

Gotham Volleyball League, Inc.
Minutes of the First Meeting of the 2010-2011 Board of Directors
Tues. June 8, 2010

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

Attendees:

Seth Eichenholtz	Commissioner
Josh Christensen	Vice-Commissioner
Craig Skelton	Secretary
Lew Smith	Treasurer
Rich Reid*	Division 1 Rep
Vacant	Division 2 Rep
Dale Shoemaker	Division 3 Rep
Kleber Suarez	Division 4 Rep
Vacant	Division 5 Rep
Dan Chen	Division 6 Rep
Manny Ciccione	Division 7 Rep
Vacant	Division 8 Rep
Daryl Cochrane	Division 9 Rep

Dominic Borgia	Power Representative
Leah Hughey	Power Representative
Jason Shaw	Power Representative
Wladimir Thomas¹	Member-At-Large/ League Manager
Billy Bowden	Member-At-Large/ Power Manager
Joe Hom	Assistant Secretary (Non-Voting)
Pam Tong	Member-At-Large/ Assistant Treasurer
Bob Arcari	Member-At-Large/ Tournament Director & Programming/Events
Omar Portillo²	Member-At-Large/ Community Events and Outreach Coordinator
Glen Fernandez	Member-At-Large/ Social Events Coordinator
Eric Eichenholtz	Grievance Committee Chairman (Non-Voting)
Rene Deida	Development Director (Non-Voting)

Bold = in attendance at start of meeting.

* = board members who arrived late (Rich Reid 7:47PM)

¹ Wladimir Thomas participated and voted as Division 8 Representative at the start of the meeting until his confirmation as League Manager, and then participated and voted in that capacity.

² Omar Portillo participated and voted as Division 5 Representative at the start of the meeting until his confirmation as Community Events and Outreach Coordinator, and then participated and voted in that capacity.

Gotham Volleyball League, Inc.
Minutes of the First Meeting of the 2010-2011 Board of Directors
Tues. June 8, 2010

- I. **Call to Order**
Seth Called the meeting to order at 7:35 PM.

- II. **Approval of Minutes**
Minutes for the Board meeting on April 13, 2010 were presented for approval. A motion was made by Dale and seconded by Wladimir, the motion passed by acclamation. Likewise, minutes from the Board Meeting on May 10, 2010 were presented for approval. Corrections were suggested to the header listing the meeting as the 11th meeting not the 12th. Also, the attendance page was not reflective of actual attendance. With the noted corrections Manny made a motion and Josh offered a second. The minutes for the May meeting were approved by acclamation.

- III. **Public Comment**
There was no public comment offered.

- IV. **Executive Board Reports**
 - A. **Commissioner -- Seth Eichenholtz**
 - i. **Welcome**
Seth welcomed everyone to the meeting and suggested we get to business as there is a lot to do.
 - ii. **Appointments to the Board**
 1. Seth made the following members at large appointments to the Board of Directors, with the consent of the Executive Board:
Member at Large- League Manager-Wladimir Thomas
Motion to confirm Wladimir: Made by Lew; 2nd: Manny Passed by acclamation.
Member at Large- Power Manager- Billy Bowden
Motion to confirm Billy: Made by Josh; 2nd: Wladimir Passed by acclamation.
Member at Large- Assistant Treasurer- Pam Tong
Motion to confirm Pam: Made by Dominic; 2nd: Lew Passed by acclamation.
Member at Large- Tournaments Director- Bob Arcari
Motion to confirm Bob: Made by Wladimir; 2nd: Billy Passed by acclamation.
Member at Large- Community Events and Outreach Coordinator- Omar Portillo
Motion to confirm Omar: Made by Josh; 2nd: Dan Passed by acclamation.
Member at Large- Social Events Coordinator- Glen F.
Motion: Josh 2nd: Rich Passed by acclamation.
 - iii. **Appointments to the Grievance Committee-Seth appointed the following Gotham members to the grievance committee, with terms**

Gotham Volleyball League, Inc.
Minutes of the First Meeting of the 2010-2011 Board of Directors
Tues. June 8, 2010

expiring on May 31, 2012:

1. Grievance Committee Members

Division 2 Brian Carroll

Motion to confirm Brian: Made by Omar; 2nd: Billy Passed by acclamation.

Division 6 Ethan Felson

Motion to confirm Ethan: Made by Dan; 2nd: Manny Passed by acclamation.

Division 8 Eric Eichenholtz

Motion to confirm Eric: Made by Josh; 2nd: Wladimir Passed by acclamation.

2. Grievance Committee At Large Vacancy

Henry Mui, a former Board member, has asked to be made a part of the grievance committee. Seth thinks he would make a good addition to the committee and liked the qualities Henry spoke of in his letter to be considered. Therefore, Seth is appointing him to the “at large” position that Eric vacated to become the Division 8 member, with a term that expires on May 31, 2011.

Motion to confirm Henry: Made by Dominic; 2nd: Dan Passed by acclamation.

3. Grievance Committee Chair

Eric Eichenholtz previously served as Chair and has written the last two decisions. He will continue to serve as committee chair.

iv. Non-Voting Positions-The following positions are non-voting board positions and therefore require no confirmation:

1. Webmaster- John Wetsell

2. Development Director-Rene Dieda

v. Other Board Vacancies- There are still two member at large seats available and there are now four Division Representative positions available (2, 5, 6, 8). Division 2 will remain open until after the Fall Season is underway out of respect for Fabio, the other positions are open and need to be filled before the Fall try-outs. Seth will inform everyone of the open positions and solicit interested parties to present at the next board meeting.

B. Vice Commissioner – Josh Christensen

i. In response to a decision that was made at the retreat, we will be adding board Member Photos to the website. Please stay after for your picture or be prepared next month to have your picture made.

C. Secretary – Craig Skelton

Gotham Volleyball League, Inc.
Minutes of the First Meeting of the 2010-2011 Board of Directors
Tues. June 8, 2010

D. Treasurer- Lew Smith

Summer League payment report:

- 147 Players in the summer league.**
- 6 waivers**
- 2 payment plans**
- 5 no pays**

V. Old Business

A. Facilities/Programming

i. Summer Season 2010

1. Summer League Recap

We had about 200 people try-out for 140 spots. We encouraged captains to select returning members over new ones as the summer is seen as an offering for our current members. Most captains complied, some did not. There were a good number of people from Division 9 that didn't get selected and many new players that weren't selected. There are also a few teams in Division B that have 10 players.

2. Summer Calendar – We have secured the use of O. Henry for Wednesday and Thursday nights this summer. The proposal is that we'll do a 4-2 open play on Wednesdays and on Thursdays a 6-2 open play geared toward Divisions 5,6,&7, or a "low" 6-2 for people looking to transition from 4-2 to 6-2. Starting in August we'll have Open Plays on Monday for Divisions 6-9, Wednesday for Divisions 3-5, and Thursdays for Divisions 1-3. And of course we'll need to arrange staffing for all of these.

ii. Fall Season 2010 Calendar

1. In order to complete a twelve week season before Christmas we must begin league play by the second week of September. In addition to the Labor Day Weekend, there is now the Boston Tournament to consider. The following options were discussed:

Divisions 1&2 Sept 9
Divisions 3,4,&5 Sept 11
Divisions 6,7,8,9 Sept 12
Power Sept 19

-OR-

Divisions 1&2 Aug 26
Divisions 3&4 Sept 9
Divisions 5,6,7&8 Sept 11
Division 9&Power Sept 12

-OR-

Divisions 1&2 Aug 30

Gotham Volleyball League, Inc.
Minutes of the First Meeting of the 2010-2011 Board of Directors
Tues. June 8, 2010

Divisions 3&4	Sept 1
Divisions 5&6	Sept 2
Divisions 7,8,&9	Sept 11
Power	Sept 12or19

Discussion of the options presented led the Board to believe that the last option may be the best, with a final decision to follow.

iii. Fall Season Facilities/Programming – We will not have lengthy discussion or a vote on the issue of facilities or programming for the Fall, however, in lieu of the fact that we turned away 60 people last spring, we may want to consider adding a Division or some other programming for the Fall.

B. Spring Fling Tournament

The Spring Fling was very successful with 10 teams! In the future we may consider making this a two tiered tournament. In any case this is a great tournament for our newer members in that it replicates the NAGVA tournament experience and opens their eyes to playing in those tournaments or other possibilities.

C. Calendar Proposal

There was no new information or discussion of this project.

D. AIDS Walk

Very successful, with 30-40 people in attendance who all went to Dallas BBQ afterwards. Our fundraising total was over \$7,000.

E. Final Website Phase

There was no news or discussion of this project.

F. Fire Island Tournament Update – July 17, 2010

Teams have begun registering, although none have been confirmed. We have approximately 15-20 teams registered so far. The number of teams allowed to play has not increased, we have only added a court of 2's. Josh also reports that he's begun to get inquiries from people out of our area. The goal was to have beach towels as the give away, but they're out of our budget. To cover the cost of the towels Josh has increased the registration fee from \$45 to \$50 per person to cover the expense. John Wetsell has given Josh the number for Absolute Vodka to see if they may be willing to contribute, we'll also be contacting Gym Bar and Boxers to see if they have any advertising budget. Our permits cost has gone up \$100. Josh is not playing in this summers tournament so he can oversee tournament operations while the tourney is in progress.

Gotham Volleyball League, Inc.
Minutes of the First Meeting of the 2010-2011 Board of Directors
Tues. June 8, 2010

G. Pride Update - June 27, 2010

Glen and John Rappaport will be working to coordinate Pride this year including attending the Marshal training. T-shirts have been ordered, we're checking into whether or not we'll need a car.

H. Scholarship Proposal

We need to touch base with the school before we move forward on scholarship proposals.

I. End of Season Tournaments

There has been a proposal to change the rules of league play so that instead of a best of three losers bracket match, there will be one 30 rally-point game. Almost every Division was running late due to the three game matches in the losers bracket.

Motion to change the Rules of League Play, in order to change the format of losers bracket matches from best of three 15-point sets, to one 30 point set: Made by Rich; 2nd: Wladimir Motion passes by a vote of 11-1.

VI. New Business

A. Summer Clinics

Jeff is pushing for a decision regarding summer clinics due to a staffing deadline. The issue is we may not have Rustin until the last week of August and we may not be able to confirm facilities in time for Jeff's deadline. He thinking going forward is that we'll do the best we can given the circumstances.

VII. Reports

A. League Manager- Wladimir

- During the Summer months, an inventory will be made regarding what is needed for the closet.
- Based on recent review, the closet is not in a very good state. Once cleaned, Board members will be required to see to it that the closet is maintained.
- A schedule will be compiled for the Open Plays on Wednesdays and Thursdays. If members have a preference or scheduling concerns, they will need to e-mail the League Manager by the end of the week.

B. Power Manager- Billy

No report.

C. Tournaments- Bob

Had to cancel two friendship tournaments, due to low registration.

Announcements:

Josh- Party at Pieces to celebrate his medal

Gotham Volleyball League, Inc.
Minutes of the First Meeting of the 2010-2011 Board of Directors
Tues. June 8, 2010

Wladimir- started his new job.

Dale

Dom

Dan- It's been a pleasure serving with you all.

Manny- Team took 2nd at the Spring Fling.

Bob- Sorry Josh, Happy Birthday

Rich

Billy

Eric- no report

Low Reappointed to NAGVA

Craig

Eric- 3-0 with a +39 point Differential

Seth- looking forward to playing on Manny's team this summer!

Motion to adjourn: Made by Wlad; 2nd: Josh Motion passed by acclamation

Meeting adjourned at 9:25 PM.

UPCOMING BOARD SCHEDULE:

July 17, 2010 – Fire Island Tournament

August 9, 2010 – Next Board Meeting

August 30, 2010 – Division 1/2 Tryouts (Tentative)

September 1, 2010 – Division 3/4 Tryouts (Tentative)

September 2, 2010 – Division 5/6 Tryouts (Tentative)

September 7, 2010 – Board Meeting

September 11, 2010 – Division 7/8/9 Tryouts (Tentative)

September 19, 2010 – Power Class Tryouts (Tentative)

September 20, 2010 – Team Power Tryouts (Tentative)

October 12, 2010 – Board Meeting

November 9, 2010 – Board Meeting

December 14, 2010 – Board Meeting

**GOTHAM VOLLEYBALL LEAGUE, INC.
MINUTES FROM THE SECOND MEETING OF THE
2010-2011 BOARD OF DIRECTORS
JULY 13, 2010**

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Josh Christensen	Vice-Commissioner
Craig Skelton	Secretary
Lew Smith*	Treasurer
Rich Reid	Division 1 Rep
Vacant	Division 2 Rep
Dale Shoemaker	Division 3 Rep
Kleber Suarez	Division 4 Rep
Justin Hill	Division 5 Rep
Travis Pouliot	Division 6 Rep
Manny Ciccione	Division 7 Rep
Susan D'Addario	Division 8 Rep
Daryl Cochrane	Division 9 Rep

Dominic Borgia	Power Representative
Leah Hughey	Power Representative
Jason Shaw	Power Representative
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Eric Eichenholtz	Grievance Committee Chairman (Non-Voting)
Rene Deida	Development Director (Non-Voting)

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* indicates members who arrived late (Lew Smith 8:25. Pam Tong 8:40)

GOTHAM VOLLEYBALL LEAGUE, INC.
MINUTES FROM THE SECOND MEETING OF THE
2010-2011 BOARD OF DIRECTORS
JULY 13, 2010

- I. Call to Order
Commissioner Seth Eichenholtz called the meeting to order at 7:30.

- II. Approval of Minutes – June 8, 2010
A motion to approve the minutes was made by Wladimir Thomas and seconded by Josh Christensen. The motion passed by acclamation.

- III. Public Comment
No public comment.

- IV. Executive Board Reports
 - A. Commissioner -- Seth Eichenholtz
 - i. Member at Large Confirmation
Joe Hom was recommended to the board to continue in the at large position of Assistant Secretary. There were no questions for Joe and after a brief discussion there was a motion made by Wladimir Thomas to appoint Joe to the position and a second by Daryl Cochrane. The motion passed by acclamation.
 - ii. Board Vacancies –
According to the by-laws these positions are not nominated, rather they are filled by a general vote of the board. A list of interested parties was provided prior to tonight's meeting. The board was informed that on the provided list there were two candidates for the Division 8 Representative, one of whom was Anthony Mara who has decided not to pursue the position leaving only one candidate for Divisions 6 and 8. For Division 5 there are 3 candidates; Justin Hill, Eugene Dayanghirang, and Danny Agosto (who was unable to attend tonight's meeting). Travis Pouliot is the only candidate for the Division 6 position, and for Division 8 Susan D'Addario. Each candidate was asked to introduce themselves to the board starting with Division 5. The following prepared statements were provided by the candidates.
 - 1. Division 5 Representative
Eugene Dayanghirang
"Hi. My name is Eugene Dayanghirang and I've been a part of Gotham since I moved to NY in 2007. It's been a very fulfilling experience and I'm excited to have a chance to hopefully give back this summer as D5 rep. I have played in D5 for 4 seasons, once as captain. I've also captained Green Apple and Big Apple teams (Golden in a few!) I know the summer months and tryouts can be a lot to keep running, and I am eager to help."

Justin Hill

GOTHAM VOLLEYBALL LEAGUE, INC.
MINUTES FROM THE SECOND MEETING OF THE
2010-2011 BOARD OF DIRECTORS
JULY 13, 2010

I have played in Gotham for 3 years, beginning in the fall of 2007 as a complete novice to the sport. I played one season in Division 8, one season in Division 7, one time during the summer, and four seasons in Division 5. The last two seasons I have served as a captain and was recently elected to my third season as captain this fall. I have also coached a Division 8 team and have taken one season of Power E, two seasons of Power C, one season of Team Power, and one season of Power B. I believe that this exposure to so many elements of the Gotham experience will enable me to speak to the wide variety of issues that come before the Board, not just those that pertain to Division 5. I want to represent Division 5 for two reasons: 1) to take my involvement in the Gotham organization to a new level and 2) to continue to develop Division 5 as a competitive alternative for highly-skilled players who cannot, or chose not to, play on weeknights. For those of you who do not remember me from the two times I have sat in on Board meetings, I look forward to introducing myself. To the rest of you, I look forward to seeing you again on the 13th."

Danny Agosto

"I have been in the leagues over 15 years. I have been involved in the past with the board. I was vice commissioner and rep for division 2. I also coached teams in lower division. I have been a captain in division 2 and 5. I feel is time to get back into supporting the league. It is time to get involved."

2. Division 6 Representative
Travis Pouliot

I was Gotham Secretary last term, I did not run for Secretary again simply because my attendance was not what an executive board members attendance should be. I look forward to continuing by involvement with the League which I have been a member of for 5 years.

3. Division 8 Representative
Susan D'Addario

"I'd very much like to be D8 rep for a variety of reasons. As I've said before and I'll continue to say, Gotham has added a tremendous amount of fun and joy to my life. I became part of the Gotham family 2 years ago this coming September and I've had fun ever since. I love to play volleyball in Gotham and I love the community feel that exudes from Gotham. I've met a lot of people in the last 2 years and I have a blast with

GOTHAM VOLLEYBALL LEAGUE, INC.
MINUTES FROM THE SECOND MEETING OF THE
2010-2011 BOARD OF DIRECTORS
JULY 13, 2010

my new and old Gotham friends both on and off the court. For this reason, I'd like to be part of Gotham as D8 rep so I can give back to Gotham. I am hard working and would be reliable and organized with regard to my D8 responsibilities. I also would consider meeting and working together with Gotham Board members as a fun and rewarding experience. In terms of what I've done inside and outside of Gotham...within Gotham I've been a player non-stop since September '08. I am a member of the grievance committee. I have been a team captain Spring '10 (D8), Summer '10 (DB), and I've been elected as captain for this coming September. I've been a Captain for a number of Friendship Tournaments this past spring including the women's team "The Great Dames". I am a captain for the upcoming Fire Island Tournament as well. I've organized a number of dinners at my home with my Gotham teammates. I also have held 3 Texas Holdem' tournaments at my home which are attended in large part by Gotham friends. Moreover, I've had a "Meet the Nutritionist" seminar at my home for Gotham players. Outside of Gotham, I've done a variety of volunteer work for the LGBT Community Center, (CO- Chair of Garden Party; Co-Chair of Women and Friends Dance Ctte; Co-Chair of 2 Womens' Pride Dances), for Identity House (Peer Counselor, Group Facilitator, Therapist, Supervisor, Treasurer), for the Masterson Institute for Psychoanalytic Psychotherapy, (Organizational Coordinator). With regard to my non-volunteer work, I am a license clinical social worker and have, for the past 9 years, been maintaining a private practice as a psychotherapist. My educational background includes 2 masters degrees - MBA and MSW."

