manager
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Eric Eichenholtz	Grievance Committee Chairman (Non-Voting)
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Bold = in attendance at start of meeting.

* = board members who arrived late



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Minutes of the Second Meeting of the 2009-2010 Board of Directors Tues. July 14, 2009

I. Call to Order

Seth called the meeting to order at 7:29 p.m.

II. Approval of Minutes – June 23, 2009

Motion made by Josh, seconded by Wladimir: to approve the Minutes from the Tues. June 23, 2009, Meeting (# 01-10). Passed by acclamation.

III. Public Comment

Dominic is to update the colors on the volleyball for the logo.

IV. Officers' Reports

A. Commissioner

Seth wishes to appoint John Albanese to a member at large. John wrote an email, which was distributed at the meeting. John expressed his interest in becoming more involved, however, could not dedicate the time that is required by a board member. Motion moved by Craig, 2nd by Dominic. Passed by acclamation.

B. Vice-Commissioner

Nothing to report

C. Secretary

Nothing to report

D. Treasurer

Summer players are all paid!

V. Old Business

A. Fire Island Tournament

There are 49 teams and 279 players registered; this was up significantly since the previous meeting because time had passed. This is about the same number of players from last year, but less teams since there are no doubles. Registration was closed at the time of the meeting. Party has been set to take place pool side at the gym and canvas bags were to be given out to players. Billy had a concern that there would not be any food for the last teams leaving the beach. Josh commented that this year we plan to end earlier, have people help clean up, as well as offer appetizers before other food.

B. Pride Wrap-up

Angel Martin stated that it was the largest turnout for Gotham with over 100 players walking. Thanks was given to Travis and Josh for acting as group marshal. We also thanked Jim and Budd (friends of John



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Wetsell) for their truck. Stress balls were a successful giveaway. Dan asked if there was something cheaper to give away because we did not have enough. Seth said we should plan earlier last year as this was planned last minute. We also underestimated the number of players, so we will register with a larger number next year to get two bathroom passes.

NOTE: Leah arrives at 7:49

C. Open Play

There has been an issue with people suggesting there are subjective rules as to who should / can play open play. This could put the board in a bad position, as we tend to lean to let people play. This creates an issue as it could create a hazard and it also diminishes the level of play. If there are ongoing issues, please forward to Seth. Glen suggested having a small tryout for open play because the situation has caused players to storm out (the players are not new to Gotham, these are regular members). Seth thought it may be time to create a 3/4/5 summer league, however, some thought it Open Play was a great feeder for fall tryouts. Also, Leah mentioned that Open Play used to be a place to learn 6-2, so we could suggest some players without the skill level to watch and then fill in at the end of the night when people started leaving.

D. Summer Clinic Update

There will be two clinics, "low" and "advanced". Each clinic is \$100 for two days. The first day will focus on skills, the 2nd will have some play. Low players are those in Divisions 6-9 or Power D-F. Advanced are Divisions 1-5 or Power A-C. Power placement trumps which clinic to register for. Paypal is available for payment.

E. Fall Calendar

Power: Jeff recommended using the Rustin gym on August 29th for a Power coach class / clinic. Due to both Boston NAGVA and Labor Day, tryouts are a challenge. After discussion, Billy is to report back to the board with tryout date recommendations. Dominic recommended volunteer League coaches to have the opportunity to attend the Power coach class.

F. Power Representatives Constituencies for Fall 2009

It was recommended to have the Power Representatives to consist of a Power player, Team Power player, and the third could come from either Power or Team Power. This would ensure coverage from Team Power and Power classes. It would also provide more coverage and personalized attention.

Seth moves to pass motion, Joe 2nd the motion.

VI. New Business

A. Marketing Opportunity with Blue Heron

Blue Heron is a company that Gotham already conducts business with. Most recently we contracted them to provide the Fire Island canvas bags and summer tee's. Blue Heron is willing to create a Gotham web store for tees at no cost to Gotham. Gotham would in return make a small profit on product sales. Seth is to



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distribute a sample site. It was noted that the revenue generated would not exceed our legal limit based on our organizations tax code.

VII. Reports

A. League Manager – Craig Skelton Division A / Division B

Division A's tournament will take place on August 12th. Division B's tournament will take place on August 13th. There will be no Open Play that week.

B. Power Manager – Billy Bowden – No report.

C. Tournaments Director/Programming – Bob Arcari

Fire Island schedule is complete!

D. NAGVA/International Tournaments Coordinator – Lew Smith

E. Social – Glen Fernandez

Glen had many ideas as the social committee. These included gathering what members do for a living, organizing day trips / nights out. As an example, Phil organized 30 people for the Opera in the Park. Upcoming event could include Gay Days at Great Adventure. Glen talked about a new venue for the end of the season party (GASP!). Dan Chen asked what we are doing with other gay sport events and Seth noted that we were going to attend the Jock-A-Thon on July 29th.

F. Marketing

Josh is waiting for Mark's plans.

NOTE: Lew arrives at 8:45

G. Website – Lew Smith/John Wetsell

Lew met with Josh and Seth to discuss the res-design. Lew is to go to Home Depot to look at colors and talk to other organizations to ask who they used for their work. This would also help us learn about the bid process. Lew was going to try to get bids by the August Meeting.

VIII. Announcements



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Seth: New Glasses
Dominic: Hoping for gold for his team
Lew: D7 Urban team won, D3 lots
Lew & Leah: Wishing luck in FI
Craig: Currently 2nd place
Travis: Losing record, but positive in points!

IX. Adjournment

Motion made by Lew, seconded by Joe: to adjourn. Passed by acclamation.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 PM.

UPCOMING BOARD SCHEDULE:

Next Board Meeting -- August 18, 2009

Division 1 and 2 Tryouts – August 27, 2009 at 6:30 PM

Power Coaches Meeting – August 29, 2009

Division 3, 4 and 5 Tryouts – August 30, 2009 at 11:00 AM

Fourth Board Meeting -- September 8, 2009

Divisions 6/7/8 Tryouts – September 12, 2009 at 9:00 AM

Division 9 Tryouts – September 13, 2009 at 11:00 AM

Division Rep/Power Rep Sign Ups Begin Sept. 16 through Oct. 4, 2009

Division Rep/Power Rep Elections – October 4 through October 11, 2009

Fifth Board Meeting -- October 13, 2009



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I. Call to Order

Seth called the meeting to order at 7:27 p.m.

II. Approval of Minutes – July 14, 2009

Correction to July Minutes:

Regarding the creation of Power Constituencies: The proposal was that we would have three Power representatives, one for Sunday classes, one for Saturday and Team Power classes combined, and one at-large. The motion passed by acclamation.

Regarding the Commissioner's Report: Seth nominated John Albanese to be the Division 7 Member of the Grievance Committee, not a "member at large" as it says in the minutes.

Motion made by Josh, seconded by Wladimir: to approve the Minutes from the Tues. July 14, 2009, Meeting (# 02-10). Passed by acclamation.

III. Public Comment

Rick McCaffery came to the meeting to check things out. It is his first board meeting.

IV. Officers' Reports

A. Commissioner

The board is aware that the people who come to meetings are the ones that do most of the work, and we appreciate it. Those who are not showing up are also being made aware that they must do their share, even if other Board members aren't hearing about it.

Gotham board members should be aware of how we present ourselves when enforcing rules. Always remember customer service – no shouting, or being rude. Clearly explain the situation and be polite.

Sarah arrives at 7:31

Payment to Jeremy of \$4,000 for additional work on the Gotham website was passed without opposition. Also, the Gotham web content has been consolidated onto a single server and Fall registration work is complete.

B. Vice-Commissioner

Nothing to report

C. Secretary

An email will be sent out to abnormal registrations. For example, some has registered for every division and every power class. Another example is that someone has registered for Division 1 and Division 7 only. We are trying to clear up any issues with registration to improve the checkin issues.

D. Treasurer



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Rent is paid for the rest of the calendar year (2009)

Dan and Leah arrive at 7:41

V. Old Business

A. Fire Island Tournament Wrap-Up

Many of the Fire Island costs must be paid in cash (ferry, etc) therefore a \$500 transportation allotment was paid in advance to Lew. A \$2000 donation will be given to the Hispanic Aids Forum (HAF). Overall the tournament went very well. We were able to start on time due to the number of volunteers setting up nets. THANKS JOHN! It seems that we have ironed out most kinks with the tournament; next we must work on the party. Most likely will not be having it at the same location again. In total 272 players played.

B. Summer Clinic Wrap-Up

Three emails were received about the Advanced Clinic with extremely positive comments. The Advanced clinic only had 20 people, therefore, we cancelled one gym and one coach. We hope this number will grow next year. The basic clinic is full with a waitlist. A profit will be made based on these figures.

C. C. Fall Tryouts

- i. Schedule and What is Needed**
- ii. Registration Update**
- iii. Power Schedule**
- iv. Facilities Update**

Division 1/2 tryouts are coming up. Because this is the first time we are having Division tryouts during the week, we must set things up quickly and continue to get people to register in advance. We hope the D1/D2 reps can help spread the word. Each tryout we are hoping to get at least 10 volunteers. Division 3/4/5 tryouts were moved to start at noon to accommodate anyone coming from FI.

Tryout schedule is as follows:

Division / Power	Date
Division 1 & 2	August 27 th
Division 3 – 5	August 30 th
Power A – C	September 9 th
Power D – F	September 10 th
Division 6-8	September 12 th
Division 9	September 13 th
Team Power	September 21 st

An additional comment: We may be able to get O'Henry for additional nights during the week. More time come.



Our Mission: *To improve the quality of life for GLBTQ individuals by building community through the sport of volleyball.*

Minutes of the Third Meeting of the 2009-2010 Board of Directors Tues. August 18, 2009

Open Play tryouts:

Division 1-2: Monday August 24th

Division 3-5: Wednesday August 26th

D. Marketing Opportunities

Seth is to send out a link to the sample Gotham Volleyball web store hosted and provided by Blue Heron. They will provide a place to purchase stock Gotham Volleyball logo gear as well as provide custom tees for league play teams. *The board is still looking for an individual to head up marketing!*

E. Volunteer Coaches Meeting / Program

Volunteer coaches

Due to timing, this is not going to fully happen this season, however, ongoing discussions are happening on ways to form training. Jeff Lipton will deliver this. The number one thing that Jeff mentioned is what to say and what not to say! There was also discussion on ways to get people to coach.

Eric arrives at 8:17

Others were wondering of the board was looking to put some criteria around who can coach. The board made it clear that there will be no "approved" coach list.

VI. New Business

A. Women's Friendship Tournament (Omar)

Omar identified around 40 active women, representing 6% of Gotham Volleyball league play members, and emailed them on August 6th. The email consisted of three questions. These questions were:

- *What can Gotham do to attract and retain women in the league?*
- *In regards to a friendship tournament what format would be best? (i.e. open play; come as a team; other...)*
- *How else do you envision the role of women in Gotham*

The email and responses were distributed at the meeting.

Some of the feedback was that we need to advertise in Women centric places like Go! Magazine and host events at places like Cubby Hole. Other more creative things were brought up like having more women volunteer at tryouts and welcome women personally.

The thought of a friendship tournament was a good discussion because it was identified that there are a very large variety of skills within the woman of Gotham.

Additional conversation was brought up concerning the underlying goal of the outreach to women. What is the goal? Was the goal to get women into Gotham or lesbians into Gotham? It was noted that many women who participate in Gotham Volleyball are not bisexual or gay. It was also mentioned that even though there are not many women in league play (varies by division), there are many in Power. Many of which are straight women coming from Urban or other volleyball organizations.



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In the September meeting we will discuss having a Sunday afternoon event in O'Henry and will discuss a date for that event.

B. Equipment Purchases

- i. New Nets (\$700)
- ii. Antennas?

Seth would like to place an order for new nets for a cost of \$700. The nets are expected to last more than one season, unlike previous nets purchased, therefore, justifying the cost. The board looked into new cables, and these represented a large % of the cost anyway. Travis moved to purchase new nets. Craig 2^{nds}. The motion passed by acclamation.

Antennas: There is no need to tighten so much, this is how the break. Please spread the word.

Dan and Pam leave at 8:55

Seth wanted to purchase 3 antennas. It was recommended that we buy an even amount and get four. Josh moves to spend \$440, slightly higher than the original proposed amount. Joe 2^{nds}. This money was already part of the equipment budget proposed by the board earlier in the year. The motion passed by acclamation.

Side note: Josh is looking to work on a video for setting up the nets. We need to get more people to understand how it is done.

Seth would like to see a down ref video as well!

C. Board Dues Waiver

There has never been a discussion about board dues waiver for a board member who does not play league play. The best example of this issue is when a board member only plays Team Power. Since Team Power had group dues, it was determined that the amount would be (Cost of Team Power) / (Minimum Number of Player) which equates to \$150. If doing two Power programs, only one Power waiver is available.

D. Email

The Gotham Volleyball email list can only be used for Gotham fundraisers. The best example of this is the Sea Tea. Gotham will not promote other events.

VII. Reports

A. League Manager – Craig Skelton Division A / Division B

Summer Division Tournament Results:

Division A:

Gold: Henry

Silver: Frankie

Bronze: Travis

MVP: Kenji



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Division B:
Gold: Nick
Silver: Greg
Bronze: John
MVP: Travis

B. Power Manager – Billy Bowden

Tryouts are on the 9th and 10th of September. There will be four Power coaches absent if we did the tryouts on Sunday, September 13 as originally suggested.

C. Tournaments Director/Programming – Bob Arcari

D. NAGVA/International Tournaments Coordinator – Lew Smith

NAGVA Boston is coming

E. Social – Glen Fernandez

Social: Organizing social event for captains. Ironing our details for a Saturday event.

F. Marketing

Josh is waiting for Mark's plans.

G. Website – Lew Smith/John Wetsell

VIII. Announcements

Josh: Happy 29th Birthday!
Daryl: Vacation to Puerto Rico
Wlad: Proud owner of a scooter
Billy: Happy Birthday
Glen: When will Friday come?
Sonny: Going way – best wishes
John: Beat Daryl 6-2, 6-1. Will be working US OPEN
Alan: Enjoying Fire Island
Joe: Pepsi OUT@Work at GLBT Center
Seth: Everything is bigger in Texas – vacation planned to Austin



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**Minutes of the Third Meeting of the 2009-2010 Board of Directors
Tues. August 18, 2009**

IX. Adjournment

Motion made by Joe, seconded by Daryl: to adjourn. Passed by acclamation.

Meeting adjourned at 9:17 PM.