After closed door discussions there was a motion made by Manny to appoint Travis Pouliot as the Division 6 Representative, a second was offered my Glen Fernandez. The motion passed by acclamation. For the Division 8 Representative, Susan D'addario a motion was made by Daryl Cochrane and seconded by Omar Portillo. This motion also passed by acclamation. With Travis and Susan now on the board they were filled in on the offline conversations that had just taken place regarding the contested Division 5 Representative position. Eugene and Justin were asked, one at a time, if there had been board decisions they didn't agree with and how they would handle enforcing those policies should they be selected for the position. There was then some additional offline conversation after which a motion was made by Seth to appoint Justin Hill to the Division 5 board position, a second was offered by Dale Shoemaker. The motion passed by acclamation.

GOTHAM VOLLEYBALL LEAGUE, INC.
MINUTES FROM THE SECOND MEETING OF THE
2010-2011 BOARD OF DIRECTORS
JULY 13, 2010

iii. Remaining Vacancies

1. Grievance Committee

Susan's new position of Division Representative has left a vacancy on the Grievance committee. Seth has recommended the position be filled by Joseph Sena, stating he was interested in one of the at large positions and has an impressive resume that includes working with non profits. The Executive Board has expressed support for the appointment and Daryl Cochrane also had supportive words for Mr. Sena. Joe Hom made a motion to approve the appointment and a second was offered by Manny. Seeing no objections the motion passed by acclamation.

There are still two open grievance Committee positions (Division 4 and At Large).

2. Communications Director

This seat is still open and the Executive board is looking at/for interested parties.

iv. Meeting with Rustin Campus Governing Council

Seth will be attending the next council meeting to discuss upcoming permits, which shouldn't be a problem as we wouldn't be invited if we weren't getting the permits.

B. Vice Commissioner – Josh Christensen

i. Website Photos

Have been postponed until next months meeting, please come prepared.

C. Secretary – Craig Skelton

The meetings are recorded for minutes purposes, please speak up during Board meetings.

D. Treasurer – Lew Smith

Our current deposits total \$127,539.09

Which breaks down to approximately:

Main Account \$70,700.00

Washington Mutual \$2,500.00

Big Apple \$6,500.00

Fire Island \$11,400

Savings \$36,500

These totals do not include the Pay pal account total, the Summer League deposits, or the final Fire Island Deposit.

V. Old Business

A. Fire Island Tournament

Josh reports that everything is going well. We have 56 teams and will need 14

GOTHAM VOLLEYBALL LEAGUE, INC.
MINUTES FROM THE SECOND MEETING OF THE
2010-2011 BOARD OF DIRECTORS
JULY 13, 2010

nets. Towels have been ordered for the team give away. The party will be at White Hall, Bob will have the schedule tomorrow because I got the final list to him late due to the fact that I had to cancel the doubles division since only three teams signed up. We had an issue with the city of Brookhaven. We do not need a permit from the city of Brookhaven!! The food is good to go and an e-mail will be going out to the captains as soon as Bob finishes the schedule.

B. Facilities/Programming

i. Summer Season 2010

1. Open Play Changes
2. Update on All Summer Programs
 - a. League
 - b. Open Plays

The current system is very cumbersome and many participants in the upper divisions are signing up at the last minute which makes the management of these activities difficult. Indicating that some changes are needed in the Open Play system during the summer months. So we'll be looking into ways to improve the process of producing the open plays.

ii. Fall Season Facilities/Programming

1. Upper Division Issues/Rules Changes?

Seth and Josh have discussed some possible changes to the rules for the upper divisions. The pattern has been that when the league needs to expand it does so by adding divisions at the lower end of the skill level because it's the easiest thing to do. However, it has been recognized that we are losing players at the upper divisions. The concern is that there is some systemic issue that is undermining participation and skill level in the upper divisions. It is known that a good number of those former players are still playing in Urban where substitution rules are in place, liberos are allowed, and where there is no rotation. The question then became do we want to make a change in the higher levels to foster a higher skill set? Seth spoke to the Division 1 Representative Rich Reid and he confirmed the above line of thinking, he went on to say said on the other hand we are community based organization. Everyone pays their dues, we register as individuals not as teams, and if you have substitution rules there's no guarantee's that everyone is going to get play time. You also don't know, even if you try out as a libero, if a captain is going to utilize you in that way. Perhaps the captain already has a libero and so he prefers to use you as say, a setter. So playtime is a significant concern. Seth also stated that being a community based organization, as we are, the vast majority of our

GOTHAM VOLLEYBALL LEAGUE, INC.
MINUTES FROM THE SECOND MEETING OF THE
2010-2011 BOARD OF DIRECTORS
JULY 13, 2010

players come to the league with a 'less developed volleyball resume', so he feels that the "downward expansion" is appropriate because that is where interest in the league is strongest. As a case in point, last Spring we turned away 60 people, this summer we turned away 50 people, and in the middle divisions captains are struggling to find capable middles. Board members made the following points:

Lew Smith- As a player in the higher divisions, I think one of the things different from Urban and us, is they get to pick who they play with and let's face it there are some people, due to personalities, that no one wants to play with. I don't think it's a libero issue because I don't see teams that use a libero in Urban men's 3/2 Division. I think we should survey to some of these former players and ask them why they no longer play and if there's something we can do to improve the experience for our advanced players. I also think we could try to recruit advanced LGBTQ players from GEVA (Garden Empire Volleyball Association) which is our region of USAV.

Bob Arcari-I can see some benefit to changing the rules for upper divisions simply because that's how teams are playing at NAGVA tournaments and for new players to see that that's where the game is headed might motivate them and make a transition easier.

Daryl Cochrane- I'm a proponent of not turning people away. I'm wondering if other divisions are drafting 10 players as they are in Division 9, maybe making it possible for captains to draft 10 players is a way to expand the league. (Seth explained that there are currently rules in place to cap teams in Divisions 1-8 to 9 players).

Eric Eichenholtz- First I don't think the two ideas presented by Seth and Josh are mutually exclusive. I think you have to take a two pronged approach by strengthening the upper divisions perhaps by tightening the rules or recruiting players and, at the same time, in the middle divisions recognize the growth in skills in those divisions and make Division 6 a 6-2 division. So when you add Division 10 you've enhanced the experience at every level.

Travis Pouliot- I don't think all nine divisions need to be treated the same way, I think we can be more creative in the try-out process for Divisions 9 for example, or make changes in the rules of play in the upper divisions but not the lower. Secondly, I know we don't like to turn people away, but there is a limitation of space. And I think having 10 people on a team in Division 9 is crazy because you have 10 people who don't know how to play

GOTHAM VOLLEYBALL LEAGUE, INC.
MINUTES FROM THE SECOND MEETING OF THE
2010-2011 BOARD OF DIRECTORS
JULY 13, 2010

and you're trying to teach them how to play a 6 person sport, I think you're overwhelming the coaches. We need to be sure we're doing the players justice. I've never been to division 9, I don't know how it was run, but if I had 10 people I wouldn't run for captain.

Omar Portillo-I think there are two issues, 1. Keeping the upper levels competitive 2. Retaining players, which I can't speak to. I think if the question is whether you add a Division 10 or expand in the middle with a Division 5a, you should add in the middle so that people in 6 would feel like they moved up and Division 5 would still feel comfortable.

Seth Eichenholtz- I was here when we did 4b and we did it for the exact reasons that Omar said, we didn't want to create a new division 5 and then the people in the existing 5&6 feel like they had been dropped a division. I think that was something unique to Gotham at the time. There were a lot of people who couldn't play on weeknights so there were a lot of skilled players staying in Division 5. I have been over the Division 5 draft the past four seasons and I feel like toward the end of the draft especially with concern to middles the pickings are slim. I'm concerned that if we go so far to create a division at that level we won't have the people with the passing capabilities or skills to perform at that level. When we did Division 9 we turned away 60 people so we had four teams then we had 80 and we allowed the division to grow. That's not to say we couldn't add a division in the middle, but it would be harder to do a small division in the middle.

Personally I think we should go with our current format if we have a lot of people we can do a division 10. I also think Lew's idea to do a survey of former players is a good idea and would be easy to do.

2. League Expansion Discussion

In terms of space for an expansion, either from the middle or at the bottom, we do have some options. Alan Kramer was looking into the Fashion High School which is on 24th between 7th and 8th, and we might be able to use that space on the weekend. We might want to grab it if it's available even if we don't have programming for it. The other thing is we could change the format of how we use Rustin and O'Henry on weekends for the friendship tournaments.

Josh Christensen- I have a laundry list of things that were brought up. First I wonder if the statement "we expand at the lower

GOTHAM VOLLEYBALL LEAGUE, INC.
MINUTES FROM THE SECOND MEETING OF THE
2010-2011 BOARD OF DIRECTORS
JULY 13, 2010

divisions because that's were the interest lies" is true. I don't know how to find the answer, I wonder how many people aren't even trying out for the higher divisions because of how its structured. If they look and see that I have to rotate around and can't substitute or specialize I'm not even going to go try-out, that's not the kind of volleyball I play. Whereas at the lower level they often have such a minimal understanding of the game that they don't care that there isn't a libero cause they don't know what a libero is. The other thing that I didn't say before is that I'm not necessarily just talking about play, I'm also talking about participation in the league in general. We have one person on the board from Division 1 and that's the Division 1 Rep. That's a problem. We have two people from Division 2, every other Division has multiple representatives on the board. That's why I feel that there's something more that isn't working with Gotham, it may have something to do with level of play, but there's something more. I'm not just talking about getting them in and playing, I'm talking about getting them involved in the league. The other thing is there's a BIG difference between system of play and skill level. So labeling an upper division a "6-2" division might not be a good idea. Just because you know where to go doesn't mean you have the skills to play in that system of play. So for us to qualify the level of a division by a system of play is inaccurate and might be causing us problems. I agree with Eric that the ideas discussed aren't mutually exclusive, what I was trying to say was that we never have this discussion. We always talk about adding at the bottom, not since I've been on the board. It's been "who gets the space" not "what's going on at these levels". The last thing is why can't we add at the middle on a small scale?

C. Pride Recap

A very big thank you to Glen and John for organizing this years pride. Every year our turnout gets bigger, I think we had 50 or 60 more this year than last. Also thanks to Glen for taking care of Zipcar for me, it was nice of him to do that. Everything went well and I'm hoping Glen had such a great time that he'll offer to do it again next year. There was some discussion of a float or music being added to our presence next year. The stress balls seemed to be a big hit and the shorter parade route wasn't too much of a loss.

D. Final Website Phase – Redesign Update

We have sent a new request for a proposal and have so far received one response, we're waiting/hoping for more. Omar voiced some frustration

GOTHAM VOLLEYBALL LEAGUE, INC.
MINUTES FROM THE SECOND MEETING OF THE
2010-2011 BOARD OF DIRECTORS
JULY 13, 2010

about the length of this project. It was explained that this is a new phase in our website development, and had only just begun. Our target date to complete this phase is by or shortly after the beginning of the Fall season.

E. Scholarship Proposal --

Seth is going to have a meeting with the Campus Governance Committee, and will discuss this with them then and report back.

VI. New Business

A. Upcoming Community Outreach Programs

i Women's Social -

We're planning a women's social on August 19th, Susan is hosting at her apartment with either a budget of \$50-\$100 or potluck. Thanks to Susan for hosting. Omar is going to email an invitation to the ladies on his list.

ii Women's Summer Open Play

Omar would like to include a women's open play in the summer schedule. Seth and Omar will look at the schedule and figure out a time.

iii Center Orientation

Omar is willing to volunteer to represent Gotham at the orientation, however, however the next one is scheduled for Sept 21, right after all of our Fall programs have started. He still feels like it's important to keep our name and face out there and participate. There is no opposition from the board so this will proceed.

iv Fire Island BlackOut

Blackout is requesting refs for their event this year. Omar doesn't have all the details of how many refs they need, but if it's a feasible number Omar will find volunteers to assist them, although he regrettably won't be able to do it himself.

v Gotham Green/Golden Apple tournament will be held November 13-14 at City College.

VII. Reports

A. League Manager – Wladimir Thomas

-Thanks to Craig for a smooth transition in the League Manager position.

-Summer League play began on June 7 according to schedule.

-Due to the heat and the resulting perspiration there has been an issue with wet floors, so perhaps paper towels or cloths could be provided.

-John Siragusa fell on June 17th at Rustin and didn't play anymore for the rest of the evening, but was asked repeatedly if he was ok, which he said he was, and he was able to walk out unassisted.

-There needs to be a training class on how to put up the nets.

- If anyone needs a key to Rustin or O'henry please send an e-mail to the league manager.

GOTHAM VOLLEYBALL LEAGUE, INC.
MINUTES FROM THE SECOND MEETING OF THE
2010-2011 BOARD OF DIRECTORS
JULY 13, 2010

-Only Board members are allowed in the closet, which should always be kept clean and organized. The only way this is possible is if there is a group effort.

- B. Power Manager – Billy Bowden
No report.
- C. Tournaments Director – Bob Arcari
No Report
- D. Social – Glen Fernandez
No report.
- E. Development – Rene Deida
No report.
- F. Webmaster – John Wetsell
Not present.
- G. Grievance – Eric Eichenholtz
No report.

VIII. Announcements

Omar- I'm a working Social Worker.
Travis- Ran into lady gaga
Daryl- Eric and I were undefeated
Glen- saw Lady Gaga
Susan- Thank you!
Wlad- Phil is doing ok, I'm sure he'd be glad to hear from you.
Lew- I just found out I'm intimidating.
Josh-I'm moving to Bushwick, I will not be attending the BlackOut because that's my birthday.

IX. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn was made by Wlad, seconded by Bob. Meeting adjourned at 9:45.

UPCOMING BOARD SCHEDULE:

July 17, 2010 – Fire Island Tournament
August 9, 2010 – Next Board Meeting
August 30, 2010 – Division 1/2 Tryouts (Tentative)
September 1, 2010 – Division 3/4 Tryouts (Tentative)
September 2, 2010 – Division 5/6 Tryouts (Tentative)
September 7, 2010 – Board Meeting
September 11, 2010 – Division 7/8/9 Tryouts (Tentative)
September 19, 2010 – Power Class Tryouts (Tentative)
September 20, 2010 – Team Power Tryouts (Tentative)
October 12, 2010 – Board Meeting
November 9, 2010 – Board Meeting
December 14, 2010 –Board Meeting



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 2010-2011 Board of Directors Tues. August 9, 2010

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

Attendees:

Seth Eichenholtz	Commissioner
Josh Christensen	Vice-Commissioner
Craig Skelton	Secretary
Lew Smith	Treasurer
Rich Reid	Division 1 Rep
Vacant	Division 2 Rep
Dale Shoemaker ²	Division 3 Rep
Kleber Suarez	Division 4 Rep
Justin Hill	Division 5 Rep
Travis Pouliot	Division 6 Rep
Manny Ciccone	Division 7 Rep
Susan D'Addario	Division 8 Rep
Daryl Cochrane	Division 9 Rep
John Wetsell	Webmaster

Dominic Borgia	Power Representative – At-Large
Jason Shaw	Power Representative – Sunday
Leah Hughey ³	Power Representative – Saturday/Monday
Wladimir Thomas	Member-At-Large/ League Manager
Billy Bowden	Member-At-Large/ Power Manager
Joe Hom	Member-At-Large/ Assistant Secretary
Pam Tong ¹	Member-At-Large/ Assistant Treasurer
Bob Arcari	Member-At-Large/ Tournament Director & Programming/Events
Alan Kramer	Facilities/Coaching Committee Chair
Omar Portillo	Community Events and Outreach Coordinator
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 - Arrived 7:31 PM; ² - Arrived 7:34 PM; ³ - Arrived 7:50 PM



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 2010-2011 Board of Directors Tues. August 9, 2010

I. Call to Order

Seth called the meeting to order at 7:29 PM. No quorum at this time. Quorum attained at 7:31 PM.

II. Approval of Minutes – July 12, 2010

Minutes will be available at September's meeting.

III. Public Comment

None.

IV. Officers' Reports

A. Commissioner

i. Fall Facility Status

Seth and Josh had a good meeting with the Rustin Campus principals. Seth and Josh reviewed the historic relationship between Gotham and the Rustin Campus, and explained that we will continue to respect the educational programs and their needs. The principal's council approved our fall permit request.

ii. Grievance Committee

Motion: To appoint Tom Eikenbrod to the Grievance Committee as Division 4 representative to replace John Orcutt, whose term expired in June and did not want to return to the position.
Made by Billy, seconded by Jason; passed by acclamation.

iii. Social Event System

Three seasons ago division reps started to organize division social events. Now people are setting events up independently and using Facebook. Seth discussed this with Glen about how to coordinate these type of events so these are properly communicated to the Gotham community. They will work more closely with each other so that Gotham members know that Glen is the coordinator/point of contact in organizing and communicating Gotham-wide. No individual Board member should be creating or running a "Gotham" event without Gotham approval, and should go through the Gotham Facebook group to send out the invitation.

iv. New Referee Coordinator

Former Referee Coordinator Russell Rodriguez decided to retire from this position because of other professional commitments and recommended Heriberto Estrada as his replacement (new point of contact for referee coordination). We have adopted his recommendation and hired Heriberto to serve as the new coordinator. Many know Heriberto is a long time Gotham member and currently serves as a Power coach.



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 2010-2011 Board of Directors Tues. August 9, 2010

B. Vice-Commissioner

Photos for the website to be taken tonight.

C. Secretary

Craig is in Texas this week. (The high down there is 100+.) Joe is taking the minutes for this meeting.

D. Treasurer

No major expenses other than paying for the school permits. Major summer income is from open plays (Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday).