UPCOMING BOARD SCHEDULE:

Divisions 6/7/8 Tryouts – September 12, 2009 at 9:00 AM

Division 9 Tryouts – September 13, 2009 at 11:00 AM

Division Rep/Power Rep Sign Ups Begin Sept. 16 through Oct. 4, 2009

Division Rep/Power Rep Elections – October 4 through October 11, 2009

Fifth Board Meeting -- October 13, 2009



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Minutes of the Fourth Meeting of the 2009-2010 Board of Directors Tues. Sept. 8, 2009

Location: HAF (Hispanic AIDS Forum) Conference Room
213 West 35th Street

Attendees:

Seth Eichenholtz	Commissioner	Dominic Borgia¹	Power Representative
Josh Christensen	Vice-Commissioner	Dan Chen	Power Representative
Travis Pouliot	Secretary	Leah Hughey	Power Representative
Rex Chou	Treasurer	Craig Skelton	Member-At-Large/ League Manager
Rich Reid	Division 1 Rep	Billy Bowden	Member-At-Large/ Power Manager
Henry Vera	Division 2 Rep	Joe Hom	Member-At-Large/ Assistant Secretary
Greg Hughes	Division 3 Rep	Pam Tong	Member-At-Large/ Assistant Treasurer
Kleber Suarez	Division 4 Rep	Bob Arcari¹	Member-At-Large/ Tournament Director & Programming/Events
Omar Portillo	Division 5 Rep	Lew Smith*	Member-At-Large/ NAGVA Representative & Website Committee Chair
Ethan Felson	Division 6 Rep	John Rappaport	Member-At-Large/ Summer Open Play
Alan Kramer	Division 7 Rep	Eric Eichenholtz	Grievance Committee Chairman (Non-Voting)
Wladimir Thomas	Division 8 Rep	Rene Deida	Development Director (Non- Voting)
Daryl Cochrane	Division 9 Rep	Glen Fernandez	Social/Alumni Director (Non-Voting)

Bold = in attendance at start of meeting.

¹ = board members who arrived late



Our Mission: *To improve the quality of life for GLBTQ individuals by building community through the sport of volleyball.*

Minutes of the Fourth Meeting of the 2009-2010 Board of Directors Tues. Sept. 8, 2009

I. Call to Order

Seth called the meeting to order at 7:44 PM.

II. Approval of Minutes – Aug. 18th, 2009

Motion made by Wladimir, seconded by Ethan: to approve the Minutes from the Tues. Aug. 18, 2009, Meeting (# 03-10). Passed by acclamation.

III. Public Comment

No commentary as there were no guests at this meeting.

IV. Officers' Reports

A. Commissioner

i. E-vote regarding exception to draft rule

A long time Gotham member (D. Agosto) petitioned the Board for an allowance to the draft rule being that he would be absent for try outs. In the past some very talented players have "hidden" themselves from the captains in the draft by submitting an absentee try out request. Captains not familiar with these people would not likely select them during the draft. Captains who were familiar would likely select them. This caused an unfair disadvantage to the captains not knowing these players. To discourage and stop this practice Gotham enacted the rule that a new player (and current members who want to try out for a higher division) need to attend try outs to be eligible for the draft.

The Board vote was unanimous to not allow the exception to the rule for Mr. Agosto. The rule applies to all players was the general feeling even if the requestor has a long standing with Gotham.

B. Vice-Commissioner

No report at this time.

C. Secretary

Joe (Assistant Secretary) is taking the minutes for this meeting.

D. Treasurer

i. Updates

Every 30 days after a quarter ends the Treasurer will provide updates. Quarterly figures will be on the Gotham website.

WAMU account terms remain the same and accounts have not been transferred to Chase due to the merger/acquisition.

ii. Budget/Balance Sheet

Balance sheet was presented. There is a net loss of \$26,931.29 because there permit expenses prior to the start of the season. Income will start at the beginning of the season as members pay their dues prior to the first day of play and Power class.

iii. Power Clinics

There were two weekend Power Clinic sessions at the High School for Humanities. The Board did what it could to mitigate the lower than expected registration/turnout for the clinics.



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V. Old Business

A. Fall Tryouts

i. Schedule and What is Needed

We need people to staff Power class registration. Let Billy know if you are available though preference is for people who are not trying out.

Division 6/7/8 – We need as many as possible though that weekend is the Boston tournament. Some Board members may be at that tournament so we may not have as many people to greet the registrants. Recommended arrival time for volunteers is 9 AM.

Division 9 – Nick, Daryl, and Seth will be there. Other volunteers should be there by 10 AM. Nick generally runs the tryout. Let Travis know if you are able to volunteer.

(Note: Dom arrives at 7:56 PM)

ii. Registration Update/ Contingency Plans for a Large Turnout

There are 276 registrants for Divs 6-9 though there may be more as the weekend approaches. If there are more than 30 people not selected for D6-8, we may have to consider expanding D9.

iii. Divs 1/2/3/4/5 Review –what went wrong/right

Both tryouts (D1/2 and D3/4/5) went smoothly and ahead of previous seasons' end times.

The white board was a huge hit and very helpful in letting people know how long their wait would be to their try out. This also made it a lot quicker to gather / stage people for their tryout. This reduced the number of complaints about the waiting length before the player's try out. In general there was a better handle on the player court assignments. Having a floor / gym representative to answer questions really smoothed out the process.

To expedite call backs and the try out process, the returning (call back) player and fill-ins will be allowed only one serve. One concern is that this will reduce the number of "touches" / side outs for the true try out players.

Divs 6/7/8 – the court monitor should control what goes on during the try out (e.g., keeping track of players, maintaining captains' focus). The players should use open play for the exposure to the captains.

Computerized system was very efficient though does not post rosters to the website. The webmaster maintains this function. Also, members with AOL addresses did not receive Gotham e-mails about their status. AOL has Gotham blocked. The member though could have logged into their account to see their status and team roster.

(Note: Bob arrives at 8:02 PM).

Div 5 captains were happy that Rich was there during their draft. His insight and feedback as Power coach proved very helpful.

Captains are now used to the one and a half minutes per selection during the draft. They came to the draft more prepared to make their selections.



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There was a request for the prior season's rosters. A Board member can run a report. Many captains print out previous seasons' rosters to get a handle of which divisions and teams players have played on. In the future the Board will revisit what information we have access to and what we should provide (to the captains).

iv. Facilities Update

O'Henry has scheduled community programming until 9 PM on weeknights. The custodian mentions that this does not go past 6:30 PM. Seth spoke with the principal and will meet this coming Friday (Sept. 11). The hope is to relocate 4-2 open play to O'Henry from the Humanities High School. Doing so will allow Team Power to utilize both gyms at the Humanities High School. Team Power try outs scheduled for Sept. 21st.

The hope is to be able to have O'Henry on Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday for open play by claiming as much as is available. If that is not possible there is still the back practice area to utilize for 4-2 practice.

B. Marketing Opportunities

The link for the Blue Heron store will be ready pretty soon (1-2 days). This will be a central (and more consistent) store front for Gotham members to order uniforms and clothing with Gotham logos. Gotham will receive 12-20% commission of items sold, depending on what item is sold. This will also apply to call-in orders.

C. Volunteer Coaches

Contact Alan K. for people who are interesting in coaching teams and captains who seek coaches. Preference will be given to people who are participants in the Power program.

D. Women's Friendship Tournament (Sundays)

We may need to table this until a later date. Many of ladies who would participate are in Sunday Power classes that occur after said tournament. These participants would be hard pressed to do both in one day. Also there may not be enough ladies who know each other to be able to submit teams; one idea was to use that time block for a Women's Open Play for one Sunday. We may do so in October though O'Henry is available the weekend of the Master's tournament (Golden Apple) in November. An alternative is to have a social in October. In the meantime we should ask if any ladies will be participating in the Golden or Green Apple tournament.

E. Board Dues Waivers Revisited

In the last meeting the Board discussed the issue of the E-Board having their dues waived for league and Power participation though Team Power was not resolved. Gotham members have the option to participate in league, Power, and Team Power.

One thought is the portion of the league dues (\$130) for waiver for the E-Board member who participates on a team. However the cost for Team Power is \$900 per team. So the "equivalency" for a (minimum) roster of six would be \$150. This \$150 would be for an E-Board member to have waived for that team. Motion made by Ethan, seconded by Wlad to have any E-Board member not have to pay for any Gotham activity except for tournaments (Friendship, Big Apple, Golden Apple, Green Apple, Fire Island, etc.). Motion passes 9 yeas, 2 nays, 2 abstentions.

There was discussion of regular Board members receiving further compensation/discount than currently receiving. Further discussion centered on further discounts/ increased waiver/ increased credit for activities



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participating in during the season. The general consensus was that the current structure is adequate for the General Board members.

F. Equipment Updates

There are new nets that are available with steel cables running along the top. The red poled gym (Girls – West) has the net already set up. The cables and ties are looped to accommodate the distances between the poles. One note is that members cannot sue the red pole with the missing screw for the “wheel” apparatus. We should use the spare pole for now until the screw can properly be addressed. The net should not be tied really tight as the top and bottom lines are adequate. This net will use the strings rather than velcro.

The blue poled gym (Boys – East) needs to have the net set up (top line looped to accommodate the distance between the poles). This will be setup tomorrow (Sept. 9th).

The new antennas do not need to be screwed on really tight so that one cannot unscrew/remove them.

The plan is to have the manufacturer’s video available for Gotham members to view on how to set up and take down the nets. If anyone is interested they should get in touch with Josh to take photos or make a “how to set up a Gotham net” video.

VI. New Business

A. Power Technical Director Compensation

The Power Technical Director (Jeff L.) has a total \$2,500 stipend for the Fall and Spring seasons. The expectation is that there is a written Power curriculum as well as Power coach training sessions. The feeling is that it is not an undue burden of the Technical Director to have a written curriculum as well as developing a mechanism for individual feedback by the Power coaches to the class participants.

There was further discussion on increase of reimbursement for Jeff. This is to cover the travel cost for his attendance to classes to facilitate the Power program as well as instructing the Power coaches. In general this reimbursement has been at the discretion of the Board. One potential solution is to go to an hourly rate and increase what the currently calculated rate is. Since the inception of the Technical Director position, there has been an increase from three to six classes. Due to these discussion points one thought was to raise the stipend to \$3,000.

Motion made by Seth, seconded by Joe to increase the Technical Director’s stipend by \$500 to \$3,000 to include a written curriculum and individual feedback process for (Power) coaches to evaluate players. Discussion added that maybe Gotham should give \$250 initially and then the rest after the materials and process have been produced within agreed upon deadlines. Josh spoke about what materials we want from the Power Technical Director. Bob stated that maybe a bonus can be given in addition to the raise. The general consensus was that by the end of the season/beginning of the summer Jeff will have a proposal for feedback process. The following season will have that process enacted. Motion passed by acclamation.

B. Fall Elections

Gotham members need to have three weeks notice of elections and sign ups. Sheets will be posted to announce the elections and the option to e-mail one’s intent to run for an office. These will visibly posted the first week of league play. Seth made signs and these will have information to contact Seth or Travis if one is interested in running for a Division Representative position.



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Division Representative candidates will have from Sept. 16 to Oct. 4 @ 5 PM for e-mail sign ups. There will be a surveymonkey poll open until Oct. 11 for voting. The Oct. 13 Gotham Board meeting will install the newly elected Board members.

Power will have elected class assistants who will be non-voting members who can attend Board meetings. However, there will be three representatives (Sat. & Mon., Sun, and at-large) who will be voting members. The constituents who can vote for these representatives will be the ones who will be represented.

Every candidate will have to submit a candidacy statement and their Board meeting record. No person can have more than one vote so one cannot hold more than one voting position on the Board.

VII. Reports

A. League Manager – Craig Skelton

32 people have paid by Pay Pal already. Board members should remember that if one does not pay, there is no play for that individual. If needed Pay Pal can be accessed via internet capable phones (e.g., iPhones). Current payment lists will be given to the captains and division reps prior to start of play.

The gym opens at 6:30 PM. Only board members are permitted access to the Gotham closet at Rustin. Also note that there is only water allowed in the gym meaning neither food nor other beverages.

B. Power Manager – No report.

C. Tournaments Director/Programming

Bob proposed a tentative Friendship tournament schedule of 10 Sundays. This will encompass Sept. 27 to Dec. 12, not counting Nov. 8 (Golden & Green Apple weekend) and Nov. 28 (Thanksgiving weekend). Each team entry costs \$90. Of those 10 dates there will be 3 BB, 4 C, and 3 B. The "C" tournaments have been well attended last season. There will be a flash e-mail the Monday before the tournament to sign up for the tournament (including a link to Pay Pal). The late sign up prevents teams from signing up well in advance to "block" other teams from participating.

D. NAGVA/International Tournaments Coordinator – No report

E. Social – Glen Fernandez

There hasn't been good feedback for Sept. 13 Sea Tea Cruise. Gotham receives a portion of the tickets sold. One idea was to make this a division event so that it does not "dilute" other events that will be held at bars.

F. Development

There is interest in doing another retreat. Once the new Board comes on board there will be further discussion on date and place.

G. Marketing

Proposal from Mark Yates has not been submitted. If there isn't a submission by the next meeting then the Board will figure out an alternative plan.

H. Website

AOL is not allowing e-mails from Gotham. This caused e-mails regarding player selection notices to get blocked. Member who do not have AOL addresses received Gotham e-mails.



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The committee is moving along and progressing.

VIII. Announcements

Josh – Meetings used to go to 11 PM.

Bob - Survived his cruise and feels recharged.

Greg – T-Mobile would like to have a table at try outs and would like to offer activation fee waiver and \$50 a new line of service.

Omar – would like to acknowledge people of addition to families.

Seth – meetings used to go to 11 PM and appreciates people coming and doing all their work.

IX. Adjournment

Motion made by Rich, seconded by Omar: to adjourn. Passed by acclamation.

Meeting adjourned at 9:52 PM.

UPCOMING BOARD SCHEDULE:

Next Board Meeting – October 13, 2009



Our Mission: *To improve the quality of life for GLBTQ individuals by building community through the sport of volleyball.*

**Minutes of the Fourth Meeting of the 2009-2010 Board of Directors
Tues. Oct. 13, 2009**

Location: HAF (Hispanic AIDS Forum) Conference Room
213 West 35th Street

Attendees:

Seth Eichenholtz	Commissioner
Josh Christensen	Vice-Commissioner
Travis Pouliot	Secretary
Rex Chou	Treasurer
Rich Reid	Division 1 Rep
Fabio Ostroviesky	Division 2 Rep
Dale Shoemaker	Division 3 Rep
Kleber Suarez	Division 4 Rep
Omar Portillo	Division 5 Rep
Daniel Chen	Division 6 Rep
Manny Ciccone	Division 7 Rep
Wladimir Thomas	Division 8 Rep
Daryl Cochrane	Division 9 Rep

Dominic Borgia	Power Representative
Jason Shaw	Power Representative
Leah Hughey¹	Power Representative
Craig Skelton	Member-At-Large/ League Manager
Billy Bowden	Member-At-Large/ Power Manager
Joe Hom	Member-At-Large/ Assistant Secretary
Pam Tong¹	Member-At-Large/ Assistant Treasurer
Bob Arcari	Member-At-Large/ Tournament Director & Programming/Events
Lew Smith	Member-At-Large/ NAGVA Representative & Website Committee Chair
John Rappaport	Member-At-Large/ Summer Open Play
Eric Eichenholtz¹	Grievance Committee Chairman (Non-Voting)
Rene Deida	Development Director (Non-Voting)
Glen Fernandez	Social/Alumni Director Member-at-Large

Bold = in attendance at start of meeting.

¹ = board members who arrived late



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Minutes of the Fourth Meeting of the 2009-2010 Board of Directors Tues. Oct. 13, 2009

I. Call to Order

Seth called the meeting to order at 7:50 PM.