V. Old Business

A. Facilities/Programming

i. Fall Season Facilities/Programming

a. Rebranding Division Play

- i. The proposal is to rebrand the divisions from 6-2 and 4-2 to one that focuses on skill level.
- ii. In 6-2 one needs to have the skills to pass, set, and hit. Then a team can run a 6-2 offense. The "lower" divisions play a regular 4-2 or even an international 4-2.
- iii. The emphasis is on skill level to implement a particular offense. Gotham in the past emphasized knowledge of 6-2 and 4-2 as a basis to recommend a division to tryout. Focus will now be on the skill level.
- iv. Tryouts for Divisions 5/6/7 will have players run an international 4-2 (rather than 6-2) to give captains a chance to see players who would consider playing middle.

b. League Expansion Proposal

- i. Alan has been in contact with Fashion Institute of Technology (24th street between 7th and 8th Ave.) for gym space availability. It won't be until Sept. 12th or 13th that Alan can contact again to follow up.
- ii. Division 10
 - a. Some Sunday scheduling options are: Division 9 (10 AM to 2 PM) then Division 10 at O'Henry (2 PM to 5 PM). Power F after D10 plays (5 PM to 8 PM).
 - b. There is sensitivity to the coaches who are working with beginners. Some may not know how to coach the basics to beginners.
 - c. Also, the Power coaches' scheduled would have to be resolved. (Note: At Rustin, Power E&F 2 PM to 5 PM, Power C&D 5 PM to 8 PM).
 - d. There would not be any additional cost as this is just a shift in scheduling. BB Friendship tournaments would be affected at O'Henry (no space available). BB, B, and C Friendship tournaments could be rotated at Rustin.
 - e. We would need a D10 representative if there are more than six teams.
 - f. Note: expansion in the "middle" of the Gotham divisions (i.e., Division 5/6) won't realize the full effect for at least one to two seasons (it takes a while). The reason is that the league will not know if doing so will "gut" the succeeding divisions and cascading to Division 9. Expansion at the Division 10 level can allow for the organic league growth.

ii. Late Summer/Fall Season Calendar Proposal

End of Season Fall tournament will not be at City College on Dec. 18th and 19th due to availability. Division 1 to 4 will be on Dec. 12th. Division 5 to 9/10 will be Jan 8th. Both are pending availability.



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 2010-2011 Board of Directors Tues. August 9, 2010

End of Season Party will be on Jan. 22, 2011.

Rustin Campus will have its construction completed the weekend of Aug. 28/29 and will be available for use.

Power Clinic: Gotham used to offer the clinic in separate sessions/weekends (high and low). There was discussion for clinics geared towards specific positions (i.e., setters and middles then outside hitters) as well as early Power tryouts. The general consensus was to have a high/low Power clinic on one weekend (Aug. 27 and 28).

Some discussion addressed the issue of attendees of the clinic being placed by coaches after a watching them perform some drills and then placing them. The alternative is to have players self-place.

Last year there were more response from more beginner players and there was a waiting list. This clinic is an offering rather than a guarantee of space availability. The cap is 25 per class. The Board will work with Jeff to get the details of the clinic. Registration will be customized to send out an e-mail to communicate the clinic details.

B. Fall 2010 Registration/Tryouts

Board members should sign up for at least three dates/slots. Craig will be the point of contact to coordinate volunteers.

There was discussion about how long a Division 10 season might be. From the calendar of available dates the longest allowable time would be 10 weeks.

There were ideas about tryouts from this year's retreat. Seth will get the notes from Rene and e-mail to the Board.

Seth will follow up with Wlad about the list of Division 9 captains.

C. Final Website Phase – Redesign Update

Request for Proposal (RFP) – got some RFPs back and the Website Committee awarded the project to Forescene, who came in with the most comprehensive proposal within our budget.. Some important considerations included user flow and organization information of the Gotham membership. In its April meeting, the Board had authorized the Website Committee to accept the best proposal that comes in within budget.

There was discussion about content management solution (CMS) where a “developer”/author does not need to know HTML (hyper-text markup language) to design a website. One can enter text and then publish directly to their website. Forescore listed 20-30 sites featuring their work. There is also a link showing their customers' comments.

It will take two months from the start to finish (during the Fall season). There will be “tweaks” along the way to enhance the work/final product. Some Board members requested that some of the pictures used on the website feature women to help attract more women to Gotham.



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 2010-2011 Board of Directors Tues. August 9, 2010

D. Scholarship Proposal - Billy

Billy is ready to donate a computer and a monetary donation to the school.

E. Community Outreach Update

i. Women's Social

Susan will host an event at her place on Aug. 23rd (6 PM to ?). Omar and she encourage the Board to participate. The invitees will be from an existing mailing list (from the open plays this past season) and Facebook. If the person is not on Facebook then she would RSVP via e-mail. The format is potluck dinner and small donation. The current committee comprises of Omar Portillo, Susan D'Addario, Tasha Gerkin and Cynthia Jennings. (Pictures from the open play will be made available for use on the Gotham website.)

ii. Women's Summer Open Play

Aug. 23rd date will be rescheduled since O'Henry has a regular Monday night open play scheduled.

iii. Center Orientation

Omar will attend in September and will report his findings to the Board.

iv. Fire Island Blackout

Gotham is tentatively participating. The organization is just asking for nets and not for Gotham to run the tournament. Concern is that the nets are expensive (~\$300 each) and that there will not be any Gotham volunteers available to monitor net usage. In the past the party has been raucous; and the logistics of setting up the nets are challenging. Josh voiced his concerns to Omar and perhaps asking for a deposit of \$300 per net from the Blackout organizer. The organizer can get John and Patrick's to pickup the nets on Fri and return on Sun. John Wellens (CEO of Blackout) will sign an agreement. In the meantime Josh will reach out to the permit issuers at Fire Island that Gotham is not associated with this organization.

F. Fire Island Tournament Recap

Budget distributed. The tournament was over in revenue and under in expenses. The budget was tight due to the beach towel cost and because of the extra funds, there can be a larger donation to Hispanic AIDS Forum (HAF).

The boxes on the beach kept clean up to a minimum.

The stakes kept people out of the dune. Only a few were caught entering.

Thanks goes out to Billy for running the extra net. There were two extra nets. One net had a stuck pole making it not usable. The second one is a new net which uses bendable poles and no guide wires and just did not work. In the future the tournament will stick with the guide wire system as people are very used to these type of set ups.

Billy suggested about getting sponsorship for the tournament and will work on that. Another suggestion is to use a laptop to perform the calculations for the tournament.



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 2010-2011 Board of Directors Tues. August 9, 2010

Non-Gotham members are not eligible for the Fire Island tournament due to the tournament's insurance coverage. A suggestion proposed was to charge everyone an additional \$7 to include everyone though the consensus was that we felt uncomfortable in asking all participants for this fee especially current Gotham members.

The tournament is getting too big and there aren't enough volunteers for the 14 nets. Perhaps next year there will be a cap of 12 nets with 12 teams per division. If there are more teams then the tournament stretches out and teams may not get adequate play. 6D teams will be encouraged to move up to 6C. 6D Division has a max of one Division 7 player.

There was discussion of who is considered a member. Does this include open play people? (No.) There is separate insurance coverage for one-off events (i.e., tournaments) at tournament coverage rate.

The party went well and the food and drink lasted for a while.

VI. New Business

A. Gay Games

Daman and Bruce took silver in beach. Mama and Troy took gold in beach and silver indoor.

VII. Reports

A. League Manager

i. Summer Season

Went well.

ii. All Stars

A: Alex Poupart

B: Adam Cassel

B. Power Manager

Tryouts Sept. 19th.

C. Tournaments Director – Bob Arcari

Need to finalize if there will be a Division 10 and then can schedule the open plays and Friendship tournaments. This will also take into consideration Fashion Institute of Technology gym space availability.

D. Social

NA

E. Development

NA

F. Webmaster

See Old Business (Section V. - B.)

G. Coaching

On July 27th Joe Hom, Vinnie Mirrione, Pam Tong, Frankie D'Eufemia, Ed Kamholz, Susan D'Addario, Daryl Cochrane, and Alan Kramer met at Alan's place.



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 2010-2011 Board of Directors Tues. August 9, 2010

i. Matchmaking

The committee does not recommend any changes to the current system. The captains can select any coach they see fit to coach their team. This is not base on any qualifications.

Last year there were 15 volunteers for the fall season and about 25-30 for the Spring season. All requests except some in Division 4 were met.

The committee recommends that we continue to send out an e-mail blast prior to the start of the season to solicit coaches.

ii. Proposal

The committee wanted to know if there was a way to make a mini-questionnaire be part of the registration process. This would solicit people of their interest in coaching. The response is that an e-mail blast would be easier to administer.

iii. Assistant Coaches

At the more beginner level a coach needs more individual focus on the player. A second set of hands and eyes would be helpful in the form of an assistant coach. (In the past the "mentor" coach concept did not really take off.) The primary coach is responsible for coaching duties. This assistant coach may be a person who is not comfortable in being the primary coach and can hopefully develop into a sole coach for a team.

iv. Limits of Coaches per Team

Captains should be asked to not have more than one coach. This will make more coaches available league-wide.

v. Coaches' Training Session

Gotham should continue to offer this session. Perhaps this will be offered once a year at the start of the Fall season. The emphasis should be on more drills and less talk. Some consideration should be on drills that do not require a net. There should also be a break out session for higher and lower levels of play.

vi. Incentives

The Board should recommend to the captains and teams to have a form of a thank you to their coach for the End of Season party.

vii. List of Coaches

Division representatives should poll their captains to obtain a list of coaches for that division. This will be to recognize the coaches at the end of season party. Last season only three reps submitted a list. Interested people should e-mail Alan if they are interested in coaching.

H. Grievance

NA

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.



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 2010-2011 Board of Directors
Tues. August 9, 2010**

IX. Adjournment

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

Meeting adjourned at 9:03 PM.

UPCOMING BOARD SCHEDULE:

August 30, 2010 – Division 1/2 Tryouts
September 1, 2010 – Division 3/4 Tryouts
September 2, 2010 – Division 5/6 Tryouts
September 7, 2010 – Board Meeting
September 11, 2010 – Division 7/8/9 Tryouts
September 19, 2010 – Power Class Tryouts
September 20, 2010 – Team Power Tryouts
October 12, 2010 – Board Meeting
November 9, 2010 – Board Meeting
December 14, 2010 – Board Meeting

**Gotham Volleyball League, Inc.
Minutes for the 4th Meeting of the
2010-2011 Board of Directors
September 13, 2010**

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

Attendees:

Seth Eichenholtz	Commissioner
Josh Christensen	Vice-Commissioner
Craig Skelton	Secretary
Lew Smith	Treasurer
Rich Reid	Division 1 Rep
Vacant	Division 2 Rep
Dale Shoemaker	Division 3 Rep
Kleber Suarez	Division 4 Rep
Justin Hill	Division 5 Rep
Travis Pouliot	Division 6 Rep
Manny Ciccone	Division 7 Rep
Susan D'Addario	Division 8 Rep
Daryl Cochrane	Division 9 Rep
John Wetsell	Webmaster

Dominic Borgia	Power Representative – At-Large
Jason Shaw	Power Representative – Sunday
Leah Hughey¹	Power Representative – Saturday/Monday
Wladmir Thomas	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
Alan Kramer	Facilities/Coaching Committee Chair
Omar Portillo	Community Events and Outreach Coordinator
Eric Eichenholtz	Grievance Committee Chairman (Non-Voting)
Rene Deida	Development Director (Non-Voting)
Glen Fernandez	Social/Alumni Director

Gotham Volleyball League, Inc.
Minutes for the 4th Meeting of the
2010-2011 Board of Directors
September 13, 2010

Bold = in attendance at start of meeting. ¹- Arrived 7:50 PM

- I. Call to Order
Meeting was called to order at 7:30pm.
- II. Approval of Minutes –July 13, 2010 and August 10, 2010
After discussing minor corrections in spelling a motion was made by Wladimir Thomas to approve the minutes from July’s Meeting. A second was offered by Dale Shoemaker. The motion passed by acclamation. The August minutes were corrected and a motion to approve them was offered by Jason Shaw, the motion was seconded by Manny Collado, and passed without objection by acclamation.
- III. Public Comment
No public comment.
- IV. Executive Board Reports
 - A. Commissioner -- Seth Eichenholtz
 - i. Thanks
Thanks to everyone who helped at tryouts, especially those who helped at ALL tryouts. I would also like the minutes to reflect that on the last Saturday of tryouts, when we were really understaffed, a few people from the membership stepped up to help us out, so a special thank you to Francis Nicdao and Rob Fennell. Also, on Sunday when Craig and I realized that we were the only ones there, Eric Eichenholtz, Michael Chia, Jase Tirado, and Mark Canlas all helped out immeasurably. For the next tryouts I would really like to see everyone work at least 3 tryouts. Having sufficient coverage is key to a successful tryout and it seems a significant number of people couldn’t make three tryouts this Fall.
 - ii. Elections for Division Reps
It is time to elect Division Reps. The posters announcing the elections and soliciting candidates have been given to Dale S. who will deliver them to the school when he opens the gym tomorrow. All interested parties should email their intent to run before October 3rd.
 1. Sign up opens tomorrow and goes through Oct 3.
Anyone opening the gym through October 3rd needs to hang the signs on the gym doors and the closer needs to make sure to return them to the closet.
 2. Election October 3 through October 10
The election will be run electronically from October 3rd to October 10th, with the results being announced on the evening of the 10th. In time for the newly elected members to attend the next board meeting on October 12th.
 3. Feedback questions?
I’m considering adding some feedback questions on the ballot, possibly something about tryouts because I don’t think we’ve focused on tryouts in a survey. We have received general comments about tryouts in response to our query, “What are your thoughts about the league?”, but we never ask specific questions. Please think of possible questions to include in this survey and email them to me by Oct 3rd.
 - B. Vice Commissioner – Josh Christensen
 - i. Website Photos

Gotham Volleyball League, Inc.
Minutes for the 4th Meeting of the
2010-2011 Board of Directors
September 13, 2010

If you haven't had your picture taken for the new website it needs to get done tonight.

C. Secretary – Craig Skelton
No report.

D. Treasurer – Lew Smith
I'm still processing the payments that have been received. Division reps (except Dale and Kleber) will get a report by Thursday who has paid and who hasn't. Dale and Kleber see me tonight please. I will not be at the gym on Saturday, but the Assistant Treasurer, Pam Tong, will be so see her if you have questions, concerns or payments.

V. Old Business

A. Fall 2010 Registration/Tryouts

It was an interesting tryout process and we should give ourselves a pat on the back for getting over 1,000 people through the system. The rosters all got filled and no one was turned away that hadn't limited their division availability. In terms of registration divisions 2 and 3 were shallow, we're not sure why. Last Fall there were 59 returners to these divisions and this Fall only 44. The 15 person drop off was noticeable. We had around 300 new or returning players which is close to the record which was set last year. There were some fairly serious issues with the notification process, where some people were falsely notified that they had been selected for a team/division. These incidents could have been avoided all together if the parties involved had been a little more careful.

Josh- Currently after a captain has used all of his passes in the draft process during a mandatory round, there is no time limit when it comes time to make the final choice. Perhaps some time limit should be put in place with a mandatory selection, like "the person with the lowest remaining tryout number is automatically assigned to that team. This would require a change in rules of league play but it's something we might want to think about.

Seth- something else we will want to look at before the next draft is the idea of handing out reports of people intending to tryout to the captains before tryouts. Something we did at one point but stopped. I want to assure people who differ with current policy that there will be an opportunity to talk about this before the next draft, but not tonight.

i. League Recap

ii. Power

Power tryouts are on the 19th of September, the only thing we need to worry about is check in. We have to check people in, photograph them and then enter those into the computer. Please let Craig know if you're available, if you've only worked one tryout please try to come.

iii. Team Power

In the budget we adjusted the fee structure so we're going to have them pay as a team. Also we aren't going to have the team power people in the registration system due to system limitations.

Leah- Right now we have 7 teams registered, of those 7 there are 5 rosters filled out and handed in.

B. Facilities/Programming

We won't know about getting O'Henry on Wed nights until the Principle contacts the group that holds those permits. Hopefully that won't be long.

i. Fall Facilities/Programming.

There was some discussion about possible space at Riverbank State Park,

Gotham Volleyball League, Inc.
Minutes for the 4th Meeting of the
2010-2011 Board of Directors
September 13, 2010

located at 145th and riverside. Leah mentioned that she had had some problems with them giving away reserved space. Susan is going to investigate further.

1. State of League Play/Power
 2. Fashion HS Update
 - ii. Fall Season 2010 Calendar
 - End of Season Tournaments for Divisions 1-4 are scheduled for December 12th at City College. We will also need to get City College for January 8/9, and use Rustin to schedule the remaining End of Season Tournaments.
 1. Issues with EOS Tournament/Power
 - In order to fit 12 weeks into Power we had to go into January. Power A and B goes to until January 8th and Power C,D,E, and F we have scheduled for the 9th and 12th which is the weekend of New Orleans. It just wasn't avoidable with the weeks we have left. We still have some time but it's going to take some work to figure out the logistics. The consequence of all of this is that we won't have the End of Season Party until the 22nd. So it would be after New Orleans and maybe after Spring Tryouts.
 - Power Dropouts- It was discussed whether or not persons who are selected for a power class and then decide not to participate should be forced to pay in advance the next time they tryout for power. Much like we do with the league. The Power reps will get together to discuss the issue and decide how to proceed.
 - C. Website Redesign Update- Seth had copies of web shots of the new site that he was going to bring to show everyone, but he forgot and is very sorry. The website is coming along and is very exciting. The functionality and the map of the site is in place, now it's a matter of moving all of our content onto the new site and get it running. If you want to submit pictures to be used you can upload them to the Gotham Facebook page, as this is where the designers are getting the images for the website.
 - D. Fire Island Blackout- Josh reports that 5-0 used two of our nets and were VERY gracious. We had them sign a contract which they honored. They picked up the nets and returned the nets and sent tons of thank you emails. It worked out well.
 - E. Susan D, spoke on behalf of Omar about some of the womens outreach projects and concerns. Much of what she said was inaudible on the recorded minutes.
- Seth- "I just want to say that I think we have done a lot to try and encourage women to show up. I think those are very real feelings, but I think A.) they are feelings that other people feel as well and B.) I don't think, having spoken to a lot of people, and witnessed a lot of drafts that they're entirely fair."
- Susan spoke inaudibly.
- Josh- The part about the coming to the Open Plays is really valid, because, even amongst the guys if you show up unknown, your odds of getting picked are incredibly diminished. Most of the guys, the people who get picked new into the league, have been brought to friendship tournaments by other people. About the perception that women aren't welcome in Gotham Josh gave an example of a woman limiting her availability for 1 division then posting repeatedly on Facebook "no vajayjay's in Gotham again this year." He said, "I'm troubled by them propagating the idea that Gotham is misogynistic, when the reality is *they* kept themselves out of Gotham.
- Leah- Spoke about her experiences with the league and how difficult it was in the beginning. She recalled the importance of seeing a woman on the board, who introduced herself and made her feel welcome. And, she said she would be sure to come to try-outs and reach out to women.
- There was some discussion about whether we should offer women's only matches with a women's height net, but Omar's surveys showed that our members overwhelmingly prefer to play with the "boys on a men's height net."

Gotham Volleyball League, Inc.
Minutes for the 4th Meeting of the
2010-2011 Board of Directors
September 13, 2010

Josh-The Fire Island thing wasn't a board decision, it was an edict handed down by the insurance company, and it's expense makes it cost prohibitive.

Wlad- I think that the league has probably done more than NAGVA to include women. But we as an organization continue to grow and we'll continue to find ways to improve our outreach efforts as well as the programs we provide, but lets not forget the wonderful things we've already done.

Billy-Our goal a year ago was to develop a platform to reach out to women. We've done that, now let's not be in a race to have the fully developed final product. We should be interested in reaching out to ALL 99 numbers at tryouts. We're doing good stuff and going in the right direction, let's give ourselves time to grow in that direction.

Seth- The leadership of this organization for the past few years, many of whom are in this room, have made a conscious decision to develop these programs and improve outreach, which we have done. I agree with Wlad and Billy that we need to not forget these new efforts, and not rush their development.

VI. New Business

VII. Reports

A. League Manager – Wladimir Thomas

-An E mail went out to all Board Members on September 10 and 13 reminding everyone of Open/Close duties and responsibilities.

-Open/Close schedules for Divisions 1-8 was E mailed to all Division Representatives and selected Board Members.

-Many Division Representatives began E mailing captains their Captain Packages. If any Division Representatives have not done so, please do so as soon as possible.

-All Division Representatives need to arrange a meeting with all Captains and review the content of the Captain's Package.

-Division Representatives, kindly remind captains that if they are responding to an E mail that you sent, they should not hit 'reply to all', rather, they should only reply to you.

-The closet lock at Rustin is still not in operation. If anyone knows of anyone with the expertise in locks, please let us know so that we can get it fix. Anyone who is in need of keys will need to E mail their request to the League Manager. Any current Board Member who will no longer be on the Board after the elections in October 2010 will need to return their keys.

-All Division Representatives and Board Members who do not know the correct way to put up and take down the Volleyball Net, will need to let the League Manager know via E mail. Arrangements will be made to have a tutorial on the subject.

-Division Representatives, kindly remind all captains that if their team has reffing duties, they are to be taken seriously. It is imperative that the gym be left clean at the end of the day. In addition, those who are reffing must be active in their assignments.

-An E mail acknowledging the conclusion of your duties is required within 24 hours of performing your duties.

-Any change of Open/Close assignments must be made known via E mail prior to your assignment.

-Under no circumstances is food or beverages other than water permitted inside the gym. Kindly remind all captains to remind all players.

B. Power Manager – Billy Bowden

Gotham Volleyball League, Inc.
Minutes for the 4th Meeting of the
2010-2011 Board of Directors
September 13, 2010

Power tryouts are coming up and I encourage everyone to contact Craig and let him know if they can be there.

- C. Tournaments Director – Bob Arcari
Proposed Fall 2010 Friendship Tournament Schedule:
Sun Sept. 26th - C and BB
Sun. Oct. 3 - B and BB
Sun. Oct. 10 -Women's Open Play*
Sun. Oct. 17 -C and BB
Sun. Oct. 24 -B and BB
Sun. Oct. 31 -C and BB
Sun. Nov 7--Women's Open Play*
Wed Nov 10--B and BB at 7pm
Thur Nov 11--B and BB at 7pm
(preference given to Golden Apple teams)
Sun. Nov. 21 - B and BB
(preference given to NAGVA DC tournament teams)
Sun. Dec. 5 - C and BB
- D. Social – Glen Fernandez
Seth voiced some concerns about the issue of division socials. They just started happening and have sort of taken over, and I'm not sure of the value they bring to membership in the way we present them now. I question the way we do them now, there's been a lot of issues that have arisen from people kind of going and doing their own thing. We've had people charging for socials and not discussing it in advance, we've had people schedule socials when other activities were planned. It may be an organizational issue, but up until a year and a half ago we didn't have socials, and I'm not saying we shouldn't do them. As an organization we have to look at how we do them and why. There are diverse opinion throughout the league. So we need to talk about our approach, why we do it how we do it. We need to have a philosophy in place. F you're planning on having a division social, I want us to have a discussion about the who what where why and how of it first.
- E. Development – Rene Deida
- F. Coaching – Alan Kramer
Alan's report was inaudible on the recorded minutes.
- G. Webmaster – John Wetsell
If you get a chance than John for the work he's done with the rosters, throughout tryouts.
- H. Grievance – Eric Eichenholtz
No report.
- VIII. Announcements
Josh- nothing
Wlad- we bought a house in Delaware
Susan-
Bob-
Manny-
Dale- is going to his 35th high school reunion
- IX. Adjournment
Motion to adjourn made by Joe Hom, seconded by Manny Collado.
Meeting adjourned at 9:37

UPCOMING BOARD SCHEDULE:

**Gotham Volleyball League, Inc.
Minutes for the 4th Meeting of the
2010-2011 Board of Directors
September 13, 2010**

September 19, 2010 – Power Class Tryouts
September 20, 2010 – Team Power Tryouts
October 12, 2010 – Board Meeting
November 9, 2010 – Board Meeting
November 13/14, 2010 – Golden/Green Apple V
December 14, 2010 – Board Meeting

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

**Gotham Volleyball League, Inc.
Minutes for the 5th Meeting of the
2010-2011 Board of Directors
October 12, 2010**

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

Attendees:

Seth Eichenholtz	Commissioner
Josh Christensen	Vice-Commissioner
Craig Skelton	Secretary
Lew Smith	Treasurer
Rich Reid	Division 1 Rep
Clovis Thorn+	Division 2 Rep
Dale Shoemaker	Division 3 Rep
Kleber Suarez	Division 4 Rep
Justin Hill	Division 5 Rep
Travis Pouliot/ Manny Ciccone+	Division 6 Rep
Manny Ciccone/ Brendn Becker+	Division 7 Rep
Susan D'Addario	Division 8 Rep
Daryl Cochrane/ Scott Donner+	Division 9 Rep
John Wetsell	Webmaster

Dominic Borgia/ Rob Fennell+	Power Representative – At-Large
Jason Shaw/ Joe Sena+	Power Representative – Sunday
Leah Hughey**	Power Representative – Saturday/Monday
Wladmir Thomas	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
Alan Kramer***	Facilities/Coaching Committee Chair
Omar Portillo	Community Events and Outreach Coordinator
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.

Gotham Volleyball League, Inc.
Minutes for the 5th Meeting of the
2010-2011 Board of Directors
October 12, 2010

(+) new board members inducted in this meeting
(*)Arrived 8:00 PM, () arrived 8:05 PM, (***) arrived 8:10 PM**

I. Call to Order

Meeting was called to order by Seth at 7:33 PM.

II. Approval of Minutes – September 14, 2010

Minutes were unavailable for approval.

III. Public Comment

There were no public comments.

IV. Executive Board Reports

A. Commissioner -- Seth Eichenholtz

i. Election Results

Once we approve the election results we will transition so the new board members will start voting and the old board members will no longer vote. Printed results were not available at this meeting, but were sent to the board prior to tonight's meeting via email. There were no complaints, no irregularities, and turnout was a bit higher than last year. The four contested elections were Division 2 were Clovis Thorn won, Division 3 were Dale Shoemaker won, Division 9 were Scott Donner won and the Power Sunday position were Joe Sena won. Seeing as there are no objections the election results are approved by acclamation. There is one outgoing board member who came to tonight's meeting, Daryl Cochrane. Thank you Daryl, here is a certificate thanking you for your service to the board.

ii. Introductions and Welcome

Seth welcomed the new members and had each board member present introduce themselves by saying their name, the board position they currently hold, how long ago and why they joined the league.

iii. O.Henry Status Update

We are awaiting final notification that we will have access to the O'henry gym this Fall. The principle at O'henry has spoken to the group that holds those permits and we expect to hear good news. It is our hope that we will start Wed night open plays next Wednesday.

iv. Spring 2011 Permits

Spring permits will be presented before our next board meeting. For new members to the board, we do not have a formal lease for the space we use. Instead, we have use permits which we submit a request for to the principals and custodians at each of the schools we use. They can reject our permits for any reason or virtually no reason at all, which is why we're so protective and mindful of our relationship with the school. It's usually a negotiation process, and there is a new administration at Rustin High School where we play most of our matches and the new administration is touch and go about how much they want outside groups using their space so it's been a tricky issue over the past couple of years.

I plan on starting our permit's the weekend after New Years and reserving everything we normally reserve at Rustin straight through to Championships. We have another tight calendar this Spring so reserving everything will allow us maximum flexibility. We will not use the schools Easter weekend or the weekend of Big Apple.

Scott has asked if we can start our permit's a half hour earlier at O'henry so that the teams playing in the first match can have an hour to warm up. I'll check into whether that's even a possibility with the schools.

v. Refing issues

We have gotten some reffing feedback. For those of you who are new, if you are aware of or

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

**Gotham Volleyball League, Inc.
Minutes for the 5th Meeting of the
2010-2011 Board of Directors
October 12, 2010**

are made aware of serious reffing issues, please let Wladimir, Josh or Seth know so that those issues can be reported to our reffing coordinator Eddieberto. Also keep us in the loop with feedback. Basically, as long as the ref is consistent there's not a lot to be done. Eddieberto is new to the position of Reffing coordinator, and he's going to pay a lot more attention to making sure the refs know procedures that are unique to Gotham.

We also need to continue to encourage our captains to remind their teams to pay close attention when reffing. This is an area where we've gotten better, but we'd like to build on this improvement going forward.

B. Vice Commissioner – Josh Christensen

i. Division/Power Rep Orientations

I'd like to have a meeting/orientation with Wlad and the Division Reps and Billy with the Power Reps to get everyone on the same page at the beginning of the season regarding your specific duties. I'm going to email everyone to coordinate when everyone is available to go over and answer any questions anyone has regarding opening/closing duties etc. If I have time I'll try to do it tomorrow.

ii. City College

I met with the public safety officer and the events coordinator at CCNY to discuss having the end of season tournament there. They are very protective of their campus due to past catastrophies. This first use will be is a test run. The building that houses the gym is also the science building which is where all of their grant money comes from. For this reason we will not be allowed in any area other than the gym, additionally we will need to give the school a list of anyone expected to attend. Which means attendance will be limited. Our January request dates are on hold until after the December EOS tournaments.

C. Secretary – Craig Skelton

Because the minutes are recorded for transcription it is important that everyone be brief and speak up.

D. Treasurer – Lew Smith

The quarterly report is not ready, but I will email something to everyone this weekend and provide a formal report at next months meeting. As far as our bank accounts we have:

League Checking/Savings	\$84,313
League Paypal	\$89,906
Tournaments Account	\$10,000 (approx)
Tournament Paypal	\$44,000 (approx)

There are additional outstanding payments and deposits for the league. We're in good shape right now, a little ahead of where we were this time last year.

Josh- When I was Treasurer all of our CD's matured and we didn't put anything back into them because we didn't know what we were going to need for the website. So once we're done with the website should we put available money back into a CD so it can make us some money?

Lew- we can definitely look into reinvesting that money as there are no other capital investments that we'll need to make.

V. Old Business

A. Fall 2010 Tryouts

i. Power Tryout/Selection Recap

Seth- After receiving some feedback after tryouts regarding the power selection process, and it's not the first time I've heard feedback of this kind, so I thought I would let the board know how Power tryouts work.

Gotham Volleyball League, Inc.
Minutes for the 5th Meeting of the
2010-2011 Board of Directors
October 12, 2010

Essentially Jeff and the coaches, with some oversight by us, pick their teams. They don't have the same rules surrounding tryouts that we have for league tryouts. Part of that is because the power coaches as a group, and Jeff as the Technical Director, are the people we entrust as a board to run the Power program and part of running power is selecting who the coaches want and believe are the appropriate fit for the class. So forcing them to take people they don't want or prohibiting them from selecting people they would like to have might interfere with the way they implement their curriculum. That's not to say that we can't have something written in advance that get's more specific. So it isn't required that they show up, but it is obviously in their advantage to come to power tryouts. There have been rare instances of people being selected that didn't even register for tryouts, I'm against it, but I've seen it happen. To the coaches credit, they are usually good at explaining why they made the decisions they made.

Other than these issues power tryouts went pretty smoothly. There were some issues in selection that needed to be resolved, but we saw everyone in one day, got everyone in and out, and were able to place anyone who was flexible in their availability. Every power class is full except for F.

Billy- The only thing I would add is that it is different from league and it must be stressed.

Justin- I wish that I could remember Dominic's e-mail, but I do remember a point that he had made about not having an outside hitter line...

Josh-the reality is if you can't hit a 2 ball there's something fundamentally wrong with your attack. Hitting a 2 ball forces you to attack with the correct timing. So as a skills assessment the 2 ball is a better way to evaluate a hitter.

Leah- These are some of the things we look at

- 1). Basic skills technique
- 2). Court awareness
- 3). Natural ability
- 4). Coachability in terms of both skills development and attitude
- 5). Repetitive absences

People also need to realize that the skill levels within each Power Class is increasing so Power C today is a tougher class than Power C was two years ago.

Josh- These are the bullet points from Dom's e-mail:

- The number of people making a power class without attending tryouts
- Being placed in a lower Power class even though you weren't registered for that class
- People being placed in a higher Power class without attending tryouts.
- Power coaches saying that someone is not going to make their class although registered but sick and unable to attend tryouts.

It seems to me that his first concern was a hold over from league expectations, the second I'm not sure how that could happen because the selection list provided to the coaches was generated from the database and only listed people who had made themselves available. His third point is also a holdover from League rules, it has happened but only at the recommendation of the persons previous power coach.

Leah- I was the Power coach involved in the fourth issue, there were multiple factors involved in the person not being selected. None of which had to do with the players registration or try-out attendance.

Seth- at the end of the day I deal with more e-mails about this kind of stuff. Honestly in my mind I know and trust the people that are running these programs and some of this work is highly subjective. 99% of the time these guys are using their best judgment and I support them.

Billy- As the power manager I appreciate the coaches and I also know the sting of not being selected. So, if it did become an issue that people were being selected for reasons other than skill level it would not go unnoticed.

Josh- The big difference between league and power is that all the rules in place for league are to make sure there's a level playing field among the captains picking teams. We're not worried about coaches bringing in a ringer for Power D. That's why we don't have the same structure in place.

Alan- I love power, but I was in that tryout as well and I'd like to make the observation that everyone be given a chance to be seen. Perhaps in the future there could be a broader variety of drills.

Gotham Volleyball League, Inc.
Minutes for the 5th Meeting of the
2010-2011 Board of Directors
October 12, 2010

B. Website Redesign Update

John Wetsell- Followed up with the people doing the redesign and we are about 12 days out from having a beta version. So at that time we'll have a version we can actually go through, then we'll go back to them with our desired changes, and then we'll be able to figure out a launch date.

Seth- This has been a very long term project and I'm very excited about the pending launch, this is going to be a great site and a huge improvement over our current web presence.

C. Green Apple/Golden Apple Update

Lew- Green/Gold Apple Tournaments are scheduled for November 13th and 14th. So far Green Apple has 5 paid teams Golden has 0. I'll be e-mailing all the team reps to find out when they'll be paying. We have 5 courts which will allow us to host a maximum of 35 teams. If you're not playing and you wouldn't mind it's fun and we're going to need volunteers.

Billy- are there sponsorship opportunities for green/Golden Apple?

Lew- yes see me.

D. Center Orientation/Outreach Update

Omar- Center orientation was cancelled and no futures dates have been announced.

E. 2010 Retreat Work Plan Recap

Rene- This was our third retreat and our second to Frost Valley YMCA, it was cold it was snowing it was beautiful. In past retreats we have worked on our mission and mission statement while at our last retreat we did a S.W.O.T. analysis, that is S(trengths) W(eaknesses) O(pportunities) T(hreats). This analysis will give us the basis for the work plan for the year. Some identified Strengths were our board, the social capital that exists in our membership and our organizational structure. One discussed weakness was communication, growth was mentioned as an Opportunity and a recurring threat seems to be space. These are some of the top ideas that we came up with through our S.W.O.T. analysis. So now we need to take this information that we've come up with and put together a work plan where we set goals, assign tasks and establish deadlines.

Seth- our goal now is to do a one day retreat to work on an action plan. Our first retreat was a one day in town retreat. So now that the new board is in place maybe we can put together a program for a one day retreat soon. Please make every effort to participate in these programs as they are announced.

F. School Donations/Assistance Update

We transferred the supplies from the school supplies drive to the school and have reached out to the one principle in charge of facilities. I expect we're still going to have to go before the entire group with our permit requests, but now there's one guy to coordinate facilities issues. We have sponsored Girls Varsity Tournament, Girls JV Tournament, and a Boys Tournament.

G. Social Events Planning – Fall 2010

Seth- I want to cue up the conversation a little. I feel like with all the things we do with the league I think some of the social events are great and some seem like a race to the bottom. I want to talk about why we do socials, how we do socials, and what policies should be in place. Glen couldn't make it, but sent a message saying that he thought we should deem every get together a "Gotham Social". I also think within a season a division should only have one or two official events, those events well planned, and should be posted with ample time before the event. The other thing is that we want to be careful that socials don't become the main focus of our league. When we give the seal of approval to an event we have to make sure that the event is representative of the leagues values.

Dale- I did not poll my Captains, so I'm only speaking as a member, not as a division rep. but no one has ever come to me and said "Gee, why don't we have a social, everyone else is." For a lot of the reasons that you mentioned Seth, I'm not in favor of board sponsored socials in excess of what we're doing now.