II. Approval of Minutes – Sept. 8th, 2009

Motion made by Josh, seconded by Omar: to approve the Minutes from the Tues. Sept. 8, 2009, Meeting (# 04-10). Passed by acclamation.

III. Public Comment

Alan Kramer is present as an outgoing board member.

IV. Officers' Reports

A. Commissioner

i. Election Results

The election reports were distributed to members at the board meeting. The turnout was lower than expected with about 60-70% voting. The elections were pretty uneventful and the members running in the election were notified prior to the meeting.

ii. Welcome to New Board Members

There are four new members to the board representing Divisions 2, 3, 7, as well as Power. Many thanks for all the work to the departing members. Alan will continue to help with the board and will work with Seth to stay engaged.

All board members, new and existing, are members because we have a passion for Gotham Volleyball. We show respect to everyone, use "snaps" to show support and agreement. New members are encouraged to reach out to existing members for support, help, and guidance when and if necessary.

iii. Appointment of Member-at-Large – Glen Fernandez

Glen had been helping since summer in numerous ways as well as attending board meetings. Seth has extended a Member-at-Large position to Glen.

John Rappaport motioned to approve the appointment and seconded by Travis. The motion was passed by acclamation.

iv. Remainder of Fall 2009 / Spring 2010 Calendar

1. End of Season Tournament
2. Spring 09 Dates

Divisions 1-4 end the season on December 9th and 10th
Divisions 5-9 end the season on December 19th and 20th.
Position is to use Queens College on December 20th
Rustin could be used on Dan 2nd and 3rd for four divisions.
Division 9 would play their last week of volleyball and compete in their tournament on the same day.

Division Representatives were asked to reach out to their respective captains to determine which day their division would prefer.

Division 6: January

Division 8: Queens College in December



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Division 1-4: Based on the feedback from the previous season, they preferred Queens College.
Division 2 was split between Queens College and Rustin
Division 5 would like the tournament before the holidays regardless of location.

After a number of comments, no official decision was made as permits were not in place for the tournaments.

Due to NAGVA, the End of the Season Party will be on January 9th. The 12th week of Power would take place on the same weekend as the End of the Season Party. This seemed okay because Power on the 10th does not start until 2:00PM, allowing enough recovery time from the party.

8:05 Waseem arrives.

NAGVA NOLA will be on January 16th and 17th.

Spring Tryouts:

If we use January 21st, 23rd, and 24th (Divisions 1-5) and January 30th and 31st (Divisions 6-9 / Power) we will be able to give both Easter and Green Apple weekends off. This is something we have not been able to do in the past.

The formal calendar will be set next month as Seth will get the permits for the gym.

Lew and Seth will confirm that we can get 10 courts in Queens College which would enable us to host all 9 divisions in Queens College.

B. Vice-Commissioner

No report at this time.

8:17 Leah and the new baby arrive!

C. Secretary

No report at this time.

D. Treasurer

Dues Collection Update – Rex and Pam

Rex and Pam met and reconciled the budget. The season brought in about \$110,000, which is in line with the budget. This was represented by \$80k from the league play and \$30k from Power. Only three people have not paid. 74% of the payments were made using PayPal. A NEW RECORD! The goal is to make this at least 80% for next season.

V. Old Business

A. Facilities / Programming Update

i. Open Play / Team Power Issue – Including Results of E-Vote

ii. 6-2 Open Play?

iii. Search for New Facilities Update

We thought we would get O'Henry, however, the space is being used until 9:30. After lengthy discussion we have determined that if no resolution can be found, then another voice will need to take



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place for the long term use of the space. Currently there are three B Team Power teams with four coaches. 4-2 Open Play is in the 2nd gym. Seth will continue to pursue O'Henry with the principal. The other BB teams for Team Power have been told that the program is on suspension.

There is a school currently being renovated on 24th street (Fashion Institute). Alan will continue to follow up. Chelsea Piers is \$235 an hour, which is just unreasonable. In comparison, we only bring in \$300 from Open Play with expenses of about \$42 / hour.

We have pursued the rec center in the past, however, it was not an option as they do not rent their space.

Discussion will continue next month.

Eric arrives at 8:27, Pam arrives at 8:30

O'Henry is not used from 2:00 – 8:00 on Sundays. There was discussion to move BB friendship tournaments in this space during this time, which would allow us to have B/C tournaments every other week in Rustin.

B. Women's Friendship Tournament

November 8th is confirmed for the first ever Women's Friendship Tournament. This will be taking place the same weekend as the Green / Golden Apple tournament. An Email was sent out to the Woman of Gotham and have already received 12 responses. The cost will be \$15. This will cover the cost to play as well as light snacks and refreshments.

C. Equipment Update / Training Video

The lock on the closet is once again broken. When it is fixed again, **DO NOT FORCE THE DOOR OPEN!** It was broken during Gotham time as it was working before the start of a friendship tournament, and broken by the end.

The new nets are holding up well. Everyone is pleased. The red flip score boards should be used for friendship tournaments, not the white ones!

Craig will shop for towels (industrial blue towels commonly found at Home Depot) as winter is coming and the floors could get wet.

D. Gotham Store Update

A decent amount of orders have been processed by the Gotham store. Approximately \$15 -> \$30 is made per team shirt order. We have made almost \$200 so far. Most orders are fulfilled within a week. Reports have shown an order placed on Monday will result in shirts arriving by Friday.

E. System for Issuing Refunds

The Grievance committee will take on a new role. They will take all refund recommendations, review the request, and then present their recommendation to the board. The process does not follow the regular grievance process. The result is just a recommendation, as the board has the final say.



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VI. New Business

A. Golden Apple IV / Green Apple IV Update

Payments for Green and Golden Apple seem to be a little behind as only three payments have been processed. There are 9-B, 6-BBm and 6-Green Apple teams registered. A total of 10 teams would just cover the facilities costs, not including refs, balls, and the giveaway.

Last year there were 18 teams in Golden Apple and 12 teams in Green Apple.

B. End of the Season Party

There is interest to look at alternative venues however, it is very difficult to find a place that meets our requirements. These include finding a place that can fit 650 people with a price of \$18 per person including open bar. The only place that comes close to this would be in Long Island City. The search will continue.

C. Team Designation Change

Due online system numbering all teams as 1-8 and not 1-8 and A-H for odd/even Divisions respectively, all Divisions may use the 1-8 numbering scheme. This seems okay since the system allows teams to identify themselves with a unique name.

D. Gay Games Coordination

Lew is the International Competition Coordinator. Lew will come up with some ideas as what to do for members going to gay games. In the past, Gotham has given tees.

E. Final Website Phase – Redesign

We have a final Product Statement outline. We will be working with John to get the technical details about what we use today. This will be used so when people bid on the work, they will know what they are working with. Once the bids are finalized with the e-board, we will be ready to send out. Hopefully this will be by the November board meeting and be complete by the time the next season starts.

F. Retreat / Planning

There is a consensus that the last two day off-site planning session was a huge success. The board will be looking to Rene for recommendations for the next retreat.

G. Referee Feedback Procedure

There have been two divisions which have been upset with the officiating of matches. In order to address issues in the most efficient and consistent way, captains should be notifying their Division Rep. The Division Rep would then address the issue with the League Manager, Craig. Craig will work with Russell who manages our refs. When an issue is raised we will try to correct the issue by following up with observations and evaluations. No promises should be made to Captains or Players stating that a ref will be fired or removed from duty as they refs are paid independent contractors.

H. Rustin HS Girls Volleyball Tournament

Gotham Volleyball has allowed the school to use the gym during the weekend of Green and Golden Apple. They will be hosting a girls volleyball tournament called "Gotham Challenge". Gotham was asked to provide three refs for each day, 80 tee shirts for players, medals (recycled ones from years past) and two MVP trophies.

This will be paid for from the Big Apple budget and if necessary, Gotham will help out using the Gotham Community Funds.



Our Mission: *To improve the quality of life for GLBTQ individuals by building community through the sport of volleyball.*

Minutes of the Fourth Meeting of the 2009-2010 Board of Directors Tues. Oct. 13, 2009

Gotham felt that working with the school and sponsoring such events is a way to maintain a relationship with the school. It is even more important as the school is in transition and will have multiple principals. We want to be part of their school, not just an occupant. This has proven to be very good for Gotham as we gained the space in the O'Henry gym by donating all of the volleyball equipment.

VII. Reports

A. League Manager – Craig Skelton

The Open / Close schedule has been distributed.

Practice Balls: We do what we can, but there is no guarantee. Please help keep the balls in good shape and pick them up!

Lew wanted to make sure that if there are any suspicious people in the gym that one should call 911. There is no reason to approach them as they could turn out to be mentally unstable. Also try not to be alone in the gym when closing.

B. Power Manager – Billy Bowden

Things are going well!

C. Tournaments Director/Programming

Friendship tournaments are going well. For the past four weeks we had 8, 10, 10, and 10 teams respectively. Only one team was on the waitlist.

D. NAGVA/International Tournaments Coordinator

There were four tournaments, will send results.

E. Social – Glen Fernandez

There is still an ongoing search for a new venue for the End of the Season tourney. There are upcoming Division 5, 6 and 9 socials. All are welcome!

F. Development

G. Marketing

H. Website

Already covered in the formal agenda.

Josh, Billy, and Craig will sit down with new members on the board and show them how to use the web tools. Current members are more than welcome to attend as well.

VIII. Announcements

Josh – Gotham team is 12-0!

Dale – Looking forward to the new position on the board.

Dan – Come to the Cubby Hole to support D6!

Glen – He has a friend that is going to be on Deal or No Deal

Bob – Was only 4 points from making Josh's team 11-1

Dom – Started new business in technical design



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Waseem – HI!

Lew – Apparently has a loud jaw

Jason - Happy to be on the board. Happy with Division 6 as there is a lot of parity and an even balance of play.

Fabio – Happy even if his team is in last place

Daryl – He is going to March for Equality. Compliments Craig on a new hair style

Omar – Came in 2nd in the Star Trek Tourney

Leah – Thanks everyone for being patient.

Travis: 1st place in Star Trek thanks to Eric!

Seth: WELCOME and THANKS!

IX. Adjournment

Motion made by Craig, seconded by Omar: to adjourn. Passed by acclamation.

Meeting adjourned at 10:02 PM.



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**Minutes of the Sixth Meeting of the 2009-2010 Board of Directors
Tues. Nov. 10, 2009**

Location: HAF (Hispanic AIDS Forum) Conference Room
213 West 35th Street

Attendees:

Seth Eichenholtz	Commissioner
Josh Christensen	Vice-Commissioner
Travis Pouliot	Secretary
Rex Chou	Treasurer
Rich Reid	Division 1 Rep
Fabio Ostroviesky	Division 2 Rep
Dale Shoemaker	Division 3 Rep
Kleber Suarez	Division 4 Rep
Omar Portillo	Division 5 Rep
Daniel Chen¹	Division 6 Rep
Manny Ciccone	Division 7 Rep
Wladimir Thomas	Division 8 Rep
Daryl Cochrane	Division 9 Rep

Dominic Borgia	Power Representative
Jason Shaw	Power Representative
Leah Hughey ¹	Power Representative
Craig Skelton	Member-At-Large/ League Manager
Billy Bowden	Member-At-Large/ Power Manager
Joe Hom	Member-At-Large/ Assistant Secretary
Pam Tong¹	Member-At-Large/ Assistant Treasurer
Bob Arcari	Member-At-Large/ Tournament Director & Programming/Events
Lew Smith	Member-At-Large/ NAGVA Representative & Website Committee Chair
John Rappaport	Member-At-Large/ Summer Open Play
Eric Eichenholtz	Grievance Committee Chairman (Non-Voting)
Rene Deida	Development Director (Non- Voting)
Glen Fernandez	Social/Alumni Director Member-at-Large

Bold = in attendance at start of meeting.

¹ = board members who arrived late



Our Mission: *To improve the quality of life for GLBTQ individuals by building community through the sport of volleyball.*

Minutes of the Sixth Meeting of the 2009-2010 Board of Directors Tues. Nov. 10, 2009

I. Call to Order

Seth called the meeting to order at 7:32 PM.

II. Approval of Minutes – October 13th, 2009

Motion made by Jason, seconded by Josh: to approve the Minutes from the Tues. Oct. 13, 2009, Meeting (# 05-10). Passed by acclamation.

III. Public Comment

Justin Hill is in attendance.

Justin inquired about past tryouts to see if more information was given in advanced than the current season's tryouts. Seth commented that this season was experimental as no information was available to captains before the day of tryouts in the past. There have been some complaints about the information provided as it was felt that the tryout may not be based on the skill if the list of available players were given in advance. Captains could pre-define players that they wish to pick.

Justin also wanted to ensure the board that Omar was doing a fantastic job as the Division 5 rep.

IV. Officers' Reports

A. Commissioner

i. School Security

The school principal has required Gotham to hire school security and will not let the organization procure security from an outside vendor. Currently outside security firms cost \$12/hour whereas school security is \$22/hour. In the upcoming spring season, Gotham is required to pay the new school security rates of \$35.70 / hour. This has a negative impact on the budget by thousands of dollars.

The executive board is looking at alternatives to present to the school administration.

- Would the school be open to a hybrid solution – School security during the week and external security during the weeknights?
- Could we revisit a fulltime outside vendor?

It should be noted that official school security is not required, it is the principal's decision. The school security is contracted though NYPD.

B. Vice-Commissioner

Craig, Bob and Josh cleaned out the closet! (*snaps*) There was a lot of archived material recovered and consolidated into a single bin. This includes the AIDS quilt, print boards etc.

Josh would like to see the AIDS quilt updated and shown. He is currently working on figuring out who needs to be added.

Josh is also interested in a Gotham Hall of Fame. He has reached out to the Chicago Metro Sports Association (CMSA). Their process seemed complex and confusing. He would like to have something in place by summer.

Coordinating dates and times with the new board members has been difficult, so apologies to everyone. A Powerpoint will be created and distributed.



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C. Secretary

Investigating Google Wave and will see if it would be a useful collaboration tool for the board.

Dan Chen arrives at 7:53

D. Treasurer

Dues Collection Update – Rex and Pam

9 people were on the payment plan, one left to pay.

V. Old Business

A. Facilities / Programming Update

i. Search for New Facilities Status

It is becoming more and more difficult to find a solution. Seward Park is booked. Billy is working with Chelsea Piers. The board understands the need for a solution for Team Power.

ii. End of Season Tournament

Tried to do December 20th @ Queens College, but it was not available. We have secured John Jay on December 13th. They will provide 3 courts which will allow us to complete three divisions (D1-3) at that time.

December 20th we will use the Rustin gyms for two divisions. Division 4 would get one spot. After a coin flip, Division 8 won the December 8th date.

D5, 6, 7, 9 will take place on January 2nd and 3rd.

John Jay's original price was \$4500, however, they reduced the rate for Gotham. The new rate is \$300/hour plus \$45/hour for security.

Bob recommended to the board that since Gotham has grown, there is little option other than Queens College for tournaments in the future. We should secure Queens College at the beginning of the season.

B. Women's Friendship Tournament

The Women's Friendship tournament was a great success with positive feedback.

There were 50 inquiries and filled 37 of the 40 spots. ½ of the players were new or returning to Gotham. The other ½ were currently in either league or power. After play, a survey was distributed and 21 players responded. 70% of the responders said that the day met or exceeded expectations. The other 30% wished there was a higher level of play. This was difficult since skill levels varied greatly.