Gotham Volleyball League, Inc.
Minutes for the 5th Meeting of the
2010-2011 Board of Directors
October 12, 2010

Manny- I've been doing socials, I've done three or four. I usually ask the other weekend divisions and try to coordinate a 'weekender' social in an effort to avoid there being a separate social for each of the 5 weekend divisions. I think one year we scheduled it the weekend of Big Apple, so he asked me to move it and I did. When I invited people I invited everyone I knew in Gotham.

Joe our organization is apples to oranges with the dodge ball league, but my observation is that the social aspects are very important to the lower divisions. People that have moved up to Division 8 from Division 9 comment that people in 8 "don't go out".

Dale how many people come to these events?

Manny sometimes around 50

Eric- I think there is a difference either in culture or focus between the weekend and weeknight divisions. The one thing I've always thought about socials is that I generally see one division rep planning socials on very limited feedback from those closest to him. I also noticed that the preferred activity is to go to a bar and drink. There are a third to a quarter of our membership that don't drink. So because you only plan drinking events you exclude a large portion of the league. The point is I've seen a desire to be social in every division, I think the planners need to diversify the types of events that are offered and they need to invite attendees through the Division reps and captains not Facebook.

Justin- I don't drink, I don't go to bars, and I wasn't planning on doing a social for Division 5..until several people in the division asked when our social would be held. In investigating why people wanted a social I found some who were clearly looking for a reason to drink, others though have moved up through the ranks of Gotham so quickly they are really just looking for a way to meet other members of their division and their looking to me to facilitate that. I think another factor behind a Division 5 social is that we play so early in the day, many of our players don't want to go to a bar at 1 on a Saturday and they may be looking for an organized social at more of a cocktail hour. I'm a little confused, I wasn't going to make this a board sponsored event, I wasn't going to ask for funding...I guess I'm a little unclear as to what the issue is.

Seth- the issue is getting us all on the same page as to what we're doing and how. We've never talked about it and I wanted to start a conversation.

Daryl- I'm not surprised to hear a different philosophy from the upper divisions. As the Division 9 Rep, I think it's important to have socials for those who are new to Gotham and I think that might be a unique and important perspective for Division 9 and now 10.

Seth- heard from Joe and Daryl, maybe not in so many words, that some of our membership would not be a part of Gotham if there weren't any socials and I strongly disagree with their supposition.

Josh- I don't speak for Division 2 or 3, but as an individual with experience in both of those divisions, we have socials we just don't ask our rep to organize them. There are times that almost the entire division is out together we do lots of social things they just aren't planned for us. Secondly, part of my problem is that we can't get many of the division reps to open and close properly, if you can't do that properly how do you have time to do all of these socials? Operating the league should be our first priority, once we get that under control we can start planning socials. Thirdly, if these socials are to introduce people to each other, what's happening to facilitate that? Are name tags being handed out, is there some activity planned to force people to interact, or are these reasons to go to a specific bar at a specific time? I'm in favor of socials and I think they bring value to the league, but I also think we need to be clear about what our goals are and make sure that we're taking concrete steps to achieve those goals.

Wlad- Several years ago as Division 8 rep I introduced the idea of having Division 8 players and their supporters to recognize players that had improved. I did that event because I recognized that All Stars, MVP's, and top finishing teams were being announced, but we weren't doing anything to support hard working players who were improving but not All Star/MVP types. Since that time these events have become a runaway train, that sometimes serve no obvious purpose.

Scott- there seems to be a much different culture in the lower divisions and the higher divisions. When you come into an organization like this it can be overwhelming in the beginning. Divisions 9 and 10 who play on Sunday are isolated from the rest of the league and sometimes socials are the bridge to the larger organizations.

Billy- clearly this is an emotional issue for some of us, we have a social director...perhaps we should form a

Gotham Volleyball League, Inc.
Minutes for the 5th Meeting of the
2010-2011 Board of Directors
October 12, 2010

committee along with Glenn. This committee could meet and come up with a plan on how to proceed with socials. Until they issue their plan/report all socials must be approved by Seth.

Seth- I think what people are saying is if they make sense, if they're planned out well, if they're not something that happens every week, and if they keep our values in mind...they work. And I think that's a framework for moving forward. I like Billy's idea, the consensus seems to be there is a place for socials in our organization, we just need to make sure we find the best way to do that. Please contact me if you would like to be on the socials committee.

- i. Should we have events other than EOS Party? Why/Why not?**
- ii. If so, what kinds?**
- iii. How should they be coordinated?**

VI. New Business

A. LOGO

LOGO Channel is soliciting for HIV+ athletes to feature in it's World AIDS Day programming, they asked us to send out a blast with our list, which is against league policy, if you would like to spread the word to parties that may be interested please feel free to do so. Contact Seth for more information.

B. Closet-

Dale- I'm going to spearhead fixing the lock, expect a report soon.

Lew- I'm going to clean the closet this weekend, let me know if you want to help.

VII. Reports

A. League Manager – Wladimir Thomas

- Keep the closet clean.
- See me if you need keys.
- Congratulations to Division 9 for their successful Social.
- The last match reffing teams need to be reminded of their special duties.
- Once you enter the scores online return the score sheets to the filing cabinet in the closet.
- Never take the last blank score sheet!! There is a copier in the closet, plug it in and make multiple copies (25).
- Thank you to everyone who has been sending reports after you've completed your Open/Close duties. If you haven't been sending a report to the League Manager...start.

B. Power Manager – Billy Bowden

- I propose adding an assistant for the Team Power B class.
- The power locks are being replaced this weekend, keys will be distributed by Billy.
- Now that the new Power Reps are in place I'll be coordinating with them to schedule an orientation type meeting.

Seth- Because Power Assistants get a discount on their dues, creating this position will result in a budget loss of \$102.50 next season, so it will have to be approved.

Leah- I motion that we add a team Power B assistant.

Manny C- I second.

There were no objections and the motion passed by acclamation.

C. Tournaments Director – Bob Arcari

Bob reports the Friendship Tournaments are going well.

D. Social – Glen Fernandez

E. Development – Rene Deida

F. Outreach/Community Events – Omar Portillo

There was a Women's Committee meeting last week were the issue of the perception that

**Gotham Volleyball League, Inc.
Minutes for the 5th Meeting of the
2010-2011 Board of Directors
October 12, 2010**

women aren't welcome at Gotham was discussed. It was discussed that even though we're expanding our women's programs the league is hemorrhaging women.

Leah The day after our meeting there was a women's open play that was very poorly attended. Part of the reason was that an organization called VBLI had a major women's tournament that day. I called VBLI and spoke with the Director Glenn_____ to find out about his organization and their tournament schedule. VBLI is about 5 years old Glenn claims that when he started he reached out to Gotham and asked for a link to his organization be placed on our "links" page. He also claims he was denied. VBLI is now the second largest volleyball organization in the state and he has been contacted by USAV to run the GEVA sectionals. This is where our women are going. During our conversation he mentioned that he would like to partner with us. Obviously there's a lot to talk about, I told him I would bring the matter to the board and follow up with him. If you have ideas, issues, or concerns please e-mail them to Leah ASAP.

G. Coaching – Alan Kramer

- This is our third season providing a structure to match captains with qualified coaches, and previous trends continue. Most of the captains requesting help are from Divisions 5-10. The number of people volunteering is fairly consistent with last year although there was a sharp drop in the number of coaching clinic attendees. Up to now these clinics have been offered at the beginning of each season, going forward they will only be offered annually which should level attendance going forward.
- **Division Reps** please compile a list of your captains and coaches so they can be recognized at the end of the season.

H. Webmaster – John Wetsell

There are little changes that have been implemented on the website, let me know if you think of more.

I. Grievance – Eric Eichenholtz

The Grievance Committee met this week to address a grievance against a Division 1 player who it was alleged violated the Leagues Sportsmanship and anti-violence policy. The Grievance Committee found in it's investigation that the league policy had been violated and the member has been suspended from the league through May 2011, at which time he must petition to rejoin the league.

VIII. Announcements

Josh-My NAGVA Championship results were finally released. It was wonderful, thank you for the recognition.

Lew-I'm very proud that Division 2 Team 2 has 3 members on the Board.

Billy- meetings aren't usually this long, nor will they be in the future

Daryl-Thanks to those who came to the Division 9 social. It's been a pleasure serving with you on the board.

Seth Thanks everyone, I had a good check-up at the Dr today!

IX. Adjournment

Wlad- Motion to adjourn

Josh Seconded.

Meeting adjourned at 10:24

**UPCOMING BOARD SCHEDULE:
November 9, 2010 – Board Meeting
November 13/14, 2010 – Golden/Green Apple V
December 14, 2010 – Board Meeting
January 11, 2010 – Board Meeting**



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 2010-2011 Board of Directors
Tues. November 9, 2010**

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

Attendees:

Seth Eichenholtz	Commissioner
Josh Christensen	Vice-Commissioner
Craig Skelton	Secretary
Lew Smith	Treasurer
Rich Reid	Division 1 Rep
Clovis Thorn	Division 2 Rep
Dale Shoemaker	Division 3 Rep
Kleber Suarez	Division 4 Rep
Justin Hill	Division 5 Rep
Manny Ciccone	Division 6 Rep
Brendan Becker	Division 7 Rep
Susan D'Addario	Division 8 Rep
Scott Donner	Division 9 Rep
John Wetsell	Webmaster (Non-Voting)

Rob Fennell	Power Representative – At-Large
Joe Sena	Power Representative – Sunday
Leah Hughey ²	Power Representative – Saturday/Monday
Wladmir Thomas	Member-At-Large/ League Manager
Billy Bowden ¹	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
Alan Kramer	Facilities/Coaching Committee Chair
Omar Portillo	Community Events and Outreach Coordinator
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 - Arrived 7:49 PM; ² - Arrived 8:24 PM



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 2010-2011 Board of Directors Tues. November 9, 2010

I. Call to Order

Seth called the meeting to order at 7:27 PM.

II. Approval of Minutes

A. September 13, 2010

Some corrections and alterations.

Motion to approve as amended/corrected- Made by Manny, seconded by Joe; passed by acclamation.

B. October 12, 2010

Some corrections and alterations.

Motion to approve as amended/corrected - Made by Brendan, seconded by Rob; passed by acclamation.

III. Public Comment

None.

IV. Officers' Reports

A. Commissioner

i. Rustin Facility Update

The school has informed the Board that the back practice area will be converted to class rooms. Starting Jan. 2011 there likely will not be any access for Gotham members (due to construction). The renovations will start at that time and completed by September 2011. This will also affect the storage closet and access to it.

The Board is working with the school to find an alternate storage location during and after the construction as well as access to the East and West gyms (Girls and Boys). We found out last week about this. (Note: the rental cost of each gym is about \$40/hour - \$80 for both plus school security at \$30/hour). Private spaces are usually \$250 to \$300 per hour.) Alternatives:

Fashion High School will not be available until September 2011.
Chelsea School (27th Street and 8th Ave.) – potential alternate

The Principal at the Rustin High School also indicated that on Saturdays from 10 AM to 1 PM the back practice area will be used for Physical Education programming. This is the same request as last year. In general, the programming is usually finished before 1 PM. A concern is that if the back area will be converted to class rooms will there be a need for one of the gyms at that time due to the construction? This will affect the Power A and B class programming (class time is Sa. From 10 AM to 1 PM). Seth will look into this issue.

O'Henry availability on Sunday mornings earlier than we currently open it was discussed. This will be a follow up for Alan and Scott offered to help with any discussions with school officials.

ii. Member At Large Nomination



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Minutes of the Sixth Meeting of the 2010-2011 Board of Directors Tues. November 9, 2010

Seth said, with the consent of the Executive Board, he is appointing Alan Kramer as a Member At Large. Alan has been serving in a non-voting capacity on the Board, even though he'd like a vote, for over a year, and with the position available and Alan having done great work, the Executive Board recommends Alan for the position and asks that he be confirmed.

Motion: To confirm the nomination of Alan Kramer to the position of (voting) Member At Large on the Gotham Board.

Made by Justin, seconded by Scott; passed by acclamation.

(Note: Elected positions are voting members. Member At Large (MAL) positions are nominated and approved by the Board and are assigned duties. MALs are voting members. These two groups count toward quorum. Non-voting positions do not count for quorum – e.g., Power (Class) Assistants.)

iii. Grievance Committee Nominations

There is a vacancy in the Division 9 position on the Gotham Grievance Committee. This position was originally held by Susan D'Addario, who left in June to join the Board as Division 8 Representative. Joe Sena was appointed by the Board as Susan's replacement, but he left the position in October to join the Board as Power Sunday Representative. The Executive Board now recommends Chris Urban, who currently plays in Division 9, be appointed to fill the vacancy. The term for this position expires on May 31, 2011.

Motion: To appoint Chris Urban to the Grievance Committee as Division 9 representative.

Made by Susan, seconded by Manny; passed by acclamation.

iv. Referee Issues

Division reps should let Wlad, Josh, or Seth know of any issues. Heriberto will observe the referees for proper rules interpretations/implementation and performance.

v. Captain Elections Schedule

Sign up sheets and communications will begin after Green/Golden Apple Tournament (Nov. 13-14). Elections may be held during December (pending End of Season Tournament scheduling). By the next meeting there will be an e-0mail out to the Board about this. The voting window may be shortened to three to four days from a week. As the week goes on there is a diminishing response rate. Reminder e-mails spike the responses though the election communications still do not fully capture that season's membership. Tentatively the voting window will be from Sunday to Friday.

vi. Cooperation!

Board members are encouraged to communicate with each other outside of meetings and to corroborate/support the voted upon decisions made by the Board. (This means that if the individual does not agree with the decision please nonetheless communicate the reasoning and help implement the policy as voted upon.)



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 2010-2011 Board of Directors Tues. November 9, 2010

B. Vice-Commissioner

Division reps and Wlad will meet this coming Sat for an orientation session at noon. An e-mail invitation will be sent. The session will go over the open and close responsibilities. There will also be time for questions and answers.

C. Secretary

Be brief in meetings and speak up (for the recorder).

D. Treasurer

Low passed out the financial statements. Gotham is ahead of its budget and will have a surplus. Pam will work on transitioning the entries onto Quick Books. Next meeting there will be information on Q1 and Q2 expenses and income. A transaction of note is the transfer of about \$85k from PayPal to our bank account.

V. Old Business

A. Fall Season 2010

i. Division 1-4 End of Season Tournament

This will take place at City College on Dec. 11th rather than Dec. 12th. Power A&B will move from that Sat. time slot to the next day Dec. 12th.

ii. Division 5, 7, 9, and 10 End of Season Tournament

This will take place at City College on Jan. 8th.

iii. Division 6 and 8 End of Season Tournament

End of Season Fall tournament will be at Rustin Dec. 19th. Season ends Dec. 18th.

iv. End of Season Party will be on Jan. 22, 2011.

Glen has stepped down as Social chair. Seth is stepping up to fulfill this position until a new person is named to replace Glen. Manny and Scott volunteered to help out.

B. Bathroom Issue

Respect the women's bathroom (sixth floor) for women use only. There have been problems with guys going into the bathroom when women have been using/in need of its use causing an awkward situation. In an emergency, male Gotham members should knock on the door if they need toilet paper from an opposite sex bathroom, and not enter the bathroom if it is in use.

C. Website Redesign Update

No internet access available. Beta site was demonstrated. We expect the new site fully launched before the end of the Fall season.



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 2010-2011 Board of Directors Tues. November 9, 2010

D. Green Apple/ Golden Apple (Nov. 13-14) Update

Thanks go out to Bob (scheduler) and Josh (site director) for their help. There were 33 teams (13 C, 10, B, and 10 BB) making it the largest to date and one of the larger NAGVA tournaments. Lew would like to work with regional host city tournaments to make this tournament the “mega” tournament of the Northeast. The tournament is being held at Queens College with six courts on Sat. and five on Sun. A cowbell will be used for the three minute warning rather than the cymbals like in the past. Registration will be at Gym Bar on Fri 7:30 PM to 10 PM and Queens College on Sat. There will not be a seeding party.

Garnier Fructis will be given in the goodie bag. A reffing clinic will be held at Seth’s apartment on Thursday at 7 PM.

Trophies will be moved over from Seth’s apartment. Putting together the captain packets will be done tomorrow (Wed.). Theme was decided.

Sedgeway: NAGVA 2012 Championships bid is being worked on with Baltimore league. The venue will be held in the Baltimore area. The more cash we have on reserve for Championships (from Big Apple account) the better it will be to gain sponsorships and being awarded the event.

NAGVA Championships will have its first Women’s Division. It will be non-sanctioned and will be an exhibition going over the course of 2-3 days (depending on the number of registered teams). The goal is 12 teams (perhaps two from NY, six from TX?). There may even be two divisions. The individual registration fee will be waived so teams will only have to pay their team fees.

E. Social Committee and Future Social Events

Craig will organize people who are interested in this event while Seth will assume the duties of Social Director.

VI. New Business

A. Closet Phase Out Planning

Gotham will eventually lose the closet so the Board will plan as if we do not have the closet. Some items to obtain are off-site storage and ultra-lite poles made of carbon fiber.

The off-site storage will be used for items that we use periodically as well as frequently.

The ultra-lite poles are for usage in the East and West gyms if we have to transport poles from an off-site storage location. One idea is to keep them across the street at O’Henry (if room is available) and transporting them to Rustin. Wherever the poles are stored (including nets, score keeping, etc.) lighter poles will make it easier to transport.

Motion: To budget \$6,500 to purchase ultra-lite poles and other associated expenses as outlined in the proposed budget presented to the Board by the Executive Board.

Made by Rob, seconded by Scott; passed by acclamation.

A comment was made to investigate whether Ethan may have storage locker room in his co-op building (which is down the street on 18th). Seth will look into this option.



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Minutes of the Sixth Meeting of the 2010-2011 Board of Directors Tues. November 9, 2010

B. Expenses

Projection is to have about \$40k for balance of year.

C. Retreat

This year, the Gotham Board will have a one day retreat to review and supplementon the 5-year work plan initially generated from the first retreat (back in December 2007).

D. Closet Lock

Dale installed a new lock on the closet door and the Board will now use the lock. Wlad will pass out keys at the end of the meeting.

E. Permits

For Spring 2011 the Board will obtain as much permit time as possible (days, hours, locations, etc.). Seth will not get permits for Big Apple (April 9-10, 2011) and Easter weekends (April 23-24).