Omar would like to see this happen once a month, potentially in the O'Henry space that is currently not used.

C. Golden / Green Apple

The financial report showed a better than expected return. This was based on a higher projection of costs for first aid, awards, and officials. The report will be shared with NAGVA as required.

A portion of the surplus will go towards the Gotham Challenge fees.



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The out of town teams had a lot of fun and really happy to see the Green Apple teams as often times the Green Apple players feed into NAGVA tournaments in the future.

D. End of Season Party

No Update.

E. Team Designation Change

There was a consensus of the Board that starting next season all teams in all divisions will be Teams 1-8 based on their draft order, and we will abandon the old system of calling the teams in the even divisions Teams A-H and odd divisions 1-8.

F. Final Website Phase

Sending out bids. Lew not present, no further update.

VI. New Business

A. Facility Cancellation / Rescheduling

Asbestos Removal during the weekend of November 22nd.

There was a lot of discussion of planning league play the weekend of Thanksgiving. There were suggestions such as planning league play during Thanksgiving weekend, however, many teams may forfeit and that would not be fair to teams that have "earned" a higher seed for the season. What about playing but not recording scores? Gotham is not required to have a certain number of weeks of league play as stated by the bylaws, so it was stated that we should not be playing just because.

Bob suggested using the weeknights of December 17th and 18th as we have the gym and D1-4 are already finished with their season. If feedback is positive, D5/6 will play Wednesday night and D7/8 will play Thursday night. There was no solution found for Power but Billy would ask the coaches about a January weekday makeup and report back to the Board by the next meeting.

Pam arrives at 8:35

VII. Reports

A. League Manager – Craig Skelton

REMINDER: WATER ONLY AND NO FOOD IN THE GYM!

All divisions are guilty. Remember to set an example and follow the rules and help enforce!

The league will not supply individual whistles, disinfectant swabs, etc. If this is a concern, supply your own.

Seth also wanted to remind people to be very sensitive about medical issues. We need to balance usefulness / privacy of information with reactions / perceptions. No Board member should make a public announcement about any details of any member's medical condition without approval of the Executive Board.

Score sheets should be entered in a timely manner. Please return them to the filing cabinet after they have been entered.



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B. Power Manager – Billy Bowden

Things are going well!

Requested 5-10 minutes with the E-Board.

Leah via txt: Congrats to Lew & Omar & all the winners at Green / Golden Apple.

C. Tournaments Director/Programming

Cancel 22nd at Rustin and plan for 6 teams in O'Henry with B/BB teams going to Washington with the preference.

6th we can have a C tourney in Rustin and BB in O'Henry

Next meeting we will have a schedule for next season.

D. NAGVA/International Tournaments Coordinator

There were four tournaments, will send results.

E. Social – Glen Fernandez

F. Development

Seth has spoken to Rene. The entire board would like to remind Seth that the last off-site was not in Pennsylvania!!

As mentioned in previous meetings, the weekend retreat was fun and successful. We may not be able to plan another getaway and may just have a day session in NYC.

G. Marketing

H. Website

If you have an AOL account, do not report Gotham emails as SPAM!

I. Grievance Committee

18 months with no grievance.

There is one outstanding refund request. The request has been sent to the committee and currently waiting for a recommendation.

VIII. Announcements

Seth: Juicy Fruits – 2nd Place in Green Apple!

Travis: I'm a pineapple

Dan: 2nd time as the 1st place loser in the Green Apple

Omar: Too male to play in Women's Play

Eric: Proud of the Flaming Honey Bees – Great job running the tournament!

Dale: Missing 3 things – No board meeting, no last game, no tournament. Going on 30th year anniversary

Public Reponse: SEE YOU AT THE PARTY!

Pam: Great to hit on a Women's net!

Billy: Big boy libero – Bruised hips and elbows, ouch.

Manny: Happy with the weekend social at Therapy



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Jason: Old enough for Golden Apple – It was fun!

Dom: Played with Jason, split a match with 3rd place team!

Bob: Best golden apple yet! No traffic issues. Level of play was excellent. Likes Craig's hat.

Rex: Fun time with Juicy Fruits. Will be moving to Madrid in February, so is in search for his replacement.

Josh: Green / Golden apple was fun. He could not play volleyball because he did not have a vagina, he was too good and was not old enough. :-/

IX. Adjournment

Motion made by Wlad, seconded by Josh: to adjourn. Passed by acclamation.

Meeting adjourned at 9:10 PM.

**Minutes of the Seventh Meeting of the 2009-2010 Board of Directors
Tues. Dec. 8, 2009**

Location: HAF (Hispanic AIDS Forum) Conference Room
213 West 35th Street

Attendees:

Seth Eichenholtz	Commissioner
Josh Christensen	Vice-Commissioner
Travis Pouliot	Secretary
Rex Chou	Treasurer
Rich Reid	Division 1 Rep
Fabio Ostroviesky	Division 2 Rep
Dale Shoemaker	Division 3 Rep
Kleber Suarez	Division 4 Rep
Omar Portillo	Division 5 Rep
Daniel Chen	Division 6 Rep
Manny Ciccone	Division 7 Rep
Wladimir Thomas	Division 8 Rep
Daryl Cochrane	Division 9 Rep

Dominic Borgia	Power Representative
Jason Shaw	Power Representative
Leah Hughey	Power Representative
Craig Skelton	Member-At-Large/ League Manager
Billy Bowden	Member-At-Large/ Power Manager
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Bob Arcari	Member-At-Large/ Tournament Director & Programming/Events
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John Rappaport	Member-At-Large/ Summer Open Play
Eric Eichenholtz	Grievance Committee Chairman (Non-Voting)
Rene Deida	Development Director (Non-Voting)
Glen Fernandez	Social/Alumni Director Member-at-Large

Bold = in attendance.

Leah Hughey and Pam arrived at 8:15. Lew Smith arrived at 9:30

I. Call to Order

Seth called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM.

II. Approval of Minutes – October 13th, 2009

Motion made by Wladimir , seconded by Manny: to approve the Minutes from the Tues. Nov. 10,

Minutes of the Seventh Meeting of the 2009-2010 Board of Directors Tues. Dec. 8, 2009

2009, Meeting (# 06-10). Passed by acclamation.

III. Public Comment

Nick Falzone Division 9 is in attendance in order to address the board regarding Team Power and 4-2 Open Play.

"I have heard that 4-2 Open Play may be in a precarious position, it is also my understanding that past decisions have been slim victories for open play. I'm here to advocate for Open Play. I've been in Gotham for about two years, I just joined power this season, and I've been doing Open Plays for about as long. I think Open Play is really beneficial especially to beginning players for the following reasons:

- It helps me see and play with more experienced players in a low stakes environment where I can learn from them without worrying about affecting team standings.
- It gives me an opportunity to play more than once a week as I'm unable to participate in friendship tournaments on Sundays as a Division 9 player.
- It gives me an opportunity to implement the lessons I'm taught in Power on Sunday within 24 hours instead of waiting until the next week to put new technique to use.
- It gives teams a chance to practice together with "league play conditions".
- It provides a steady stream of income for Gotham.
- It is used by those who can't afford Power as a way to elevate their skill set.

That's my say, "Go Open Play".

IV. Officers' Reports

A. Commissioner

i. Elections Schedule and Update

I sent out the elections e-mail. The deadline for Captains nominations is now noon on Sunday. I'm going to send out the ballots and open the voting that evening. The schedule allows voting to go through January 4th. I have extended the voting period this year from a week to 10 days to account for the holidays. Also, FYI, there will be a series of e-mails that will be sent from the system, 3 or possibly 4 depending on the turnout, reminding people to vote. Each wave of e-mails usually brings in a new round of completed ballots. The other reason for the voting deadline is because we need the results of the All Star voting in time for the End of Season Party. Captains registrations have been pretty good. We have incredibly high turnout in Divisions 3, 8, and 9. We have good turnout for Division 1, the rest are at or around 8 right now. I anticipate no issues at this time and that Captains elections will be needed in all divisions except Division 1 and possibly Division 7.

ii. Cancellations and Other Issues-Please Help

- Where school cancellations are concerned it has been brought to my attention that the membership may not understand that we are on a permit system, which is to say that we have no lease. The permits give us virtually no rights whatsoever, they merely say if the space is available we can have it...they can be revoked or altered at any time by the BOE for any reason. There is no long term contract. It has been brought to my attention members think that we may be being taken advantage of or pushed around by the BOE where permits and cancellations are concerned. It has been my experience that the situation has gotten better because at least now we get advanced notice where in the past we would just be told upon arriving to the gym that our permits had been cancelled. Try to explain to members that may come to you about this that A) we're doing our best and B) try to explain that we're not on a lease system. I think getting these messages to the membership may help their understanding of what we're dealing with. Some people have tried to use Urban as an organization that doesn't face these issues. Urban does have these issues, but they use so many schools they can cover themselves more easily. Urban also pays a ton of money for Private Schools which are less likely to cancel, but charge three times as much.
- My style as Commissioner is to solicit feedback from the membership about certain decisions the board is facing so that we're doing things in line with what the members want. The way we do that

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is to have the Division Reps speak with Captains or teams. By involving the members in this pre-decision exchange and informing them of the conditions or options the Board is considering opens the temptation to present any negatively viewed result as a decision you did not support "I wanted x just like you guys, but the Board voted y". It's important to remember that we're all professionals here and we're all here to support each other. The more we separate ourselves from the decisions we make as a group the harder it's going to be to make those decisions. So, when presenting issues, I'm not asking you not to express your own point of view, but I am asking you to not make it seem like there's a conflict if there is no conflict and try to explain the rationale behind the Board's decision instead of deriding the board. It's a harder way to operate, but I feel it's imperative if we're to continue seeking the memberships input as I feel we should.

- For the Spring Season I'll be coming by each Division to make myself available to hear directly from the membership about their issues and concerns. I will be e-mailing that schedule around so you guys will know when I'm going to be around. Division Reps are welcome to join me if you like.

iii. Treasurer Replacement

We had 3 people apply for the position of Treasurer, being vacated by Rex (Pam, Vinnie, and Kleber). The new Treasurer will start in January 2010. Until that time the newly appointed treasurer will work with Rex for a smooth transition, which is why we need to appoint a replacement now. Board vacancies are filled by a vote of the entire board, however to help facilitate the decision each of the candidates have been interviewed by the Executive Board and each has provided the Board with a written statement describing their history with the league any qualifications they may have and why they're interested in the position. I will have Vinnie and Kleber will address the Board, afterwards they will leave the room so the Board may deliberate and vote.

- Hello, I'm Vinnie and I've been a member of Gotham for 20 years, almost as long as Rene. I have been on the board twice before as Treasurer, I have been a coach for a number of years on Saturdays, and I'm looking to giving a little back by re-joining the Board. Professionally speaking, I have an undergraduate degree in accounting, I have an MBA in Corporate Financing, I'm the comptroller of my company, I've been with them 9 years doing all sorts of general accounting work (ledgers, accounts payable, accounts receivable). Basically, I'm just looking to do more and give back to the league.

- Hey everyone I'm Kleber. Before starting in Gotham I didn't have any sort of gay family per say. When I joined I saw Gotham as league, now I see it as a family. Just like Vinnie said I want to give back. I've enjoyed being on the board and I look at a position on the executive board as a way to give back a little more. I know it's a little more responsibility, but I also know I'm going to enjoy the work I do for this organization. Thank you.

After some discussion a vote was taken and Vinnie was named the incumbent Treasurer.

iv. Meeting with Principle of Rustin H.S.

We (Rene and Seth) were supposed to meet with Nancy, the principle, yesterday but our meeting was cancelled and we're going to have to reschedule, we're trying to set up a new date for later in December. Issues that we hope to address include the lights that are currently out in the gym, the school security situation which had been mentioned at our last meeting, and there's the transition of Bayard Rustin High School into the Bayard Rustin Educational Complex. We've done a lot to be good citizens with the supply drive and by sponsoring the girls volleyball tournament. She is someone who has a lot of power over us and our permits so we're trying to maintain a strong relationship with the school and her specifically. If anyone has other issues that need to be addressed with Nancy, please see Seth.

v. Press Inquiry- Wall Street Journal Magazine

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We received a press inquiry looking for amateur athletes between the ages of 25 and 45 who want to be in their Wall Street journal Style magazine for their Cotton Suit Issue, where the athletes will be profiled. Please send interested parties to me for more information.

vi. Introduction to NAGVA Rules Change

USAV has implemented some rule changes, those rule changes have been adopted by NAGVA, and it is now up to us to decide whether to follow NAGVA's lead in adopting these changes. Essentially the changes try to make the game more free flowing by reducing the severity of certain violations. Leah and Lew have a presentation on the matter, but neither are here now. NAGVA isn't implementing the new rules until after Championships, if we follow and adopt the new rules I suggest we also wait to implement them, meaning we don't have to decide tonight. I WILL be informing the up refs that we have not yet adopted the rule changes, much less implemented them since there may be some confusion.

Josh reported that he was asked on Wed if the rules had been adopted and he informed the member that they had not. Josh also explained that the new rules deal with touching the net. "Basically, the new rules state that brushing the net on the way up or down for/from a block is no longer a foul. With the new rules it is only a foul if you hit the net in the process of attacking the ball. The goal is to keep the game moving by not stopping each time the net is touched, as well as trying to define "incidental contact". NAGVA has now adopted the "athletic set" rule, which gives greater latitude to the up-ref in calling dirty sets. Gotham has not adopted the athletic set rule. We will discuss the matter further when Leah or Liz are here, if you have questions please contact Lew.

B. Vice-Commissioner

No Report.

C. Secretary

No Report.

D. Treasurer

Rex provided a second quarter financial report and noted that there are no outstanding deposits and that many of the permits have been paid through Spring.

Also, for those that don't know, the payment for Open Play is now being facilitated through Pay Pal which has streamlined that whole process dramatically.

V. Old Business

A. Facilities / Programming Update

i. Search for New Facilities Status

There are still a couple of schools to call so our search is ongoing. Billy has agreed to approach Chelsea Piers to see if there isn't a way to negotiate a rate for their facilities to hold Open Play there.

Billy reported that he has already approached his contact, Stacy Kennedy who is Director of Events at Chelsea Piers. While she didn't shoot him down right away, but she did explain that Chelsea Piers have a new General Manager. Billy reports that during his last contact with Ms Kennedy she said that she had approached the new GM. He also reports that he last heard from Stacy 3 weeks ago. Seth reminded the Board that our search for space is an ongoing one.

Seth contacted O'henry again about the organization that has that space since casual inquiries indicate that they may not be using their permits optimally. The Principle said he would ask the organization if there wasn't some time they could give up. It was discussed that we supplied the poles for O'henry. We're waiting to here back form him.

As a board we have to anticipate that none of the avenues currently being explored is going to work out until one does.