Projected time frame for the permits will be Jan. 9, 2011 to about two weeks before NAGVA Championships (Memorial Day weekend May 28-30).

VII. Reports

A. League Manager

i. Open/Close Reports

Many thanks to people who submit open/close reports. There is a new open/close schedule with Glen no longer on the Board. If an assigned person cannot perform their duties, it is their responsibility to find a replacement (and copying Wlad).

ii. Open/Close Duties

There is concern from Division reps that the gyms are not properly being cleaned up during gym close after the last match. Refing team must clean up the gym after the match is completed. Not eating is allowed in the gym (and anything non-water) even the up ref. The school spent \$40k to refinish the floors.

iii. Equipment

Wlad is ordering additional ice packs for the league and an additional first aid kit for O'Henry.

iv. Social

There is a Division 9 captain's burger night this week.

Division 8 will have a family and fan day. Please invite fans and family for support!

B. Power Manager

None.

C. Tournaments Director

Several Friendship tournaments are not full (generally B and BB). This is probably due to the fact that these are not on the Gotham calendar. C tournaments are usually full.

The new website will have calendars (NAGVA, tournaments, open play, etc.). Signup for Friendship Tournaments will begin Sun. at 9 PM.



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 2010-2011 Board of Directors Tues. November 9, 2010

D. Social

There are a lot of events going on. Glen would like to be on the Board but is not able to fulfill his duties at this time (Board-Life balance), so we will be phasing in others for this role in the interim.

E. Development

Gotham will scale its annual retreat back to focus upon revising the current work plan. Maire started this journey two years ago and we may use her services over the next few months or in a one day session. She could work with the Board twice a month to coincide with Executive and General Board meetings.

F. Outreach/Community Events

First Women's Party will be at Rock Bar. This event could be a way for women to gain exposure to Gotham.

G. Coaching

A goal is to encourage participation in the coaching program. If the league provides some sort of recognition, this might spur more people to volunteer/participate. All Division reps should poll their captains and forward their coaches' names to Alan. Perhaps there would be an e-mail to thank everyone who coaches as well as a gift (T-shirt, towel, saddle bag, etc.).

H. Webmaster

Beta tested new website.

I. Grievance

The Grievance Committee suspended a player from Gotham indefinitely for serious sportsmanship violations. The player was granted a partial refund for the remainder of the season. The Grievance Committee also granted partial refunds to other players because they were injured during play. Eric reviewed each of these instances with the Board.

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 Wlad, seconded by Manny: to adjourn. Passed by acclamation.

Meeting adjourned at 9:20 PM.

UPCOMING BOARD SCHEDULE:

December 14, 2010 –Board Meeting
January 11, 2011 –Board Meeting
January 22, 2011 – End of Season Party (tentative)
February 8, 2011–Board Meeting

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

**Minutes of the Seventh Meeting of the 2010-2011 Board of Directors
Tues. December 14, 2010**

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

Attendees:

Seth Eichenholtz	Commissioner
Josh Christensen	Vice-Commissioner
Craig Skelton	Secretary
Lew Smith	Treasurer
Rich Reid*	Division 1 Rep
Clovis Thorn	Division 2 Rep
Dale Shoemaker	Division 3 Rep
Kleber Suarez	Division 4 Rep
Justin Hill	Division 5 Rep
Manny Ciccone	Division 6 Rep
Brendan Becker	Division 7 Rep
Susan D'Addario	Division 8 Rep
Scott Donner	Division 9 Rep
John Wetsell	Webmaster

Rob Fennell	Power Representative – At-Large
Joe Sena	Power Representative – Sunday
Leah Hughey²	Power Representative – Saturday/Monday
Wladmir Thomas	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
Alan Kramer	Facilities/Coaching Committee Chair
Omar Portillo	Community Events and Outreach Coordinator
Eric Eichenholtz	Grievance Committee Chairman (Non-Voting)
Rene Deida	Development Director (Non-Voting)

**Minutes of the Seventh Meeting of the 2010-2011 Board of Directors
Tues. December 14, 2010**

Bold = in attendance at start of meeting. * - Arrived 7:55 PM; ²- Arrived 8:15 PM

- I. Call to Order- 7:30 pm
- II. Approval of Minutes - November 9, 2010
After minor corrections a motion was made by Brendan Becker to approve the minutes as corrected. The motion was seconded by Josh Christensen and passed by acclamation.
- III. Public Comment
There was no public comment.
- IV. Executive Board Reports
 - A. Commissioner -- Seth Eichenholtz
 - i. Captain Election Schedule and Updates (Survey ?' s)
--Spring Captain' s Elections will be held from December 19 ~~through~~ through December 24th. Make sure you get your ballot, encourage people to vote, and let us know if you hear from anyone who didn' t get a ballot.
--We are planning on adding some survey questions to the ballot to find out how our membership feels about how we run tryouts, the website, league priorities (practice, power, etc), the importance of socials, and the leagues use of Facebook. IF you have questions about any of these topics or suggestions see Seth.
 - ii. Anticipated Board Changes
The executive board has accepted two resignations this month. One from Social/Alumni Director Glen Fernandez, which is effective immediately. The second was from Wladimir Thomas and will be effective January 1st. Both Gentlemen were thanked for their time and efforts on behalf of the league and wished well in their future endeavors. Seth noted that Wladimir has put in over four years of service to the Board, and thanked him especially for all of that dedicated time to the organization.

**Minutes of the Seventh Meeting of the 2010-2011 Board of Directors
Tues. December 14, 2010**

iii. Relationship with Rustin

With all the changes going on at Rustin Seth is happy to report that our relationship with the school is very good and throughout the changes in the facilities the league has been kept informed of the planned changes, the impacts those changes will have on the league, and what possible solutions exist. No longer is the issue whether or not we will have continued access to the school, but rather, what changes we need to make to accommodate the educational programs there. While still a challenge, in essence, we are in a much better position than we were a year ago.

iv. Update on Facilities - Rustin and O. Henry

As reported last month we are losing the storage closet at Rustin, however it appears that a storage space may be available elsewhere in the school. Which will relieve the board from needing to find a nearby storage space. Otherwise, all permits for the Spring have been secured. This includes permits for Saturdays at O' Henry. We are also looking into additional space at Fashion High School

B. Vice Commissioner - Josh Christensen

C. Secretary - Craig Skelton

D. Treasurer - Lew Smith

V. Old Business

A. Fall 2010 Season Logistics

i. End of Season Tourn. (1-4) Recap

The End of Season Tournaments for Divisions 1-4 were held at City College on December 11th. There were no reported incidents and the feedback has been positive.

ii. End of Season Tourn. (5-10) Update

Division 6 and 8 Tournaments will be held at Rustin on December 19th.

Divisions 5, 7, 9, and 10 will be held at City College

**Minutes of the Seventh Meeting of the 2010-2011 Board of Directors
Tues. December 14, 2010**

on Saturday January 8th.

iii. End of Season Party (Date, Venue, etc.)

Manny has done a lot of research and found a possible alternate location for our End of Season Party, which will need to be booked in advance. We will keep it in mind for future events. As for this seasons End of Season party, it will be at Esquelita on January 22nd from 7-10 pm.

Members get in free, guests are \$25.

B. Spring 2011 Season Logistics

i. Space Utilization

The Board discussed three options league space usage, factoring in the newly acquired space on Saturdays at the O' henry School. The three proposals and a vote count were as follows:

- Move Divisions 9 and 10 to Saturday and reserve Sunday for Friendship Tournaments. 15 votes.
- Keep Divisions 9 and 10 on Sunday and use the Saturday space for warm up space to address the loss of the back gym space. 4 votes.
- Move Division 9 to Saturday and keep Division 10 on Sunday. 2 votes.
- Therefore, the Board decided to move Divisions 9 and 10 to Saturdays at O. Henry, move Power E to Sundays at O. Henry, and reserve 9:30 AM until 5 PM at Rustin for Friendship Tournaments.

2. Friendship Tournaments

Bob will prepare a friendship tournament schedule that is reflective of the above decision.

3. Women' s Open Play

Women' s Open Play will consider using the space from 9:30 AM until 2 PM at O. Henry on Sundays, for two Sundays each month. One will be an advanced WOP, the other will be a standard WOP.

Minutes of the Seventh Meeting of the 2010-2011 Board of Directors
Tues. December 14, 2010

ii. Spring 2011 Calendar

The following dates have been adopted for Spring 2011

Online Registration Opens -- January 10, 2011

Division 1/2 Tryouts -- January 20, 2011

Power Classes (A-F) -- January 22, 2011

Division 3/4/5 Tryouts -- January 23, 2011

Division 6/7/8 Tryouts -- January 29, 2011

Division 9/10 Tryouts -- January 30, 2011

Team Power (B & BB) Tryouts -- January 31, 2011

There was a discussion on whether or not tournaments should be scheduled on Mothers Day, in which the board voted overwhelmingly to not schedule games on Mothers Day and therefore proposed scheduling four End of Season Tournaments at Queens College on May 14th, four End of Season Tournaments at City College on May 15th, and the remaining two Tournaments to be scheduled at Rustin.

iii. Tryout Formats

C. Website Redesign Update

i. Anticipated Launch Date

The redesign is now complete and we are only waiting for the new data to be transferred over to the server, which John Wetsell is working on. We expect to go live by the end of next week.

VI. New Business

A. Spring Tournaments

i. Big Apple

Save the dates, Big Apple is scheduled for April 9th and 10th.

ii. Spring Fling II

Spring Fling II is scheduled for May 21st and 22nd.

VII. Reports

A. League Manager - Wladimir Thomas

**Minutes of the Seventh Meeting of the 2010-2011 Board of Directors
Tues. December 14, 2010**

Thanked the Board for their support and friendship and reported that ice packs had been ordered.

- i. Division Reports
- ii. Logistical Issues - New Poles/Closet Locks
- B. Power Manager - Billy Bowden
 - i. Power Saturday
 - ii. Team Power
 - iii. Power Sunday
- C. Tournaments Director - Bob Arcari

Bob reports that he is working on the Friendship Tournaments Schedule and will provide it as soon as possible.
- D. Social
 - i. Committee Report/Recommendations - Craig Skelton

The Social Committee met on Monday, November 29th, in attendance were; Craig Skelton, Wladimir Thomas, Daryl Cochrane, Susan D'Addario, Manny Collado, and Eric Eichenholtz.

The committee is prepared to make the following three recommendations to the Board:

1. That the League appoint a Social Director who is involved in the socials process, insuring that a variety of activities are offered, that actual socializing is encouraged at said events, and that a balanced schedule of socials is provided for the membership.
2. Each season, in addition to the End of Season Party, the league would host 2 interdivisional mixers (weekenders/ weekdays, odd/even, etc.), and each Division would be given the option to host one Divisional social. If a division wished to have more than one dedicated social in a single season they would need to submit a proposal that would need to be approved by the Board.
3. That some formal line of communication is employed

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**Minutes of the Seventh Meeting of the 2010-2011 Board of Directors
Tues. December 14, 2010**

to inform members of events. (not word of mouth or Facebook invites only).

E. Development - Rene Deida

F. Outreach/Community Events - Omar Portillo

G. Coaching - Alan Kramer

i. Coaching Recognition Ideas

We decided to get medals to recognize the volunteer coaches. The Board allocated \$200 for this project.

H. Webmaster - John Wetsell

I. Grievance - Eric Eichenholtz

VIII. Announcements

IX. Adjournment - Meeting adjourned at 9:30 PM.



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

Minutes of the Eighth Meeting of the 2010-2011 Board of Directors Tues. January 11, 2011

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

Attendees:

Seth Eichenholtz	Commissioner
Josh Christensen	Vice-Commissioner
Craig Skelton²	Secretary
Lew Smith	Treasurer
Rich Reid	Division 1 Rep
Clovis Thorn	Division 2 Rep
Dale Shoemaker	Division 3 Rep
Kleber Suarez	Division 4 Rep
Justin Hill	Division 5 Rep
Manny Ciccone	Division 6 Rep
Brendan Becker	Division 7 Rep
Susan D'Addario	Division 8 Rep
Scott Donner	Division 9 Rep
John Wetsell	Webmaster (Non-Voting)

Rob Fennell	Power Representative – At-Large
Joe Sena	Power Representative – Sunday
Leah Hughey¹	Power Representative – Saturday/Monday
Joe Hom	Member-At-Large/ Assistant Secretary
Pam Tong¹	Member-At-Large/ Assistant Treasurer
Bob Arcari	Member-At-Large/ Tournament Director & Programming/Events
Alan Kramer	Facilities/Coaching Committee Chair
Omar Portillo	Community Events and Outreach Coordinator
Billy Bowden	Power Manager (Non-Voting)
Eric Eichenholtz	Grievance Committee Chairman (Non-Voting)
Rene Deida	Development Director (Non-Voting)



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Minutes of the Eighth Meeting of the 2010-2011 Board of Directors Tues. January 11, 2011

Bold = in attendance at start of meeting. ¹- Arrived 8:07 PM; ²- Present prior to start of meeting; departed to obtain photocopies of minutes, returned at 7:38 PM.

I. Call to Order

Seth called the meeting to order at 7:28 PM.

II. Public Comment

We had expected some Gotham members attending this meeting to voice their opinions. However, they did not attend. Members are welcome to present their views before the Board at the regularly scheduled (monthly) meetings.

III. Approval of Minutes – December 14, 2010

Motion to approve - Made by Brendan, seconded by Josh; passed by acclamation.

IV. Officers' Reports

A. Commissioner

i. Next Season's Scheduling Changes

Seth shared some feedback that he received about Spring 2011 league scheduling, specifically the Board's decision to move Divisions 9 and 10 to Saturday afternoons. Several members had indicated strong opinions against the move. Seth invited all of them to the meeting. No one showed up to the meeting, but three players did send in e-mail feedback. Those three members, all from Division 9, voiced that they would not be able to play on Saturday (and preferred to play on Sundays). Seth passed around e-mailed statements from each of the players for the Board's consideration.

Joe S. suggested that some Division 9 members were upset that, according to them, they had never been asked for their opinions about the change. Seth pointed out that Scott had advised the captains to poll their teams almost 2 weeks in advance of the December meeting, the captains said they did poll for player feedback. Seth, along with Scott, also went to the gym on the Sunday morning before the meeting and spoke with the Division 9 captains about this issue for 45 minutes to make sure that they got their feedback. During this meeting, each captain had indicated that they polled their entire team, and also gave Seth the general numbers of players in favor or opposed to the move. The vast majority were in favor of the move or indifferent. Seth indicated that all of the factors against the move, including the number of players who had a conflict with a Saturday match time, that had been reported to either him or Scott were discussed, in detail, at the last meeting.

Seth noted that, should these divisions remain on Sunday, there is no practice space solution for Divisions 9 and 10. Seth noted that no solution is perfect, there are legitimate downsides on all sides, and the decision is for this Spring season season as future permit and space availability will impact future season scheduling, and we should continue to re-evaluate our scheduling.

ii. Anticipated Board Changes



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

Minutes of the Eighth Meeting of the 2010-2011 Board of Directors Tues. January 11, 2011

Seth appointed Daryl Cochrane as (non-voting) Social Director.

See section VII. A. i. for League Manager appointment.

iii. Update on Facilities – Rustin/O’Henry/Fashion High School

Fashion High School will be available Saturdays from 10 AM to 7 PM (Feb. 5, 2011 to May 7, 2011). There is one court available but no storage for practice balls. We still need to develop a system of using the space.

B. Vice-Commissioner

No report at this time.

C. Secretary

No report at this time.

D. Treasurer

990 and 1090 (individual contractors) forms will be completed by the end of the month. Next month Lew will have the Q2 statements available.

Facility permits are paid for the upcoming season.

Main checking account (with about \$15,000 to be transferred from Pay Pal)	~\$69,000
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Old WAMU checking account	~\$2,600
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Old WAMU savings account	\$0.26
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Fire Island account	~\$6,000
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Big Apple	~\$10,000
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V. Old Business

A. Fall 2010 End of Season Party

Board members to e-mail Manny their availability to work the door and their invited guest for the party. The show will be all Escuelita performers and choreography.

Awards are not yet announced. There was discussion of putting the rosters of medaled teams (season and end of season tournament) on posters as in past seasons as well as on the website (PDF of the poster). The PDF would not be behind the log in due to the website set up (architecture) so will be open to all (meaning would be public). A compromise is to have the PDF available though the rosters would be first name and first initial of last name.

B. Spring 2011 Space Utilization



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

Minutes of the Eighth Meeting of the 2010-2011 Board of Directors Tues. January 11, 2011

i. League Schedule

There was discussion on increasing warm up time from five to ten minutes due to not having practice space. The most affected night would be Wednesday night where matches would start at 7 PM rather than 7:15 PM in the early gym.

An implication of a ten minute warm up may be that extended matches would shorten succeeding matches' warm up time. Gotham rules of play is a 15 minutes time per set/game with a two minute "overtime" to win by two points. (If after that two minutes, a team will win by at least one point – no ties.). This scenario will delay that night's league match schedule. To "catch up" matches will then have to shorten the warm up time to get back on schedule and within permit times.

A proposal is to eliminate the additional two minute time period (after the three minute warning that is within the 15 minute set/game time). The team who is ahead by at least one point (after the 15 minute set/game time) will win the set/game. To be able to follow would need a change in the Gotham Rules of Play.

It was noted that Saturday play has Fashion HS to practice/ warm up time and won't be as impacted.\ It was suggested that maybe we should allow the additional warmup times for weekday night divisions, and keep the 5 minute warmup time for the Saturday divisions.

.

After some additional discussion, the Board reached a general consensus to follow this proposal for the Spring season..

ii. Friendship Tournaments Schedule (Sundays)

Bob is figuring that with Sunday gym availability 9:30 AM to 5 PM in Rustin matches can be scheduled lasting 32 minutes. B division would be every other week while BB and C would split/alternate. This would be about six to seven tournaments for the upcoming Spring season with capacity of 13-14 teams each.

There are no permits for Easter weekend.

O'Henry (10 AM to 2 PM) would be the location of Women's Open Play, opposite the B tournaments while BB would be opposite the C tournaments. This is due to Division 9 and 10 moved to Saturdays there is an opportunity to have more C tournaments. There will probably be a BB tournament Apr. 17 (Sunday before Easter).

iii. Women's Open Play

There will be two levels: mixed/open and higher level. The former will target more beginner as well as individuals. The latter will target teams.