Minutes of the Seventh Meeting of the 2009-2010 Board of Directors

Tues. Dec. 8, 2009

ii. End of Season Tournaments

We have John Jay College for next weekend. Fabio, Rich, and Bob will be running that tournament. All of the other divisions should have their schedules, please see Seth if you are unsure of how to proceed.

iii. Power Make Up Session

Last month we discussed a Wed/Thursday Night make up session for power, possibly January 6th and 7th. If we're going to go that route we need to get permits. I believe Billy was going to check with the coaches for their availability. Billy reports that they are available for the 6th and 7th. An offline discussion will transpire regarding how to decide who plays when on these nights.

iv. Open Play/Team Power Issue

Some people have asked why we're discussing this matter again so soon after making our recent decision. Previous discussions over e-mail didn't allow for full discussion as this is important enough an issue to give it a full hearing before the board. The hope is that this discussion will give everyone an opportunity to air their views and for the Board to hear all of the arguments. Our first decision should be whether or not to overturn our previous decision. There was much heated discussion extolling the virtues of Team Power (B/BB) and the value of Open Play. All the while looking at the decision as an either or proposition. Until Bob Acari proposed that we alternate between the three programs. So that the first week would be Team Power B and Team Power BB. The second week would be Team Power BB and Open Play. The third week would be Open Play and Team Power B. So you are scheduled two out of every three weeks and in a 12 week season each group would have 8 weeks of programming. Bob Recognized that his proposal isn't perfect but saw the compromise as a way to offer something to everyone and he noted that we could schedule Open Plays around the NAGVA Tournament schedule for a best use scenario. Leah and Seth will get together to further investigate scheduling possibilities. The Board acknowledged the many merits of Bob's proposal and reached a consensus to move forward.

B. End of Season Party Update

Seth has been in contact with Glenn and the EOS Party will be on the 9th at Esquelita at 7pm.

C. Final Website Phase-Redesign Update (Lew Smith)

Lew has solicited and is accepting bids for the final phase website redesign. He reports that the bids received to date are well within what we originally budgeted for this project. We hope to have a recommendation for the Board at our next meeting.

D. Coaching (Alan Kramer)

Last season we provided a matching service for captains that needed coaches and the program was very successful. Alan was the coordinator of the program last season, when he was the Division 7 Representative, and for that reason has been asked by Seth to chair a committee to look into what we did and see how we can improve the service going forward. Some board members mentioned that there didn't seem to be many coaches available for the higher divisions. Alan agreed that there wasn't a lot of response from people available to coach the upper divisions. He also reminded us that this is a new program and going forward we might reach out to Gotham Alumni to see if there are former players who would be interested in returning to coach. Alan will be sending out an e-mail to request anyone interested in coaching a team to contact him so that he can start a list of available coaches. While the Division Reps will send an e-mail to their captains asking if anyone needs a coach. The committee talked about how to insure quality coaching. After some discussion between "recommended qualifications" and "required qualifications" we favored the idea of 'recommended qualifications'. Specifically they should have participated in Gotham's Power program and played in a division at least 2 levels higher than the division they desire to coach. Also, for division 9 since they're new they might be provided a mentor in addition to a coach to help introduce them to the league. The committee also recommends a one day clinic to go over drills and skills as well as teach them what a coach can do to help them make their team better.

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We also talked about possible incentives for coaches.

VI. New Business

A. Spring 2010 Tryouts and Registration

Registration Opens -- January 4, 2010
Division 1 and 2 -- Thursday January 21, 2010 at 7:00 PM
Division 3, 4, 5 -- Saturday January 23, 2010 at 12:00 PM/2:00 PM/4:00 PM
Division 6, 7, 8 -- Sunday January 24, 2010 at 10:00 AM/12:00 PM/2:00 PM
Division 9 -- Sunday January 31, 2010 at 10:00 AM
Power A/B/C -- January 31, 2010 at 12:00 PM
Power D/E/F -- January 31, 2010 at 3:00 PM
Team Power BB and B -- January 25, 2010 at 7:15 PM

The expectation is that board members sign up for at least two preferably three try-outs. Please send our requests/availability to Travis.

B. Spring 2010 Open Play Tryouts

Divisions 1 and/or 2 -- Wed, January 13 at 7 PM (Experience with 6-2/5-1 REQUIRED)
Divisions 3, 4 and/or 5 -- Thurs, January 14 at 7 PM (Knowledge of 6-2 REQUIRED)
Divisions 6, 7, and/or 8 -- Wednesday January 20 at 7 PM (Open to all)

Division Reps please contact your captains and inform them that these tryouts are for them to see the players available to them and they are strongly urged to attend.

C. Member Request-Gotham Calendar

Two members of Gotham who are photographers would like to put together a "men of Gotham" calendar. If there is general interest from the board they will put together a formal proposal. Two concerns are that it should not exclude women and that the pictures be in good taste. Since there is no objection Seth will talk to the members and request a formal proposal.

D. Power Awards

There was a request that Power be allowed to create an award for Power participants. Seth doesn't have a problem discussing the matter further, but felt like the timing was bad to establish a Power Award for this season. There was voiced concern that the awards presentation ceremony would become unmanageable, and that the award would become a popularity contest. Josh said that if there is a Power Award, the recipient should be determined by the coach since they are the individual that the league charges with determining where improvement is needed and when a player is ready to move up. He also says that the award should be in recognition of improvement since that is the design of the Power Program.

VII. Reports

A. League Manager- Craig Skelton

- i. There was a desire voiced by Division 8 to formally recognize a "Most Improved" player from the Division.

The same concerns about the Power Award were raised. Interest in the suggestion seemed tepid.

B. Power Manager- Billy Bowden

Jason asked Billy what recourse, if any, does Gotham have to address someone who has a history of volatile or unsportsmanlike behavior. Seth responded that the Sportsmanship rule is written in such a way that it can be used to address, correct, and eventually sanction such behavior. Any such incidents should be brought to the Commissioners (Seth) and Power Managers (Billy) attention immediately. He also wants to assure people that reporting such incidents will begin a process that is corrective before it is punitive, so individuals shouldn't fear being "the reason" someone was disciplined.

C. Tournaments Director-Bob Acari

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Reports that we've had several Friendship Tournaments and registration has been strong. He has also provided a proposed tournament schedule (attached). Three changes to his proposed schedule were made.

1. No tournaments on Easter Sunday (April 4th).
2. The C tournament on April 25th is now a women's tournament.
3. There is an added C tournament on May 2nd.

D. NAGVA/International Tournaments Director- Lew Smith

1. New York did very well at DC with 5 teams in three divisions place, including our Vice Commissioner.
2. If you hear rumblings about New Orleans let Lew know.
3. Big Apple is the 27th and 28th of March, so get ready because we're going to need volunteers.
4. We would like to have a women's division at Big Apple. We need your help to get the word out.
5. We would like to look into providing t-shirts and support for Gay Games participants, contact Lew if you're interested.

E. Social- Glenn Fernandez

The End of Season Party will be at Esquelita on January 9th at 7pm.

F. Development- Rene Deida

We've spoken to Geneva about returning to the YMCA for another retreat. When looking at scheduling another retreat we're trying to avoid pulling the entire Board out of league play for a weekend. We're looking at the last weekend, providing the facility is available.

G. Marketing

H. Webmaster- John Wetsell

See previous report.

I. Grievance- Eric Eichenholtz

i. Refund Recommendations

We have a refund request from Dave Powell, who is a Division 2 player. He broke a finger and thought he would be able to return, he was wrong. A few weeks ago we got a request for a refund. The Grievance Committee was able to establish that he did in fact injure himself while playing at Gotham. Because he did injure his hand at Gotham and was unable to play and because the delay in requesting the refund was sufficiently explained it is the recommendation of the Grievance Committee by a vote of 8-0 with 2 abstentions that Mr. Powell be refunded fees from week 3 onward.

Seeing as there are no objections to the recommendation is adopted and a refund will be executed.

VIII. Announcements

Omar: Holiday Social next Thursday!

Daryl: Division 9 is having a bowling party on the 21st of Dec.

Lew: Happy Holidays and best of luck!

Vinnie: Thank you for picking me.

Kleber: Glad Rene made it to a meeting!

Rex: My first day in Madrid is Feb 1.

Seth: Thanks for sticking it out through a long meeting. Welcome Vinnie. Look for my Gym schedule.

IX. Adjournment

Motion made by Dan, seconded by Daryl: to adjourn. Passed by acclamation.

Meeting adjourned at 10:04 PM.



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**Minutes of the Eighth Meeting of the 2009-2010 Board of Directors
Tues. January 12, 2010**

Location: HAF (Hispanic AIDS Forum) Conference Room
213 West 35th Street

Attendees:

Seth Eichenholtz	Commissioner
Josh Christensen	Vice-Commissioner
Travis Pouliot	Secretary
Rex Chou	Treasurer (outgoing)
Vincent Mirrione	Treasurer (incoming)
Rich Reid	Division 1 Rep
Fabio Ostroviesky*	Division 2 Rep
Dale Shoemaker	Division 3 Rep
Kleber Suarez	Division 4 Rep
Omar Portillo	Division 5 Rep
Dan Chen*	Division 6 Rep
Manny Ciccione*	Division 7 Rep
Wladimir Thomas	Division 8 Rep
Daryl Cochrane	Division 9 Rep

Dominic Borgia	Power Representative
Leah Hughey*	Power Representative
Jason Shaw	Power Representative
Craig Skelton	Member-At-Large/ League Manager
Billy Bowden	Member-At-Large/ Power Manager
Joe Hom	Member-At-Large/ Assistant Secretary
Pam Tong*	Member-At-Large/ Assistant Treasurer
Bob Arcari	Member-At-Large/ Tournament Director & Programming/Events
Lew Smith	Member-At-Large/ NAGVA Representative & Website Committee Chair
John Rappaport	Member-At-Large/ Summer Open Play
Eric Eichenholtz	Grievance Committee Chairman (Non-Voting)
Rene Deida	Development Director (Non-Voting)
Glen Fernandez	Social/Alumni Director (Non-Voting)

Bold = in attendance at start of meeting.



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* = board members who arrived late - Manny Ciccione arrived at 7:34PM; Fabio Ostroviesky arrived at 7:37PM; Pam Tong arrived at 7:44PM; Leah Hughey and Dan Chen arrived at 7:54PM.

I. Call to Order

Seth called the meeting to order at 7:27 p.m.

II. Approval of Minutes – December 8, 2009

Motion made by Jason, seconded by Josh: to approve the Minutes from the Tues. December 8, 2009, Meeting (# 07-10) with noted edits. Passed by acclamation.

III. Public Comment

None.

IV. Officers' Reports

A. Commissioner

i. Thanks to All for a Great Fall 2009

Gotham has completed/concluded a successful Fall 2009 season. Thanks go out to Glen for organizing the season ending party and all of the members of the Board who helped. There were about 560 or people in attendance, collecting \$1,546 at the door. Vinnie will investigate the missing \$4.

ii. Elections Results

The top eight vote getters in the division elections are captains with alternates based on number of votes. The published results show the top eight with the alternates listed in alphabetical order. Team All-stars are voted upon/selected by the players' teammates. Season ending division tournament MVPs are selected by the participants of the finals matches. Congratulations to all!

iii. Schedule for Feedback Sessions

Feedback sessions will be set up in the back gym with office hours lasting about 1½ hours. These will start in Feb. and last until April with the hope of covering Power classes at least once and all divisions at least twice for the season. The panel will consist of Seth and any other members of the Executive Board and other Board members who represent people that night who want to attend. The purpose is so that Gotham members can provide their feedback and ask questions.

iv. Event Coordination

All social events need to be coordinated with Glen. The greater the audience, the more important it is that you coordinate with Glen. No one individual Board member should be doing something billed as a "Gotham Wide" event without getting it cleared by either Glen or Seth. Glen has the resources and schedules to properly plan and spread the events out as well as to publicize events.

B. Vice-Commissioner

Nothing to report

C. Secretary

Nothing to report. Travis is flying first class (!) to Budapest. Joe is taking the minutes.



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D. Treasurer

Rex reported that the duties are transitioning to Vinnie. The Spring season dues will be collected soon though Gotham bank funds look good. Returning Power participants need to have paid \$25 deposit the week before tryouts.

V. Old Business

A. Facilities/Programming Update

i. New Facility/ Facility Use for Spring Season

O. Henry school been secured for Wednesday nights from 7 PM until 11 PM for open play. The lease has been signed. Eric has agreed to run an open play this Wednesday to see how it will run during the season.. Depending on how things go Gotham may use the space for other activities in future seasons. Team Power will now have both gyms on Monday night at Rustin.

The O. Henry gym has the equipment needed for volleyball play as Division 9 plays there. There are a couple of keys to the locker floating around and will be made available to the people who run open play. The gym does not have the same restriction as the Rustin on food nor non-water beverages. Anyone going over to that gym should bring over supplies (first aid, etc.).

ii. End of Season Tournament – Spring 2010

Tentatively Queens College is being scheduled for the season ending tournament (May 9th). Due to the travel logistics of getting there, City College is being pursued as it is in Manhattan. Because this is a smaller facility two dates are needed (tentatively May 2nd and May 8th).

iii. Facility Use Request – Ethan Yu

Ethan Yu, a Gotham referee, and George coach a girls club team. (Note: Ethan also plays in GEVA, Urban, and VBLI.) Ethan sent an e-mail inquiring about the availability and requesting use of the back gym space on Sundays. General discussion and consensus is that we would allow the use though Gotham would retain first right of usage.

Billy brought up an idea of having a written contract. Doing so would alleviate some Board concerns about liability as well as insurance coverage.

B. End of Season Recap (Glen Fernandez)

Special thanks go to Lew for transferring the past info/experience/knowledge to Glen about previous season ending parties. The party was flawlessly pulled out and the music was great. The coat check line at times was very long causing stoppage of admitting people into Escuelita. This is a great venue as a lot of items are provided at no or little charge. For example, the entertainment is provided by the bar with no charge though may want to approach the bar to change up in the future. Also, the open bar ended early though should have been open until 10 PM. However, switching to another location is implausible because no facility that we looked at can match Escuelita for the overall value (costing ~\$18 per person) though we may want to make suggestions to improve future events.

C. Final Website Phase – Redesign Update

Lew is working with Carl Sandler and Danny Hanold (need confirmation on spelling) who are Gotham members on bidding for the redesign. The proposal needs minor alterations. The intent is to use the existing (back office) structure of the webpage with a new front end look/user interface. Lew sent out a Request for Proposal (RFP), had a half-hour discussion, and got back a modified proposal. Update in the next Board meeting. If anyone on the Board knows of any interested and



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Minutes of the Eighth Meeting of the 2009-2010 Board of Directors Tues. January 12, 2010

qualified people who can bid on the redesign please let Lew know. Awarding the contract would be done within the next month. Completion of work would be by end of May.

D. Coaching

i. Coaching Clinic

Coaching is done by volunteers. Some found the e-mail that was recently sent out offensive. (Note: Some read the e-mail and thought it implied that there would be preference for coaches who have had Power classes or have gone through some sort of training, e.g., the coaches' clinic. This was not the intent. To most it did not appear so, if the e-mail was taken as a whole rather than sections out of context.) Regardless, all interested coach volunteers need to go through Alan to formalize the assignment. The Board really appreciates the hard work that those volunteers do and would like to support them and knowing who they are is the first step.