C. Sprint 2011 Season Tryouts

i. Format

The Board discussed how tryouts for different levels will be implemented.

Division 9/10 – The format for this tryout will be based on skills drills much like a Power tryout.



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

Minutes of the Eighth Meeting of the 2010-2011 Board of Directors Tues. January 11, 2011

Division 6/7/8 – Division 8 prefers game play rather than a skills drills based tryout. Division 7 prefers to have a regular 4-2 (setter in the middle of front row). Division 6 has teams that play 6-2 (back row setter) or international 4-2 (setter in right front row). There may be players during tryouts that have volleyball skills but may not know 6-2 nor international 4-2 thereby becoming disenfranchised. The general consensus was for regular game play for this tryout. Division 6 would have international 4-2 format and the other two would have regular 4-2.

ii. Volunteers

See Craig about signing up and availability. The expectation is that Board members at to volunteer for three out of the four tryout dates.

iii. Cafeteria Use

Since there is no practice area many players will want a place to mingle and warm up while awaiting their tryout turn. The cafeteria is a natural location though this access would hamper the selection process (after a division's tryout). A proposal was to have the access restricted while the selection process starts for a division.

Much discussion ensued about using O'Henry as a warm up and mingling location after check in /registration. An attendee would register/check in and then be prompted to go over to O'Henry until called for their tryout. The Executive Board will devise a system for court assignments and moving people to/from O'Henry including the use of another marker board and two-way communication.

iv. Wireless Internet Use

The school wireless network has inconsistent internet connection. The Board would appreciate it if a member can bring a wireless card or mobile hotspot for the selection process.

v. School Supplies Drive

Gotham would like to advertise the supplies drive to increase member participation.

vi. Pre-Tryout Open Play

The purpose of these open plays is for Gotham members who would like to move up in Divisions and new players to get practice and give captains a chance to see their level of play. Members who are not moving up are discouraged from participating.

Division 6/7/8 (Jan. 13) – sold out
Division 3/4/5 (Jan. 19) – some spots left
Division 1/2 (Jan. 26) – about 17 registered

Captains are reminded not to discuss anything with tryout participants. Though not forbidden this is strongly discouraged. In the past there have been problems with captains talking with participants causing an awkward situation (e.g., non-volleyball related discussion that may appear to affect a captain's selection of that participant.).

Lists will be provided to captains before their tryouts. Updated lists will be provided on different colored paper will be provided to captains prior to their division's draft/selection process.



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

Minutes of the Eighth Meeting of the 2010-2011 Board of Directors Tues. January 11, 2011

D. Website Redesign Recap

Special thanks go to John. The new website is bug free of new and pre-existing ones. He has worked diligently and spent many hours in making it in its current state. There is blog capability and new pages can be created easily. Files like PDFs can be posted to the website easily.

E. Social Committee and Future Social Events

Craig will organize people who are interested in this event while Seth will assume the duties of Social Director.

VI. New Business

A. Loss of Closet Mitigation

Gotham is sharing the new closet with badminton and (Rustin) Boy's basketball. This closet is in the East/Boy's gym. Shelving from the old closet has been saved and the Board is asking someone to install them in the new closet. Seth can show Board members where everything is/goes if one is not familiar with the new set up. (New keys were made available and distributed by Seth.) There is an additional storage location in a make shift area in the stairwell.

B. Spring Tournaments

i. Big Apple

Leah is main point of contact for volunteers.

ii. Spring Fling

Wlad and Eric will run this tournament (and are point of contacts for volunteers).

C. AIDS Walk NY Sign Up/Potential Conflict – May 15, 2011

The date of the walk coincides with an end of season tournament date. This is Gotham's third year in participating (raising over \$9,000 in 2010) and will be coordinated with the Social Director.

VII. Reports

A. League Manager

i. Appointment

Rich Reid to be approved as League Manager.

Registration

Out of the current 300+ registrants there are 36 new and 28 "98's" (players who have been in Gotham previously but did not play last season).

B. Power Manager

Some new people have inquired about Power. Out of the current 100 registrations for next season about 33 people are new to the program (the rest are returning).

Team Power will have its first ever tryout this coming season with 11 teams vying for eight spots.

C. Tournaments Director

There is a Friendship tournament the Sunday (Jan. 6) before New Orleans tournament (Jan. 15-16). If matches are running into Power classes then the tournament will be stopped.



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

Minutes of the Eighth Meeting of the 2010-2011 Board of Directors Tues. January 11, 2011

D. Social

Survey questions were asked in the end of season survey/elections. Seth will compile the answers. Social events were generally at the bottom of the respondents' priorities for the Board/league as being somewhat important. The number one comment was to have a variety of events not at a bar. Also, people wanted a variety of events and not to overuse the same venue, even if at a recreational one like Fat Cats.

E. Development

No report at this time.

F. Outreach/Community Events

In general, group volunteering involves a screening process by that organization. So if Gotham would like to volunteer the league would have to go through that process.

John Orcutt is coordinating a volunteer effort in New Orleans the Friday before the tournament.

G. Coaching

Alan would like to ramp up the e-mail list to solicit more volunteer coaches. There is a need for coaches to coach in a lower division than they play.

There is no time on the schedule to hold a coaches' clinic for this upcoming season.

H. Webmaster

No report at this time.

I. Grievance

No report at this time.

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 Joe, seconded by Rob: to adjourn. Passed by acclamation.

Meeting adjourned at 9:25 PM.

UPCOMING BOARD SCHEDULE:

January 20, 2011 – Division 1/2 Tryouts
January 22, 2011 – Power Tryouts (All Levels)
January 22, 2011 – End of Season Party
January 23, 2011 – Division 3/4/5 Tryouts
January 29, 2011 – Division 6/7/8 Tryouts
January 30, 2011 – Division 9/10 Tryouts
February 8, 2011–Board Meeting
March 8, 2011–Board Meeting
April 9-10, 2011–Big Apple
April 12, 2011–Board Meeting



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

**Minutes of the Eighth Meeting of the 2010-2011 Board of Directors
Tues. January 11, 2011**

May 10, 2011–Final Board Meeting
May 14/15, 2011–End of Season Tournaments
May 21, 2011 – End of Season Party (tentative)
May 21-22, 2011–Spring Fling

Minutes of the Ninth Meeting of the 2010-2011 Board of Directors Tues. February 8, 2011

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

Attendees:

Seth Eichenholtz	Commissioner
Josh Christensen	Vice-Commissioner
Craig Skelton	Secretary
Lew Smith	Treasurer
Rich Reid	Division 1 Rep/League Manager
Clovis Thorn	Division 2 Rep
Dale Shoemaker	Division 3 Rep
Kleber Suarez	Division 4 Rep
Justin Hill/Leo Pedraza*	Division 5 Rep
Manny Ciccone	Division 6 Rep
Brendan Becker	Division 7 Rep
Susan D'Addario /Mike Hess	Division 8 Rep
Scott Donner	Division 9 Rep
Jeffrey Reich-Hale*	Division 10 Rep

Rob Fennell	Power Representative – At-Large
Joe Sena	Power Representative – Sunday
Leah Hughey	Power Representative – Saturday/Monday
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
John Wetsell*	Member-At-Large/ Webmaster
Alan Kramer	Facilities/Coaching Committee Chair
Omar Portillo	Community Events and Outreach Coordinator
Eric Eichenholtz	Grievance Committee Chairman (Non-Voting)
Rene Deida	Development Director (Non-Voting)

Bold = in attendance at start of meeting. * - Appointed during this meeting

Minutes of the Ninth Meeting of the 2010-2011 Board of Directors Tues. February 8, 2011

- I. Called to Order-
Meeting was called to order by Seth at 7:35pm.
- II. Approval of Minutes – Jan 11, 2011
After minor corrections a motion was made by Brendan Becker to approve the minutes, seconded by Manny Ciccone. The motion passed by acclamation.
- III. Public Comment
There were no public comments offered.
- IV. Executive Board Reports
 - A. Commissioner -- Seth Eichenholtz
 - i. **Member at Large Appointment** – Historically the Webmaster/mistress has held a voting position on the Board. However, when John Wetsell became the webmaster he wasn't really interested in a voting position. Now he is, so after several seasons as a non-voting member of the Board, the Executive Board would like to appoint him to a member-at-large position. There was a motion to approve the appointment made by Rob Fennell, seconded by Scott Donner. The motion passed by acclamation.
 - ii. **Division Representative Vacancies**- There are 3 Division Representative vacancies to address:
 1. *Division 10* – With the expansion of Division 10 from 4 to 6 teams it is now large enough to require its own representative to the board. Once the teams were drafted for Division 10 the Commissioner asked returning Captain Jeffrey Reich-Hale if he would serve as the Interim Representative until one could be formally appointed. He gladly accepted the interim position and is the only candidate to declare his interest in the appointment. There was a motion to approve the appointment by Joe Sena, seconded by Manny Ciccone. Seeing no objections the motion passed by acclamation.
 2. *Division 8* – First of all congratulations to Susan for advancing to Division 7, it is her success that leaves us with this vacancy. There has been only one candidate to express interest in this position and that is Mr. Mike Hess. Mike has not been a captain in Division 8, but he has been a captain in Division 9, and a coach in Division 10. He has been a member of Gotham for 4 seasons. In that time he has always been very helpful and quick to make himself available when assistance has been needed. A motion was made by Lew Smith to appoint Mike Hess as the Division 8 Representative, seconded by Scott Donner. Seeing no objections, the motion passed by acclamation.
 3. *Division 5* – Congratulations to Justin Hill for moving to Division 4! We have three candidates for the Division 5 position: Craig Beck, Rob Frazier, and Leo Pedraza. The following statements were provided to the board by the candidates:

Craig Beck- "I have just started my 9th season of Gotham volleyball and it's a league that is near and dear to my heart in which I have made a ton of friends and have had a ton of fun playing and improving my volleyball skills. At this point I would like to get more involved in the Gotham and the board and run for Division 5 Representative. I'd love to have more input on ways Gotham can continue to change and improve while listening and taking into consideration other people's opinions in my division."

Rob Frazier- "Hi. My name is Rob Frazier and I've been a member of Gotham Volleyball since 1995. During the nearly 16 years that I've been in this league I've been a captain for 12 years, a coach for 10 years and served on the Board for 10 years as well - including 7 years as Division 4 Rep and 2 years as Division 5 Rep. I have enjoyed the many years I have spent here at Gotham Volleyball - meeting new friends and playing a sport that I have loved since high school. The years I have spent on the Board here at Gotham were some of the most rewarding because I felt I was part of a positive change in the continued growth of our league which has given me so much. Thank you for your consideration and whether or not I am chosen to fulfill this position on the Board I look forward to serving this organization in any capacity in the future."

Leo Pedraza- "Dear Gotham Board Members, I write to express my interest in representing Division 5 as Mr. Justin Hill transitions into more challenging levels of play within the League. I have participated as a loyal and enthusiastic member of Gotham Volleyball since 2005. In my six years of participation, I have greatly appreciated the community and friendships that have benefited me, and I have seen the great effort that previous and current volunteers have put into making the Gotham community a wonderful experience. I currently serve on the Gotham Grievance Committee representing D5 and have volunteered my time informally in the organizing of various efforts. However, I feel that it is now time to give back in a more impactful way. I hope to continue the legacy of our community-building reach, and I hope to serve as diligently as you do now. As many of you know, I believe in the values of the League, maintaining a supportive friendship with many, upholding a high bar for excellent sportsmanship, and eagerly recruiting new interest in Gotham to those I

Minutes of the Ninth Meeting of the 2010-2011 Board of Directors Tues. February 8, 2011

meet. For these reasons, I believe I hope that you grant me the opportunity to volunteer my time and effort as the Division 5 representative. I thank you kindly for your consideration and for all that you do for our fellow athletes."

Upon hearing from the candidates the board had a brief closed door conference and an informal poll after which a motion made by Rob Fennell to appoint Leo Pedraza as the Division 5 Rep. The motion was seconded by Manny Ciccone and, facing no objections, passed by acclamation.

iii. Grievance Committee Vacancy- Since Leo was on the Grievance Committee and has now been appointed Division Representative, we now have a vacancy. The Executive Board would like to formally nominate Rob Frazier to fill the Grievance Committee position. There was a motion made by Rob Fennell to confirm the nomination, seconded by Brendan Becker. A vote was called on the motion and passed.(14-2-1).

iv. Facilities Update-

O'Henry- We are interested in more evenings at the O'Henry School. *Fashion High-* Right now there are no facilities for storage. Meaning at this time we cannot easily use the gym space there for any other purpose beyond it's functions as a warm up space.

B. Vice Commissioner – Josh Christensen

No report.

C. Secretary – Craig Skelton

No report.

D. Treasurer – Lew Smith

i. Dues Collection Update- Outstanding job on dues collection. In the first week of the season we have over 90% of the league paid and over 85% of Power. Additionally, our PayPal usage is at 86% which is huge and has made a significant impact on our ability to collect and process dues in a timely manner.

ii. Independent Contractors- 1099's have been sent to all of our independent contractors.

iii. Q2 Report-

ASSETS Totals

Current Assets

Bank Accounts

Big Apple 9,946.14

Chase Checking 88,344.20

Chase Savings 36,433.09

Fire Island 6,095.66

League Checking 2,580.10

WAMU \$\$ Market 0.20

WAMU Savings 0.00

Total Bank Accounts: 143,399.39

Total Current Assets: 143,399.39

Total Assets: 143,399.39

Liabilities and Equity

Liabilities 0.00

Total Liabilities: 0.00

Equity

Opening Balance Equity 93,640.75

Retained Earnings

Net Income 49,758.64

Total Equity 143,399.39

Total Liabilities and Equity 149,399.39

V. Old Business

A. Spring 2011 Season Issues

i. Recap of Tryouts/New Setup- We had a very large turnout for League tryouts, Power and Team Power. It was also a more competitive tryout process, mainly due to the number of returning members. Thank you all again for your

Minutes of the Ninth Meeting of the 2010-2011 Board of Directors Tues. February 8, 2011

assistance and hard work! We have expanded a lot in the last few seasons and now need to start addressing the growing pains our recent growth might incur.

ii. Wednesday Night Closet Access- We follow a soccer team on Wednesday nights in the east gym at Rustin. Now that our storage area is in that gym there is a conflict in getting our equipment out of the closet while they're still using the space. We have made some accommodations for last week and this week, but we need to find a reasonable long term solution. After some discussion it was proposed that if they'll take a five minute break to let us get our equipment we'll give them 5 minutes at the end of their session. We'll offer this as a short term solution and determine if it is viable as a permanent solution to the issue.

iii. Practice Space at Fashion- the space at Fashion High is a fairly large space and can accommodate 6 teams. As it has been noted with more than 6 teams warming up at a time the space can get crowded. To alleviate crowding the following schedule has been created dictating which teams have priority to the gym space:

9:30 AM-11:45 AM	– Open Practice	– Teams can use on a first come, first served basis
11:45 A – 12:40 PM	–	Priority for teams whose matches start at 12:55/1:05 PM
12:40 P – 1:35 PM	–	Priority for teams whose matches start at 1:50/2:00 PM
1:35 PM – 2:30 PM	–	Priority for teams whose matches start at 2:45/2:55 PM
2:30 PM – 3:25 PM	–	Priority for teams whose matches start at 3:40/3:50 PM
3:25 PM – 4:20 PM	–	Priority for teams whose matches start at 4:35/4:45 PM
4:20 PM – 5:15 PM	–	Priority for teams whose matches start at 5:30/5:40 PM
5:15 PM – 6:10 PM	–	Priority for teams whose matches start at 6:25/6:35 PM
6:10 PM	– Closing --	Priority for teams whose matches start at 7:20 PM

iv. Friendship Tournament Coverage- An opening schedule for the Friendship Tournaments is being passed around, please sign up and help manage these expanded program offerings.

v. Closet Organization- Rich Reid will be cleaning out the closet this Saturday at 3pm. If anyone is available and interested in helping out see Rich.

vi. End of Season Tournament Scheduling- As we have discussed we currently have two days of end of season tournaments scheduled. One day at Queens College and one day at City College. We do have capacity to do all tournaments in one day at Queens College, however, given the popularity of City College we are happy to use the facility on the date it is available. This issue will be brought to a vote in next months meeting, so Division Reps, please contact your captains and poll them on their preference so that you will be prepared to discuss and vote in March. The CCNY tournaments will be held on Sunday May 15th, Queens College is reserved for Saturday the 14th.

B. Spring Tournaments

i. Big Apple- 9 teams have paid so far...still looking for sponsors and volunteers.

ii. Spring Fling- Scheduled for the 21st and 22nd of May, and is being coordinated by Eric Eichenholtz. Currently we're thinking of dividing "C" into "High C" and "Low C", see Eric if you feel strongly either way or if you're interested in volunteering.

iii. Fire Island- Is scheduled for Saturday July 16th, and is being coordinated by Josh. e is also looking for sponsors and volunteers. Heads up...this tournament will be smaller this year.

VI. New Business

A. Several months ago I started using a website called Campaign Monitor which organizes our list serve and allows individuals to add and remove their own names to the list. There is a cost of \$30/month associated with the service, this is a cost that Seth has covered since it hasn't been brought before the Board.

VII. Reports

A. League Manager – Rich Reid

No report.

B. Power Manager – Billy Bowden

No report.

C. Tournaments Director – Bob Arcari

Friendship tournaments are going well so far, but we will definitely need assistance with these now that they have been expanded.

D. Social – Daryl Cochrane

I'll be contacting you soon to discuss Socials for your various divisions.