There are 25 people registered for the clinic; most of whom are prior Division 6 to 9 coaches.

ii. Feedback and Update

There was commentary on having three mentor coaches per division to help out the current coach assignments. These would probably be the more frequently attended coaches during league play (i.e., people who are present at the gym for a lot of league matches). Another comment was for coaches to not have more than one team or the corollary of more than one coach per team. Seth also emphasized that the feedback from membership for the past few seasons was a strong request for us to prevent coaches from coaching multiple teams. Also some Division 9 coaches may miss some dates due to participating in Friendship Tournaments. In that case it may be that there is a shadow coach (or substitute) – a junior and senior situation - or substitute. In any case there is a shortage of coaches for the number of teams requesting/needing.

E. Spring 2010 Registration/Tryouts

i. Registration Update

About 400 have signed up so far and is on par with last Spring. The Fall season generally has high turnout too.

ii. Open Plays

Captains and players are encouraged to attend. This is an opportunity for players who want to move up in Gotham Division play and to show the captains their skill level. Captains will have the chance to observe the available draftees that would like to be considered for their division.

Players should bring and wear their Gotham registration numbers. New registrants will be given priority over current Gotham members. Members wanting to move up will be given priority over members within that division. Captains should not be playing rather observing the available talent for the draft process.

Players will pay \$10 to register via PayPal. The list of PayPal registered players will be the basis to form the team rosters of open play. 4-2 Open Play will definitely have the assignments ahead of time. Fabio will handle Division 1 & 2 open play (Jan. 13 - Wednesday). 19 have signed up so far. Glen, Dom, and Wlad will handle Division 3, 4, & 5 open play (Jan. 14 - Thursday). 64 have registered so far. Division 6, 7, & 8 Open Play is the following Wednesday Jan. 20.



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iii. Tryout Logistics

Travis is coordinating the tryouts so e-mail him your attendance preferences. Everyone is expected to attend at least two dates.

Jan. 21 Thursday – Division 1 & 2 – please be at the gym by 6:15 PM

Jan. 23 Saturday – Division 3, 4 & 5 – please be at the gym by 10:30 AM

Jan. 24 Sunday – Division 6, 7 & 8 – please be at the gym by 9:00 AM

There was a comment about providing advance copy of the registrants. The feeling of the Board is that this might help out some captains though it might not in whole. Having these available might open up the process up to “shenanigans” by a captain. Because there might be last minute registrants, a registrants list will be provided the day tryouts.

iv. Spring 2010 Schedule

Craig will e-mail the league schedule people. There will two weeks off for the weekend divisions.

March 27-28 - Big Apple

April 3-4 - Easter

A schedule for Power classes will be made.

When the team rosters are finalized Craig will assign the open/close schedule.

F. Retreat – Agenda and Logistics

Rene handed out a 3 page agenda of the retreat. The attendees will need to resolve the logistics though Seth will send out the logistics details. Carpooling will be encouraged and Rene will take down a list of people who will be driving vehicles there. There will be uni-sex arrangements at Frost Valley YMCA so female and male Board members will share facilities. Eric will be the Board member at the gym to open/close for both days. Rich may also be available as he has Power coaching duties.

G. Gotham Calendar Proposal

Lucius Riley and Eric Wilund would like to produce a (Members of) Gotham calendar with a photoshoot to be determined. There are concerns about this proposal and its relation to the purpose and mission of Gotham.

Some discussion points were:

How would the selection criteria of the “models” be inclusive of all members?

What is the Market?

What is the overhead?

The Board came to consensus that these two should come in to talk to the Board. Note: The Gotham Board has control of and use of intellectual property (Gotham) so any party that would like to use the Gotham likeness needs Board approval.

H. Power Awards

Jason solicited feedback from Power reps about awards for Power classes. This led to an informal straw poll of Power class members. Jason tabulated the results and presented to the Board.



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The results were very thorough and informative. Respondents were in favor of Power class awards. Jason presented that there could be two awards, one based on peer selection and one based on coach selection.

The Board liked the proposal though felt that Power class is one where individuals are students who are motivated to improve their skills. Having a peer selected award would cause more of a competitive environment rather than one conducive to learning. All agreed that there should be more encouragement to reinforce positive attitude and effort. Power classes are set up for instruction rather than competition.

In addition, peer driven awards are influenced by popularity and is more appropriate for league play. Corollary, a coach selected one may be interpreted as favoritism.

Participation in the program merits distinction. For example, over half of the awardees of season All-Stars and season ending tournament MVPs are participants of Power. Power attendees were not recognized in the past (nor present) because Power was not part of the league until two years ago. So the format has not been change to include these people.

The Board thanked Jason for his time and efforts and encourage him and all people to continue to bring forth ideas to the Board and their ideas for much background information..

VI. New Business

A. Man Event – January 26

Gotham will have a table at the event. It is set up like an expo where GLBT sports organizations have tables set up to present their organization to attendees. There will not be an e-mail blast to the Gotham membership. Staffing will consist of 2-4 people at Dave and Buster's. E-mail Seth if you are interested in representing Gotham.

We do this for visibility and as a part of the community even though the event is organized by a for-profit firm. A lot of Division 9 players became a part of Gotham after attending the Jock-A-Thon.

B. Proposed Rule of League Play revision – Allowing for the captains to waive the “3 season” requirements for former members (IV. B. #4)

This is a proposal to allow a player who will not be able to attend tryouts for a higher division but is know by the captains. In general a majority vote by the captains will allow the player to be eligible for that division's draft. Procedurally the player must register and select that thon is not able to attend tryouts. There must be a discussion prior to tryouts about that player's eligibility for that division's draft.

The intent of the original rule is have players attend tryouts. In the past players were told not to show up. This “hides” a player and giving captains that know that player an unfair advantage over the other captains. This leads to a potential for “shadiness” if a player has improved.

The consensus of the Board was to keep the rule as is, so no vote was taken on this matter.



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VII. Reports

A. League Manager – Craig Skelton

Schedules will be out tomorrow (Jan. 13th).

Supplies – need to tell Board timely of missing / depleted items.

Open/close checklist – some people do not fulfill all the duties needed. There are safety and property concerns if the facility is not properly open and closed. If there any school conditions that needed to be addressed, contact Seth and Josh.

B. Power Manager – Billy Bowden

Looking for volunteers to help staff Power tryouts.

C. Tournaments Director/Programming – Bob Arcari

Teams must register the Monday before the tournament. The Spring schedule has 9 BB dates due to the one gym over at O. Henry, limiting the number of participating teams to five. The number of dates and number teams even out for all divisions. (Note; Rustin has two gyms therefore allowing for more teams to be registered.)

D. NAGVA/International Tournaments Coordinator – Lew Smith

NOLA is the largest tournament outside of Championships.

Big Apple has 21 registered teams so far, two have paid. Tournament is 9 ½ weeks away. The 27th tournament will be “Ladies of the Eighties” themed. There will be fundraising as well as obtaining items for the goodie bags.

NAGVA is marketing volleyballs with the NAGVA emblem on them.

E. Social – Glen Fernandez

No report.

F. Development

No report.

G. Marketing

Not present.

VIII. Announcements

Rex’ last meeting before leaving for Spain.

Bob – cheers on the Jets.

Jason – was drunk at End of Season Party.

Glen – drinks for his birthday (Jan. 22nd)

Dan – apologizes for his (silly) behavior at the End of Season Party

Eric – excited to run first ever Wed. open play; proud to of being named Syracuse College of Law alumnus of the week

Lew – safe travels for everyone going to NOLA!

Daryl – anyone need a 19” TV?



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Dom – first End of Season Party missed in his time in Gotham

Vinnie – happy to work with the Board

Seth – special thanks to Rex!; welcome to Vinnie!; one day trial coming up on Thursday at the Federal Courthouse; attend if you would like.

IX. Adjournment

Motion made by Jason, seconded by Rich: to adjourn. Passed by acclamation.

Meeting adjourned at 9:42 PM.



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Minutes of the Ninth Meeting of the 2009-2010 Board of Directors Tues. February 9, 2010

Location: HAF (Hispanic AIDS Forum) Conference Room
213 West 35th Street

Attendees:

Seth Eichenholtz	Commissioner
Josh Christensen	Vice-Commissioner
Travis Pouliot	Secretary
Vincent Mirrione	Treasurer
Rich Reid	Division 1 Rep
Fabio Ostroviesky	Division 2 Rep
Dale Shoemaker	Division 3 Rep
Kleber Suarez	Division 4 Rep
Omar Portillo	Division 5 Rep
Dan Chen	Division 6 Rep
Manny Ciccione	Division 7 Rep
Wladimir Thomas	Division 8 Rep
Daryl Cochrane	Division 9 Rep

Dominic Borgia	Power Representative
Leah Hughey*	Power Representative
Jason Shaw	Power Representative
Craig Skelton	Member-At-Large/ League Manager
Billy Bowden	Member-At-Large/ Power Manager
Joe Hom	Member-At-Large/ Assistant Secretary
Pam Tong*	Member-At-Large/ Assistant Treasurer
Bob Arcari	Member-At-Large/ Tournament Director & Programming/Events
Lew Smith*	Member-At-Large/ NAGVA Representative & Website Committee Chair
John Rappaport	Member-At-Large/ Summer Open Play
Eric Eichenholtz	Grievance Committee Chairman (Non-Voting)
Rene Deida	Development Director (Non-Voting)
Glen Fernandez	Social/Alumni Director (Non-Voting)

Bold = in attendance at start of meeting.

- * = board members who arrived late



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Minutes of the Ninth Meeting of the 2009-2010 Board of Directors Tues. February 9, 2010

I. Call to Order

Seth called the meeting to order at 7:25 p.m.

II. Approval of Minutes – January 12, 2009

Updated Sections G, VI, VII

Motion made by Wladimir, seconded by Joe: to approve the Minutes from the Tues. Jan 12, 2010, Meeting (# 08-10) with noted edits. Passed by acclamation.

III. Public Comment

None.

IV. Officers' Reports

A. Commissioner

i. Rustin Update

1. Transition to new programs

There is a transition at Rustin High School and it is apparent that it will affect Gotham Volleyball. The new transition includes a new school model which uses space in the building on nights and weekends. Principal Nancy strongly suggested that we start thinking of alternatives for the league. There will be two additional schools occupying space in the building which has a potential for renovation of the 7th floor for additional classrooms. There is a public meeting in March where more details may be shared.

The Gotham executive board is working with all parties to make sure that the organization is not left out of the new transition.

2. Open forum – March 11th

It is being requested that all board members attend the March 11th school public meeting at Rustin High School. The intention is not to stop the new schools, but make sure that everyone is aware that Gotham Volleyball is part of the community. There is a section in the proposal called "Community" and currently, Gotham Volleyball is not mentioned in this section. We have to be aware of the realities so we are going to ask for as much notice as possible for any changes that will affect any of our activities.

Please do not spread any rumors. We are trying to keep a consistent message, so please direct any comments, concerns, or feedback to the executive board. This is a long term project, therefore it will not impact us overnight, nor is there a quick fix.

3. Meeting with Principals at Rustin

The executive board is working to setup a meeting with all of the principals of Rustin. This will be the first time we will be meeting with all the new principals.

Bob: Are we going to mention we service over 700 members?

Seth: We are going to focus on who we are as an organization, the importance our organization has to the community and school as well as the relationship we have developed with the school.



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We have contacted Christine Quinn's office for an advocate. This is also important because changes are not only at Rustin. There is further shifting in the central office with permits. This is only going to add future complications.

Wlad: Moving forward we need to focus on history because our relationship is with a school in which is being phased out. We should focus on how sports leads to leadership and social skills.

Wlad also advised the eboard to identify the network leader, as this is a new position in the school administration above the principal. They will assume some responsibility for facilities. This role is effective July 1st.

Rene suggested that this topic should be covered at the upcoming retreat.

Pam and Leah arrive at 7:40

ii. School Supplies Drive

The school supply drive has resulted in good feedback. Some of the divisions have collected money which will be given to the school in the form of a gift card.

iii. Feedback Sessions Start this Wednesday

There will be the first feedback session. Seth will attend the session from 7:30 – 9 unless there is any complications due to the pending snow storm.

iv. Election Schedule

Elections sign-ups start April 11th and will conclude on May 1st @ 8:00 PM. This election cycle is for the E-Board and Division Captains. Elections run from May 2nd through May 8th. Seth, Josh, and Travis will oversee the signups.

B. Vice-Commissioner

Nothing to report

C. Secretary

Nothing to report.

D. Treasurer

i. Spring 2010 Payment Status

League Play is updated and the current standing shows 16 people not paid due to absentees. Power is a little more complicated as 40 people have not paid, some have dropped / added. There has also been some confusion with PayPal as there were two links – deposit vs no deposit.

V. Old Business

A. Facilities/Programming Update

i. Back Use Update

From 10AM – 2PM on Saturday, the school will be using the back area. So far no one has shown up to use this space. If there is no one present, Gotham members may use this space, however, we ask people to use their discretion with using this space. If kids are present, we are not to use any of the space.



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ii. Facility use for Spring Season

iii. End of Season Tournament – Spring 2010

We have looked into City College and the cost for two days is \$9,000. Our total budget is \$4,500, so this is not an option this season. Tentatively we are planning May 8th for the EOS tournament for all divisions. There is also a possibility that it will be May 9th which is Mother's day.

iv. Facility Use Request – Ethan Yu

There is no insurance for this group, therefore, we are going to deny their request for use of our space. This was decided that it was best for the organization given the situation with the school.

B. Tryouts / Spring 2010 Organization Recap

About 900 people signed up which is the 2nd highest turnout ever. This is the first time we have turned any players away from Division 9, which was about 30 people.

Leah wanted to know how many people were turned away from Power.

Seth: This is not something we track because it is more difficult.

Leah: It would be nice to send a "rejection" email to Power tryout members like we do in the league.

C. Women's Open Play Recap (Omar Portillo)

Gotham hosted its 2nd Women's Open Play in O'Henry. Omar would like to thank John Sullivan, Leah, and Alex Ong for helping setting up, coaching, and promoting the play. Women were split into a "higher" / "lower" division and seemed to work out well for everyone. To coordinate things smoother in the future, it is recommended to add a paypal payment system. This will add a little more commitment to people who express interest, as there were 60 spots with 46 players. Again the event had very positive feedback.

The event ended with a social at gym bar.

OFF TOPIC: AIDS WALK

The Gotham organization was officially registered a month ago. There is a link on the website as well as a facebook site. Omar will talk to some of last year's top earners to make sure we get them back this year. The new goal is \$20,000!

Last year we had 30 walkers with a goal of \$5k. We raised over \$17,000!

D. Retreat – Agenda and Logistics Update

Please email Seth with confirmation. We are expecting 23-24 people which is about 7 more than last years' event.

Rene:

We will be in a different lodge, however, the castle is booked. The Agenda is set and will have Gebeba as our YMCA coordinator! We are finalizing transportation, including van rentals.

i. Cost Update

We have looked into hosting a dinner along the way as we ended up doing this last year. The same restaurant will accommodate everyone for \$20 / person. No decision on if this will be part of the plan or not. Stay tuned.



Our Mission: *To improve the quality of life for GLBTQ individuals by building community through the sport of volleyball.*

Minutes of the Ninth Meeting of the 2009-2010 Board of Directors Tues. February 9, 2010

Linens and towels will be provided.

E. Gotham Calendar Proposal

No Update.

F. Men Event / Jock-A-Thon

It turned out to be great event because D9 tryouts were four days later. We had a prime spot and many people expressed interest. There were 7 members from the board at the event.

G. Final Website Phase – Redesign Update (Lew Smith)

We have received proposals which range from \$15,000 to \$120,000. We are still waiting for a couple more. Lew has met with one of the bidders.

Gotham's had budgeted is \$20,000 for this final phase. Lew is asking the board to approve \$20,000 so he can work with the E-Board.

The proposals have nothing to "show" so there is room for feedback before asking for wireframes.

Dom: Does \$20K include change orders?

Lew: We know there will be change orders required, however, this will be finalized in the contract.

Travis: Who owns the intellectual property?

Lew: It will be required that Gotham owns the IP

Lew moves to authorize to enter into a contract valued of up to \$20,000 pending approval of the board. Leah seconded.

Alan arrives at 8:30

H. Coaching Update (Alan Kramer)

Seth forgot to bring the report. This will be emailed out.

The match making worked out well. There were 35 volunteers who showed up at the clinic and 15 captains contacted Alan. There were three captains who could not be matched – 1 D3, 1 D4, and 1 D5 team. It is hard to get D1/D2 players to be available for D3/D4.

10 people responded with feedback. Suggestions included

- Not the same day as tryouts
- Too much talking / Too long
- Out of touch with lower divisions – 2 Groups – Advanced / Beginner
- What to bring – paper, shorts, etc.

Alan would like to create a database which will have emails and phone numbers of volunteers.

VI. New Business



Our Mission: *To improve the quality of life for GLBTQ individuals by building community through the sport of volleyball.*

Minutes of the Ninth Meeting of the 2009-2010 Board of Directors Tues. February 9, 2010

A. Proposed Rule of League Play Revisions – General Overhaul

Seth emailed out the changes, we will wait for next meeting to vote
A handout was handed out which outlined the new USVA Rules. These rules will be implemented starting the summer season.

VII. Reports

A. League Manager – Craig Skelton

Ice packs are coming in this week and we will be ordering new whistles.
We have two new game balls. **THESE ARE TO STAY IN THE REF BAG**
Open / Close – Review the duty sheet. Saturday members – **BRING THING IN INCLUDING THE GAME BALL, BAG, ETC ETC ETC!**

B. Power Manager – Billy Bowden

Team Power has three teams in both divisions. So far things are going well with great feedback.
Team Power B will be losing a coach, so expect an e-vote to hire a replacement.

C. Tournaments Director/Programming – Bob Arcari

1st BB in O'Henry. It's a nice space! Since there is no practice area and we have extra time, we gave a warmup period before each match.

D. NAGVA/International Tournaments Coordinator – Lew Smith

No one has contacted Lew about gay games
Lew will be attending a tournament in San Jose
27 teams have paid for BIG APPLE and Lew is also trying to get a large AA showing by giving some incentives such as a waiver on the NAGVA sanction fee.

E. Social – Glen Fernandez

No report.

F. Development

No report.

G. Marketing

H. Webmaster

I. Grievance

Thank you to the committee for the dedication. There was a grievance, everyone but three members were able to attend. Please review the grievance notes for details.
No further action. Not anticipating an appeal.

VIII. Announcements

Josh: All star – New Orleans 1st BB in Hot-Lanta

Lew: Going to San Jose

Pam: Happy Chinese New Year

Wlad: Offered 6 positions last week

Bob: Won \$69 on the Super Bowl

Dale: Thought he lost, but he actually won this weeks match – yes, he was present!



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**Minutes of the Ninth Meeting of the 2009-2010 Board of Directors
Tues. February 9, 2010**

John: 5th in New Orleans, best NY team!

Manny: Beat the commissioner's team!

Joe: Loves his D6 team

Kleber: Not bitter....

Daryl: Happy after the 1st week!

Dom: Thanks for all the well wishes

Omar: Team Power enjoyed \$4 Long Island Iced Tea @ Gym

Leah: Loved Women's Open Play

Alan: Looking for an opening in the FT

Seth: It was a tragedy losing to Manny's team, however, Manny did have some impressive serves!

IX. Adjournment

Motion made by Joe, seconded by Manny: to adjourn. Passed by acclamation.

Meeting adjourned at 9:16 PM.



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**Minutes of the Tenth Meeting of the 2009-2010 Board of Directors
Tues. March 9, 2010**

Location: HAF (Hispanic AIDS Forum) Conference Room
213 West 35th Street

Attendees:

Seth Eichenholtz	Commissioner
Josh Christensen	Vice-Commissioner
Travis Pouliot	Secretary
Vincent Mirrione	Treasurer
Rich Reid	Division 1 Rep
Fabio Ostroviesky	Division 2 Rep
Dale Shoemaker	Division 3 Rep
Kleber Suarez	Division 4 Rep
Omar Portillo	Division 5 Rep
Dan Chen	Division 6 Rep
Manny Ciccione	Division 7 Rep
Wladimir Thomas	Division 8 Rep
Daryl Cochrane	Division 9 Rep

Dominic Borgia	Power Representative
Leah Hughey*	Power Representative
Jason Shaw	Power Representative
Craig Skelton	Member-At-Large/ League Manager
Billy Bowden	Member-At-Large/ Power Manager
Joe Hom	Member-At-Large/ Assistant Secretary
Pam Tong	Member-At-Large/ Assistant Treasurer
Bob Arcari	Member-At-Large/ Tournament Director & Programming/Events
Lew Smith	Member-At-Large/ NAGVA Representative & Website Committee Chair
John Rappaport	Member-At-Large/ Summer Open Play
Eric Eichenholtz	Grievance Committee Chairman (Non-Voting)
Rene Deida	Development Director (Non-Voting)
Glen Fernandez	Social/Alumni Director

Bold = in attendance at start of meeting.

- * = board members who arrived late



Our Mission: *To improve the quality of life for GLBTQ individuals by building community through the sport of volleyball.*

Minutes of the Tenth Meeting of the 2009-2010 Board of Directors Tues. March 9, 2010

I. Call to Order

Seth called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m.

II. Approval of Minutes – January 12, 2009

Updated meeting of “*” for attendees.

Corrected spelling on page 6 and page 7

Updated amount the AIDS walk raised

Motion made by Manny, seconded by Craig: to approve the Minutes from the Tues. Feb 9, 2010, Meeting (# 09-10) with noted edits. Passed by acclamation.

III. Public Comment

None.

IV. Officers' Reports

A. Commissioner

i. Rustin Update

1. Meeting with the Principals

An invitation was sent out to all of the principals of the Rustin complex to meet with the Executive Board, however, only Nancy, the current principal attended. The meeting went well.

Gotham does not see any disruption to the current programming this summer and most likely no disruption to the fall programs.

Even though there are no plans to take over Gotham's space, kids do come first. We discussed how to keep Gotham involved.

One common goal for many of the schools in the new campus is to look at renovating the roof of the building to create a garden area. Seth expressed how this could be a project in which Gotham could help contribute.

The meeting on Thursday will be used to introduce Gotham to the other principals. It is not common knowledge what we do for the school. This includes funding volleyball tournaments, securing funding for computer labs, scholarships, etc. Our goal is to how that we are part of the community.

No matter the outcome, we need to continue to look for alternate space. We have a hot lead with the Fashion School. We will continue to follow up. Nancy explained why the 7th floor playground area would be ideal for a new program and sees this as something we may lose in the long term.

2. Open forum – March 11th

There are two Objectives:

1. Introduce
2. Deliver a solid proposal for our role in the community

i. Elections Schedule and mechanics -



Our Mission: *To improve the quality of life for GLBTQ individuals by building community through the sport of volleyball.*

Minutes of the Tenth Meeting of the 2009-2010 Board of Directors Tues. March 9, 2010

1. Sign Ups Start on April 11/14/15/17
2. Sign Ups Finish at 8PM on May 1
3. Elections May 2 through May 8
4. Seth/Josh/Travis will oversee sign-ups

B. Vice-Commissioner

Nothing to report

C. Secretary

Nothing to report.

D. Treasurer

i. Third Quarter Report

The balance sheet was handed out. Overall things are in good shape. The league received four bounced checks. 2nd ½ of the payments for those on payment plans are due. There are 8 members in the league and 3 members in Power which this will apply.

Leah arrives at 7:58

V. Old Business

A. Proposed Revisions to the Rules of League Play

i. General Revisions

Seth emailed the revisions. We will be voting on everything except Section III : A : 3 about contacting the net. This will be a separate vote.

Josh motioned to move to adopt the General Revisions. Vinnie 2nds the motion. Passed by acclamation.

ii. Newly Adopted NAGVA Rules

There is a new rule which was adopted by NAGVA concerning touching the net during a block or attack. There would be no fault unless there is contact with the net on top of the net. This is the hardest rule to "interpret" however, it can be summarized that there is no touching of the net that gives an advantage to the team. For example, pulling the net lower.

Another rule it to eliminate the net "foot" / body fault in which a player can now make full contact with the opposing teams court without fault unless it interferes with game play.

It should be noted that NAGVA did not like these new rules, however, they did not want to be too "different" and should stay current.

Travis moves to adopt the rule changes starting with the Summer 2010 season. Omar 2nds. Passed by acclamation.

B. Facilities / Programming Update

- i. Back Use Policy - Reminder
Space is allocated for members in which play during the same evening
As a side note Craig sent out details for Open / Close responsibilities. Leah commented that these should be posted on the closet door.



Our Mission: *To improve the quality of life for GLBTQ individuals by building community through the sport of volleyball.*

Minutes of the Tenth Meeting of the 2009-2010 Board of Directors Tues. March 9, 2010

- ii. End of Season Tournament – Spring 2010
Queens College contract was signed for May 9th. This will be the second year in a row playing on Mother's Day.
- iii. Scheduling Issues / Upcoming Schedule
 - 1. EOS Tournament
May 9th
 - 2. Week 12 of Power
Travis suggested using May 8th for Power A-F
Billy is to poll Power.
 - 3. Makeup Week for Divisions 3-4
March 31st will be used for a makeup date. All matches will play as if it were Week 3.

C. Retreat – Brief Recap (full recap next meeting)

The retreat was well attended despite the snow. In the future, it would be ideal to plan this on a non-Gotham weekend of play.

D. Big Apple Update

Lew is not present to give a detailed update. Leah wanted to make it known that volunteers are needed!

Bob provided an update. Normally there are 70 teams, this year there may be up to 72.

25: B level Teams

26: BB Level Teams

~14/15: A Level Teams

Up to 7 AA level teams

Josh wanted to know if we delay NY teams signup. This would allow more out of town teams to sign up. Or we could limit the number of NY teams until a certain date.

Bob was not sure, but thought that NAGVA may not allow this.

E. Final Website Phase – Redesign Update

There was no proposals deal for Gotham. They ranged from a complete redesign, to too vague to too expensive. We are still waiting for a couple more bids before we move forward. Ideally the desired completion date can still be met.

F. Coaching Update

Alan was not present, however, it is requested to have division reps send Alan coach details for their division.

There was discussion if the captains should be presented with a gift. After many comments, it was acknowledged that the captains should be acknowledged and would be nice to give a small gift if there is budget.



Our Mission: *To improve the quality of life for GLBTQ individuals by building community through the sport of volleyball.*

Minutes of the Tenth Meeting of the 2009-2010 Board of Directors Tues. March 9, 2010

OFF TOPIC: Gotham Calendar

Seth passed out an email proposal sent in from a Gotham member about creating a Gotham calendar. Since members of the Board had many questions, it was requested for members to review and send questions to Seth for discussion for the following board meeting.

VI. New Business

A. Gotham Participation in the Fire Island Blackout

Dennis Williams works at HBO and called Seth about collaborating to work on the Fire Island Blackout. The Blackout is a once a year beach party in Cherry Grove. It started with about 50 people and has grown to over 200. The event is part of the Gay Black Community calendar and has become so popular it has become a formal event.

We will look for volunteers to help out, but will not be a formal event. Dale pointed out that the event would fit into the retreat objective.

Gotham will benefit by having large exposure to the black gay community with very little investment.

B. Spring 2010 End of Season Party

Glen is not present, however, it looks like it will at Escuelita.

C. Summer Season

Summer season is ON!

Bob said that we may want to offer 4-2 open play on Wednesday on O'Henry

Eric thinks that O'Henry may be air conditioned!

VII. Reports

A. League Manager – Craig Skelton

Week 7: It's time to switch gyms

Familiarize, distribute, and enforce the space prioritization!

Please carbon copy the league manager with communication to the captains. This is to ensure that the message is getting to all members.

Members of the league should email Craig after opening or closing the gym...even if there is no news.

B. Power Manager – Billy Bowden

All Dues are collected. The Roster is finally complete!

C. Tournaments Director/Programming – Bob Arcari

Bob needs help covering on April 11th and 18th. Women's tournament coming up.



Our Mission: *To improve the quality of life for GLBTQ individuals by building community through the sport of volleyball.*

**Minutes of the Tenth Meeting of the 2009-2010 Board of Directors
Tues. March 9, 2010**

D. NAGVA/International Tournaments Coordinator – Lew Smith

E. Social – Glen Fernandez
No report.

F. Development
Next meeting we will cover the retreat.

G. Webmaster
We are still paying for two servers because of Big Apple.

H. Grievance

VIII. Announcements

Wlad: Accepted a new position in Queens. Starting on July 1st as director of support services.

Bob: Very useful retreat

Manny: Division 5-9 social next Friday. Come watch me play in a skirt!

Rene: Prudential is hiring two people in education development

Billy: Great time at the retreat

Omar: Don't forget to register for the AIDS walk

Seth: Signed contract for Fire Island lease!

IX. Adjournment

Motion made by Wlad, seconded by Josh: to adjourn. Passed by acclamation.

Meeting adjourned at 9:27 PM.

**GOTHAM VOLLEYBALL LEAGUE, INC.
MINUTES FOR THE ELEVENTH MEETING OF THE
2009-2010 BOARD OF DIRECTORS
APRIL 13, 2010**

I. Called to Order at 7:30

II. Approval of Minutes – March 9, 2010 (passed)

Moved to adopt by Jason Shaw

Seconded by Vinnie Mirone

Motion Passed by acclamation.

III. Public Comment- no public comment.

IV. Executive Board Report

A. Commissioner -- Seth Eichenholtz

i. Rustin Update

1. School Supplies Drive

Completed and delivered, in addition to the supplies collected we also gave a Staples gift card

2. Open forum

March 11. Went well and the schools is looking to create space for the new students on the 6th floor instead of the 7th Floor.

ii. Elections

1. Reminder to Post Sign Up Sheets.

There are division specific sign up sheets for captains and Division Reps as well as a separate sheet for Executive Board positions. Those on the Open/Close Schedule make sure you put them up and take them down for the remainder of the sign up period.

2. Reminder about Electioneering

it is prohibited and should be avoided.

B. Vice Commissioner – Josh Christensen

No Report

C. Secretary – Travis Pouliot

No Report

D. Treasurer – Vinnie Mirrione

Thank you to the Division Representatives for their assistance in making the Season such a smooth one.

V. Old Business

A. Facilities/Programming

i. Open Play Update- Sold out in 9 minutes this week, seems to be a good mix of people and different people each week. We may look at changing the format in the future, but will abstain from making changes at this time.

ii. End of Season Tournament – Spring 2010

We've signed contracts for May 9th at Queens College. To accommodate all divisions, we've divided the league into two sessions. Session one being Divisions 1, 2, 4, and 5. Session 2 would be 3, 6, 7, and 8. Division 9 would have a mid-day slot that would start around or after the am session and end before the afternoon session.

iii. Scheduling Issues/Upcoming Schedule

1. EOS Tournament

2. Week 12 of Power

A&C on the 15th and B, D, E, and F on the 16th.

iv. Weekend of May 15/16

Discussed a small tournament for teams going to nationals and maybe a C level tournament. Eric Eichenholtz, Billy Bowden and Bob Arcari will work together to finalize the league schedule for the second and third weekends of May to accommodate the make-up Power classes and a C level tournament.

v. Summer Season 2010

1. Div 3/4/5 Summer League?

In lieu of Open play should we offer league play for these Divisions? Feedback is mixed, will prepare for league play but hold off on a final plan until we get feedback through the end of season election process..

2. Calendar

3. Logistics

4. Other summer programming? Not sure about O'Henry availability over the summer for another month.

B. Calendar Proposal

A proposal was provided by Lucious Riley, after which he was asked to provide the Board with a chart illustrating the investment required for each volume/quality of printing and how many units would have to be sold

to break even for each of the price points.

C. AIDS Walk

D. Big Apple Recap

Second largest Big Apple with 73 teams. Gotham did well with many teams placing as well as 2 MVP's and 5 All Stars. Special thanks to Leah, Bob and Craig for all their help. Final budget is pending.

E. Final Website Phase – Redesign Update

We've decided not to redo the data base so future energy will be toward a front end design. Due to this change in scope we have approached two other designers to resubmit their bids.

F. Coaching Update

Should we do thank you gifts for coaches? Consensus seems to say no. Looking into returning to programs for the EOS Party with a listing of the coaches.

G. Power Class Recognition at EOS Party

Previously discussed Power Award but decided against it, now the Board is wondering if there isn't some way to acknowledge Power at the EOS Party. Decided on a simple announcement during the awards part of the party.

VI. New Business

A. Spring 2010 End of Season Party (Glen Fernandez)

Seth reported that Glen had looked for a replacement venue for the EOS Party with no luck.

B. Rustin "Scholarship" Money

Last year we donated funding to pay for busses for graduating Seniors to go on a school trip, as per a request from the Principle. We have budgeted for the same size gift this year. Seth is meeting with the Principal soon and will report the availability of the funds as well as seek her advice on how best to serve the needs of the schools.

VII. Reports

A. League Manager – Craig Skelton

The Open/Close Schedule has been posted in the closet opposite the door. We all need to be more diligent when performing our duties. Scores need to be entered in a more timely manner, please e-mail Craig when you've completed your work, and don't forget the election sign up sheets.

B. Power Manager – Billy Bowden

Power Saturday no report
Team Power no report

Power Sunday no report

C. Tournaments Director – Bob Arcari

All tournaments have sold out except for the last one.

D. NAGVA/International Tournaments Coordinator – Lew Smith

Many teams in Montreal

E. Social – Glen Fernandez

No report

F. Development – Rene Deida

No report

G. Webmaster – John Wetsell

No report

H. Grievance – Eric Eichenholtz

No report

VIII. Announcements

Josh- Looking forward to Denver

Jason- AIDSWALK fundraising party at Pearl

Lew Looking forward to Denver too

Seth my team beat Manny's team.

IX. Adjournment-9:40

Motion by: Wlad

Second by: Rich

Motion passed by acclamation.



Our Mission: *To improve the quality of life for GLBTQ individuals by building community through the sport of volleyball.*

Minutes of the Twelfth Meeting of the 2009-2010 Board of Directors Tues. May 11, 2010

Location: HAF (Hispanic AIDS Forum) Conference Room
213 West 35th Street

Attendees:

Seth Eichenholtz	Commissioner
Josh Christensen	Vice-Commissioner
Travis Pouliot	Secretary
Vincent Mirrione	Treasurer
Rich Reid	Division 1 Rep
Vacant	Division 2 Rep
Dale Shoemaker	Division 3 Rep
Kleber Suarez	Division 4 Rep
Omar Portillo	Division 5 Rep
Dan Chen	Division 6 Rep
Manny Ciccione	Division 7 Rep
Wladimir Thomas	Division 8 Rep
Daryl Cochrane	Division 9 Rep

Dominic Borgia	Power Representative
Jason Shaw	Power Representative
Leah Hughey ¹	Power Representative
Craig Skelton	Member-At-Large/ League Manager
Billy Bowden	Member-At-Large/ Power Manager
Joe Hom	Member-At-Large/ Assistant Secretary
Pam Tong	Member-At-Large/ Assistant Treasurer
Bob Arcari	Member-At-Large/ Tournament Director & Programming/Events
Lew Smith	Member-At-Large/ NAGVA Representative & Website Committee Chair
John Rappaport	Member-At-Large/ Summer Open Play
Eric Eichenholtz	Grievance Committee Chairman (Non-Voting)
Rene Deida	Development Director (Non- Voting)
Glen Fernandez	Social/Alumni Director

Bold = in attendance at start of meeting.

¹ = board members who arrived late (L. Hughey 8:00 PM)



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Minutes of the Twelfth Meeting of the 2009-2010 Board of Directors Tues. May 11, 2010

I. Call to Order

Seth called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM.

II. Approval of Minutes – April 13, 2010

Minutes NA

III. Public Comment

None.

IV. Officers' Reports

A. Commissioner

i. Year overview

Seth thanked everyone for their contributions on making the full year very successful. According to the latest membership survey, responses noted that the league ran smoothly. Members depended on the league communications and the communication process seems to be down pat.

Seth thanked Vinnie and Travis for their work as they are outgoing E-Board members. Seth then welcomed the incoming E-Board members: Lew (Treasurer) and Craig (Secretary).

ii. Rustin Update – Summer Limitations

The Rustin HS conducts resurfacing of the gym floors with clear coat every other year. This will occur the first three weeks of August and will cut summer usage short. So there will be an eight week (Monday) summer season as well as less open plays on Wednesday and Thursday nights.

The summer permits are signed and paid for. The Executive Board will continue to work with the changing points of contact at Rustin Educational Complex to ensure a continued presence for Gotham.

iii. Election and Results

There was good turnout though maybe a little lower than the previous seasons. Division 1 had a full slate of captains (which in the past there were a lack of interested candidates). In general there were a lot candidates running for captain. In one case (as indicated in the by-laws) a candidate did not gain at least one-eighth of the divisions votes so was not listed as an alternate captain.

The full results of the Spring 2010 elections were distributed to the Board and incorporated into the minutes by reference, but the official tallies for the Executive Board Positions for 2010-2011 were as follows:

Commissioner – Seth Eichenholtz received 475 votes. There were 4 votes for write-in candidates.

Vice Commissioner – Joshua Christensen received 459 votes. There was 1 vote for a write-in candidate.

Secretary – Craig Skelton received 458 votes. There were 2 votes for write-in candidates.



Our Mission: *To improve the quality of life for GLBTQ individuals by building community through the sport of volleyball.*

Minutes of the Twelfth Meeting of the 2009-2010 Board of Directors Tues. May 11, 2010

Treasurer – Lew Smith received 474 votes. There were 2 votes for other candidates.

There were no objections to the election results. Therefore, Seth Eichenholtz, Josh Christensen, Craig Skelton, and Lew Smith were, respectively, duly elected as Gotham's Commissioner, Vice Commissioner, Secretary, and Treasurer for 2010-2011.

Division 3/4/5 Summer Season – there was an overwhelming response to have Wednesday night be for open play rather than league play. This is due to travel and work commitments during the summer.

Many respondents indicated that they receive the proper amount of information from Gotham and one of the sources was from Facebook posts.

iv. 2010 – 2011 Board of Directors Positions

Member at Large appointments will expire at the end of May. E-mail or contact Seth if you are interested in serving on the Board for the following season.

B. Vice-Commissioner

NA

C. Secretary

Joe is taking the minutes for this meeting.

D. Treasurer

The new budget for the following year was presented to the Board and incorporated to these minutes by reference.

New dues:

- Team Power \$1,200 per team
- Power \$205
- League \$135

The increases will cover the cost of the increased security cost and new End of Season tournament venue (for City College rather than Queens College). Note: City College is more accessible than Queens College.

There will not be a PayPal discount and, instead, there will be a \$5 surcharge for checks and cash. (About 90% use PayPal and the rest (~10%) pay by check or cash.) With PayPal fees, loss of space, open play revenue, and increase of Division 9 rosters (from eight to nine or ten) the budget nets to about a \$570 surplus for full year.

Motion made by Joe, seconded by Manny to approve the budget. Passed by acclamation.

V. Old Business

A. Facilities/Programming

Wednesday and Thursday, next weekend are available to "close" out season (5/12, 5/13, 5/15, and 5/16).



Our Mission: *To improve the quality of life for GLBTQ individuals by building community through the sport of volleyball.*

Minutes of the Twelfth Meeting of the 2009-2010 Board of Directors Tues. May 11, 2010

Power A&C – Saturday 5/15

Summer Season 2010

Eight week season/gym usage window

From Wed. June 2nd to final Thur. of July (7/29) are available gym dates for open play. Wed for D3/4/5 level of play and Thur. for D1/2/3 level of play.

June 3rd – summer season tryout (season runs on Mondays from June 7th to July 26th)

O’Henry may be open for use during the summer and Seth is investigating its availability.

Spring Fling (May 22 and 23)

Wlad and Eric will run the tournament and Manny will assist. There will be minimum of seven teams to a maximum of 14. Deadline to sign up is Friday May 14th. Pool play on Sat with tournament play seeding afterwards. Sunday is the double elimination tournament.

Dom will be the site director with Philton assisting. Lew will conduct a reffing clinic Friday night (May 21st) before the tournament.

B. Calendar Proposal

According to the discussions that Josh had with the calendar organization the cost range depends on the number of calendars ordered.

Here are some examples:

No less than 1,000	about \$8-16 per calendar
250	\$800
1,500	\$18,000 (high end)

The Board took the information under advisement and will continue discussion of this project next meeting.

C. AIDS Walk NY

30 people registered for Team Gotham raising over \$7,000 compared to over \$17,000 last year. T-shirts are ordered with a different logo from last year. Last week’s fundraiser was “cute.”

D. Women’s Tournaments

There were three tournaments that had a maximum of 30 people. Two issues that came up were limitation of space for level appropriate play and referees in training. Many players were split amongst teams to equalize the level of play as more “seasoned” players coached the less “seasoned” players. One note about this is to not schedule a tournament when other leagues are playing.

There was a brief side discussion about the use of referees that are being trained during our open plays and friendship tournaments. On the referee in training, many took too much time to go through protocols when people just wanted to play. Also a lot of calls were inconsistent due to experience level and full knowledge of the rules of play.



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E. Final Website Phase – Redesign Update

There is currently one bid submitted to Lew.

F. End of Season Party Update

Party this Sat. May 15th at Escuelita, hosted by Angel Sheridan. Most of the acts are the ones performed at Big Apple. Door monitors needed for 20 minute shifts. The Board will staff and contact Glen if interested in participating. Performers are allowed one guest. There are set parameters for guests and Board members are allowed one guest; contact Seth about submitting a guest name for the admittance list.

G. Power Class Recognition at EOS Party

Emphasize the number of All-Stars and MVPs are Power participants as well as the Power participants.

H. Fire Island Tournament

To plan on a doubles level, Josh needs to know how many NYC area double players are participating in Gay Games. Double is the highest level and the tournament does not want to have too diverse a level of play, giving preference to Gay Games participants.

There will be a \$200 clean up fee for FI and \$2,250 for White Hall rental for the party.

VI. New Business

A. Scholarship Proposal

Billy proposed to have a scholarship in Fabio's name and he will provide the seed money for it. The criteria will be for someone who emulates the qualities that Fabio had. Seth will contact the principals of Rustin HS to see what their needs are.

B. EOS Tournament

The tournament fell well behind schedule. This was due to the number of matches going to three games in both the winner's and loser's brackets. The winner's brackets is best of three (first two to 25, third going to 15). The loser's brackets is best of three except all three games go to 15 only. An alternative is to have the loser's bracket have only one game. The number of points and cap not determined yet.

C. PRIDE Parade

Gotham needs a chairperson to coordinate the Pride march. If there isn't one then Gotham may not be able to participate. That person needs to be at the parade all day to coordinate logistics for the group. Of course there will be other people from the Gotham group that will help marshal the Gotham entourage.

D. Net Setup Video and Referee Training Session



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This will hold the referee teams accountable during league play. One idea is to have printouts of rules and the expectations on reffing. Part of the Gotham waiver a player signs could contain a section that a player knows the rules of play. Another thought is that a team can forfeit their match if they are “not into” refereeing the match.

Perhaps before tryouts the Board can conduct a net setup clinic. Another option is for open play.

There were discussions about the captain must be the R2 (down referee) and can designate an alternate if not available.

Seminars would be conducted by the league manager.

VII. Reports

A. League Manager – Craig Skelton

i. Division 5

Seed number 8 finished first (!).

ii. Division 7

Seed number 6 (with four players) finished first (!)

B. Power Manager – Billy Bowden

Things are well. Written feedback is TBD and status will be updated before Friday.

C. Tournaments Director – Bob Arcari

Friendship tournaments after Big Apple had some interesting notations. The BB level had some slack off of on the number of registered teams. B was down also though C was active.

The board resumed its discussion about referees in training – the referees in training take too much time going over protocol (coin flip, rules, etc.). If they invited / allowed to return they should come at opportune times to practice. For example special Friendship tournaments rather than regular ones. (At regular ones people come to play/ practice and expect to do so where every minute counts.)

D. NAGVA/International Tournaments Coordinator – Lew Smith

Baltimore results posted on the Baltimore website.

Nationals (Portland, OR)

110 teams registered, 5 NY teams total.

For the annual meeting there are 64 NY teams eligible to vote which is about 20-25% of the number of teams nation-wide.

Gay Games (Cologne, Germany)

There are several responses on the match maker for NY teams and players.



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E. Social – Glen Fernandez – no report.

Event organizers should work with Glen on planning and implementing. This is especially so if the organizer would like to recover any charges that may be incurred. Perhaps a cover charge can be instituted to help recover these costs?

F. Development – Rene Deida

Retreat presentation will be completed next month.

G. Website – Lew Smith/John Wetsell

John is anxious to work with Lew, Seth, and co.

H. Grievance

Refund request

Eric Wieland wants a refund from Power class due to a medical condition. All but one person on the Grievance Committee voted to approve the refund. A league member must request a refund by a certain time. Eric did not know that he could request a refund so did not do so until well into the season. The Board adopts the Committee's recommendation and will refund weeks 5-12 (\$120) to Eric.

VIII. Announcements

There were many announcements and not listed here for fear of misstating these announcements. Please see the Specific Board member for their announcements.

IX. Adjournment

Motion made by Wladmir, seconded by Daryl: to adjourn. Passed by acclamation.

Meeting adjourned at 9:27 PM.

UPCOMING BOARD SCHEDULE:

End of Season Party – May 15th, 2010

First Meeting of 2010-2011 Board of Directors – June 8th, 2010