**Minutes of the Ninth Meeting of the 2010-2011 Board of Directors
Tues. February 8, 2011**

- E. Development – Rene Deida
We are currently planning another one day local retreat. We are looking at a Sunday in March and hope to use the same facilitator we used for our first one day retreat.
 - F. Outreach/Community Events – Omar Portillo
We are thinking of adding a “community” section to the banner of the website.
I have been approached by the Bronx Community Center to participate in a fundraiser for that organization.
We have registered a team for the AIDSWalk and are working on a link to allow members to join the team via the website.
 - G. Coaching – Alan Kramer
No report.
 - H. Webmaster – John Wetsell
No report.
 - I. Grievance – Eric Eichenholtz
No report.
- VIII. Announcements
- Lew-is excited to play with 2 fellow board members in St Louis
 - Omar- is happy to lower his standards for the draft and is pleased by his “hot” team.
 - Justin Hill- Congrats to Leo!! I'm going to miss the board.
 - Rene- My husband and I bought a house in the country.
 - Jeffrey- I'm happy to be on the Board.
 - Leo- I'm glad to be on the Board and I look forward to working with you all.
 - Joe- Welcome new board members!
 - Eric- Welcome Mike Jeffrey and Leo.
 - Brendan- Played my first match with my new Division 7 team and I'm happy.
 - Seth- I moved up to Division 6 this season, withl wonderful team and a wonderful captain.
 - Even though we're not where we should be in the standings we ARE ahead of Manny's Raw Sets.
- IX. Adjournment
- Motion to adjourn made by Josh Christensen, seconded by Joe Hom.
 - Meeting adjourned at 9:33pm.

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 2010-2011 Board of Directors
Tues. March 8, 2011**

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

Attendees:

Seth Eichenholtz	Commissioner
Josh Christensen	Vice-Commissioner
Craig Skelton	Secretary
Lew Smith	Treasurer
Rich Reid	Division 1 Rep
Clovis Thorn	Division 2 Rep
Dale Shoemaker	Division 3 Rep
Kleber Suarez	Division 4 Rep
Leo Pedraza	Division 5 Rep
Manny Ciccone	Division 6 Rep
Brendan Becker	Division 7 Rep
Michael Hess	Division 8 Rep
Scott Donner	Division 9 Rep
Jeffrey Reich-Hale	Division 10 Rep

John Wetsell	Webmaster
Rob Fennell	Power Representative – At-Large
Joe Sena¹	Power Representative – Sunday
Leah Hughey²	Power Representative – Saturday/Monday
Billy Bowden	Member-At-Large/ Power Manager (Non-Voting)
Joe Hom	Member-At-Large/ Assistant Secretary
Pam Tong	Member-At-Large/ Assistant Treasurer
Bob Arcari	Member-At-Large/ Tournament Director & Programming/Events
Alan Kramer	Facilities/Coaching Committee Chair
Omar Portillo	Community Events and Outreach Coordinator
Eric Eichenholtz	Grievance Committee Chairman (Non-Voting)
Rene Deida	Development Director (Non-Voting)
Daryl Cochrane	Social Director (Non-Voting)

Bold = in attendance at start of meeting. ¹- Arrived 7:35 PM; ²- Arrived 8:30 PM

- I. Call to Order-7:30pm

**Minutes of the Tenth Meeting of the 2010-2011 Board of Directors
Tues. March 8, 2011**

- II. Approval of Minutes – February 8, 2011 Corrections were made regarding the recording of Februarys attendance, specifically, Dale, Clovis and John Wetsell were all recorded as present...they were not. After these corrections were noted a motion to approve the minutes was offered by Scott Donner, and seconded by Mike Hess. Seeing no objections the motion assed by acclamation.
- III. Public Comment- No public comments.
- IV. Executive Board Reports
 - A. Commissioner -- Seth Eichenholtz
 - i. Election Schedule
It is once again time for league elections, on the ballot for these elections are Commissioner, Vice Commissioner, Secretary, and Treasurer, as well as Spring All Stars and Fall Captains. If you're interested in running for an Executive Board position feel free to talk to any one of us, We'll be hay to let you know what you're in for if you're elected. The one requirement to run for an executive board position is that you must have served on the board within the past 3 years.
 - 1. Sign Ups – The sign up period for interested parties begins on Aril 13th for Divisions 3 and 4 and ends with the Saturday Divisions on April 30th. The sign up sheets will be ready at the April Board meeting so the Wednesday opener will have them to hang at the gym. It will then be up to the opener to put the sheets out at the start of every session and the closers responsibility to see that they make it back to the closet at the end of each session.
 - 2. Elections – Historically the voting period has lasted longer than a week, however, over the past few seasons the number of people who vote after the first week has dropped off considerably. Therefore the voting period will be shortened this season to 6 days, beginning on May1st and ending on May 6th.
 - ii. Summer Permits
We will be submitting our Summer permits for Rustin and O'henry soon. This summer we are seeking to add to our gym time and expand our programming.
 - B. Vice Commissioner – Josh Christensen
No report.
 - C. Secretary – Craig Skelton
No report.
 - D. Treasurer – Lew Smith
Not present.
- V. Old Business
 - A. Spring 2011 Season Issues
 - i. Closet Organization
We now have access to a cage on the landing of the stairways of both the 6th and 7th floors in the west gym. The league has just purchased 60 new balls for the Power program, they are in ball bags in the new 6th floor cage. They should always be stored there to keep them separated from the League practice balls.

Minutes of the Tenth Meeting of the 2010-2011 Board of Directors Tues. March 8, 2011

Also, we took all of our shelving out of the old closet in the back gym and now need to re-install them in the new space. If you're so inclined and would be interested in helping with this project please see Scott and John as they will be heading up this re-installation.

ii. End of Season Tournament Scheduling

We were able to get Queens College on May 14th and City College on May 15th, which will allow us to do 6 Divisions at Queens College on the 14th and 4 at City College on the 15th. It was decided that a lottery process would be the fairest way to determine which divisions played where, the results of that drawing were as follows:

Queens College May 14th: Divisions 1, 3, 4, 5, 7, 9

City College May 15th: Divisions 2, 6, 8, 10

iii. Weekday Night Refing Schedule

Division 2 Captain, Ricky Mora, pointed out that, since we don't have practice space on weeknights anymore, it is pointless to build in a warm up break by having a team from the 3rd match ref the 1st match. Furthermore he took the initiative to work out an alternate schedule for the remainder of the season. The Executive Board was very impressed that Ricky was not only willing and able to alert the board to a possible issue, he also took the initiative to provide a possible solution. However, given the logistical difficulties of changing the published Spring schedule, the decision has been made to plan for these adjustments in the Summer or Fall Season. At the same time the League will look into any similar changes that may be needed for the Saturday divisions.

iv. Saturday Divisions Refing Duties

There seems to be an issue among the Saturday divisions where refing duties are concerned. It is not uncommon to find distracted line judges, R2's following the ball instead of watching the net, or a lack of understanding of the appropriate calls for the different refing positions. We will be instructing the up ref's to meet with each of the refing teams before their match to go over what will be expected of each member of the refing team, answer any questions they may have and underscore the importance of quality refing. We're also hoping to provide more general information and possibly some instructional videos on the website to educate members to the particular duties of each of the refing positions. In the meantime, if you see something say something.

B. Spring Tournaments Update

i. Big Apple (April 9-10)

Our next meeting is after the tournament, if you're in town April 9-10 (and aren't playing in the tournament) we will be needing volunteers so please speak to Leah if you're available.

ii. Spring Fling (May 21-22)

Spring Fling is still in the planning stages. We are currently seeking feedback from the captains to see if there's a preference for a "one size fits all" C level tournament or if they want to have a "High C" and a "Low C" tournament. So far the preference is for the latter.

iii. Fire Island (July 16)

The Fire Island tournament is scheduled for July 16th.

If you're interested in volunteering, see Josh.

C. Campaign Monitor Subscription (\$60 for remaining FY11 Months)

As Seth mentioned in last months meeting, the league has set up an account with Campaign Monitor and e-mail management software. This program allows for streamlined use and management of our e-mail newsletter. For members, it

Minutes of the Tenth Meeting of the 2010-2011 Board of Directors Tues. March 8, 2011

gives the ability to unsubscribe to the newsletter by clicking a tab in the sent message. For administrators it allows monitoring of who has opened the newsletter, who hasn't, and what links are being used. The program costs \$30.00 a month and there are 2 months left in the remaining Fiscal year, so there is a need to approve \$60.00 to maintain this account. A motion to approve \$60 to cover the expense of the account was made by Craig Skelton, a 2nd was made by John Wetsell. Seeing no opposition the motion passed by acclamation.

VI. New Business

A. Retreat – March 20, 2011

As you should all know by now from the email you received that the retreat has been scheduled for Sunday March 20th and will be held in Newark, NJ. It will start at 8:30 or 9 and will be over by 4:30. Breakfast and lunch will be served. We have once again retained the services of Marie our facilitator/consultant, who was so helpful at our 2007 retreat. In addition to the current board we have invited recent members Susan D'addario and Justin Hill as well as former Commissioners Waseem Akhtar, Don Murray, and Ron Luce. Please let Seth know if you're coming as it is a per person cost. The goal of the retreat will be to create a one year work plan and a 3 year strategic plan.

B. Women's Open Play Update

Leah reported the following to the Board:

The womens open plays have been going really well. We just a general level that went really well, before that we had an invitational which only had two teams but it was four hours of great volleyball, and this weekend we have four teams coming which I'm really excited about. So the women's programming is really taking off.

Back at the end of February at the general open play, we had a variety of levels mixed together and some of the women asked for some drills to be run. I asked the ladies if these drills would be something they would be interested in going forward, to have a short clinic before the open play and they said they would. So, the question becomes if we don't go over the allotted open play time slot, and didn't cost the league an money would anyone be opposed to offering the first hour and a half to drills and then the remainder of the time for open play? There were no objections or concerns and Leah was told to continue her good work.

C. League Levels Review

Bob mentioned that the league needs to re-evaluate skill levels within Gotham.

VII. Reports

A. League Manager – Rich Reid

i. Division Reports

B. Power Manager – Billy Bowden

There have been inquiries into the leagues plan for the old power balls. In the past we have sold those for \$10 or \$15, there just needs to be a point person to collect the money and make sure it gets into the leagues account. The offer should be made to Divisions 9 and 10 first then other divisions.

C. Tournaments Director – Bob Arcari

Thanks to everyone who's helped run the Friendship Tournaments. They have been very well subscribed this season and the help given has been great. The C tournaments have been best attended, B tournaments have been good, and 5-6 BB teams have been registering. If you are running a tournament YOU MUST KEEP TIME. Friendship tournaments that run late interfere with Power and therefore cannot go late. Also, please pick up your trash when you're done.

D. Social – Daryl Cochrane

**Minutes of the Tenth Meeting of the 2010-2011 Board of Directors
Tues. March 8, 2011**

Special thanks to the Board members who attended the Welcome Social. It well and we had lot's of fun. Division reps contact Daryl if you need assistance with your socials also if there's someone you think should be on the social committee, please tell Daryl or Seth.

- E. Development – Rene Deida
- F. Outreach/Community Events – Omar Portillo
- G. Coaching – Alan Kramer
- H. Webmaster – John Wetsell
- I. Grievance – Eric Eichenholtz

VIII. Announcements

Josh (FOR LEW) Lew sent the following text, he wanted me to make this announcement in his absence, "I hope everyone enjoyed the meeting, I'm having a great time vacationing in Florida. My announcement is that I'm very proud of my teams success in the Atlanta Tournament this weekend, we were the number one seed but ultimately in elimination play we met a team that we simply could not beat. They had a spectacular libero who denied every attempt we made to score a point sooo...we took second.

Josh(FOR JOSH) I won gold playing libero in Atlanta this weekend!!

Daryl- I started a new job!

Bob- I'm having a lot fun coaching division 7 and 9.

Manny- my team beat Seth's team by 22 points.

Jeffrey- Thanks for all of your support for the past week and a half, it's been rough for me, but I'm happy to be back.

Scott- It's official, I'm working!! I'm a toys r us kid!

Mike- Matt and I are celebrating our 1 year anniversary

Eric- For the first time since I've been a captain I'm in first place.

Brendan- Thanks for the birthday wishes.

Seth- Before the next meeting Michael and I will be celebrating our 2 year anniversary, AND our team will be coming back!

IX. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn Josh

Second Manny

Meeting adjourned at 8:56pm.



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

Minutes of the Eleventh Meeting of the 2010-2011 Board of Directors Tues. April 12, 2010

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

Attendees:

Seth Eichenholtz	Commissioner
Josh Christensen	Vice-Commissioner
Craig Skelton	Secretary
Lew Smith	Treasurer
Rich Reid	Division 1 Rep
Clovis Thorn ²	Division 2 Rep
Dale Shoemaker	Division 3 Rep
Kleber Suarez	Division 4 Rep
Justin Hill	Division 5 Rep
Manny Ciccone	Division 6 Rep
Brendan Becker	Division 7 Rep
Michael Hess	Division 8 Rep
Scott Donner	Division 9 Rep
Jeffrey Reich-Hale	Division 10 Rep

Rob Fennell	Power Representative – At-Large
Joe Sena ⁵	Power Representative – Sunday
Leah Hughey ⁴	Power Representative – Saturday/Monday
See Div 1 Rep	Member-At-Large/ League Manager
Billy Bowden ³	Member-At-Large/ Power Manager (Non-Voting)
Joe Hom	Member-At-Large/ Assistant Secretary
Pam Tong ¹	Member-At-Large/ Assistant Treasurer
Bob Arcari	Member-At-Large/ Tournament Director & Programming/Events
Alan Kramer	Facilities/Coaching Committee Chair
Omar Portillo	Community Events and Outreach Coordinator
Eric Eichenholtz	Grievance Committee Chairman (Non-Voting)
Rene Deida	Development Director (Non- Voting)
Daryl Cochrane	Social Director (Non- Voting)
John Wetsell	Webmaster



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Minutes of the Eleventh Meeting of the 2010-2011 Board of Directors Tues. April 12, 2010

Bold = in attendance at start of meeting. ¹- Arrived 7:32 PM; ²- Arrived 7:44 PM; ³- Arrived 7:46 PM; ⁴- Arrived 8:00 PM; ⁵- Arrived 8:21 PM

I. Call to Order

Seth called the meeting to order at 7:24 PM.

II. Approval of Minutes – March 8, 2011

NA

III. Public Comment

NA

IV. Officers' Reports

A. Commissioner

i. Election Schedule

Sign up to start tomorrow as the three week mark begins. (The by-laws states that there will be at least three weeks for sign ups for elections.) Elections for will be for captains and E-board positions. Though captain entries can be via sign up or e-mail entry the E-board entries must be by sign up (for full disclosure). E-Board candidates must have had prior Gotham board experience as per recent by-law change. Elections will be held May 1-6. (Note: Gotham Board members should not use the Gotham list for election purposes.)

Seth will not be running for re-election to step back and allow for new leadership to handle Gotham, but intends to remain involved.

ii. Summer Permits Update

Permits submitted for summer. Tentatively, it looks like we will get Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday for the summer at both Rustin and O. Henry, unless construction causes changes. We are looking to continue these time slots may continue into the Fall for O. Henry.

The Board will hold off on verbalizing/finalizing summer programming as we won't know until later in May.

iii. Governance Committee

The committee has been working since the retreat, meeting a couple of times since then. The goal is to formulate a governing structure that makes sense to handle the current state of Gotham operations.

B. Vice-Commissioner

No report at this time.

C. Secretary



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

Minutes of the Eleventh Meeting of the 2010-2011 Board of Directors Tues. April 12, 2010

Craig is putting together an orientation packet for captains and new Board members. Please forward ideas to him.

D. Treasurer

Lew will be setting up next budget for next fiscal year so get ideas/line items to him by 4/27 so that E-board can review and make proposal for May meeting.

V. Old Business

A. Spring 2011 Season Issues

EOS tournament schedule update – roller derby on Sat @ CCNY – so no more than 3 courts
Can only have 3 divisions there; a) D9 to Rustin with D10 or b) have one Sun (@QC) to Rustin

B. Big Apple Recap

A lot happened between the last Board meeting and the tournament (venue and restaurant issues).
Josh, Leah, Craig, and Tony – thanks for being site directors for the different venues
Bob made schedule; Scott and Mike were there.
Recap meeting in next couple of weeks – things not to do next year and things that went well

C. Upcoming Tournament Date

i. Spring Fling (May 21-22)

E-mail came out today; Eric will go with two divisions (high and low C – the latter with no more than two players from D7, the rest from a lower division); depending on the number of teams some teams may be moved to low C (and vice versa). The format will be like a NAGVA tournament with pool play of four matches to determine tournament seedings and then the double elimination tournament play.

The tournament seedings will be announced at the seeding party after pool play. A number of people who will be playing in Spring Fling who are Power people will get reimbursement.

O'Henry will be used to handle the cap of 18 teams. Registration will be online. John made a template that can be customized for future tournaments... it will be able to print a customized roster under the confirmed teams page on "confirmed."

ii. Fire Island (July 16)

Need volunteers.

People who play doubles would like to play 4s. One way of doing it is to set up nets for Sun for doubles. Right now people will have to choose between one of the other if there is no Sunday.

iii. Golden/Green Apple – Nov. 12-13

D. AIDS Walk NY

Team Gotham needs more walkers and help spread the word (people playing on Sun for EOS tournament will miss AWNY). (Note: since this meeting the EOS tournaments will all be on Sunday May 15th).



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

Minutes of the Eleventh Meeting of the 2010-2011 Board of Directors Tues. April 12, 2010

E. Retreat Recap

Recap sent out – concepts in no particular order; two concepts to think about and will be working for next meeting and for the new board.

Second 3 hour with Marie in near term future for people who did not attend the meeting. People who attended found the session very useful.

VI. New Business

A. Summer 2011 Season

O'Henry and Rustin - permits requested for both for Mon; Wed, and Thursday

Initial proposed summer scheduling:

Rustin

Mon – summer in both gyms

Wed – open play D3-5

Thur – open play D1-3

O'Henry

Mon – D6 – try out 6-2; 5-1

Wed – D6-10

Below are some considerations that were also discussed:

- Hold Team Power B clinics during summer since had to turn away 3 B teams this past season
- A proposal is that since D10 is expanded perhaps expand summer league
- Perhaps limiting summer league to current Gotham members
- People who do not make into summer league can still participate in open play
- Perhaps Wed – D4-6, Thur D1-3

Classification of division level of play – transition from B, C, etc. to division appropriate

Summer league will be D7-10 (consensus) so we will not limit registration: Mon @Rustin – summer league; Mon @O'Henry – skills clinics? A good transition for new people to gear up for fall try outs – one night a week a rotation of skills clinic; there are teams/people that have been turned away because there wasn't space this current season – would like to offer them a spot if there is space available

We have six slots of programming available – will there be a clear reason or plan for growth that will incorporate enough board support and resources available

The challenge of the summer teams is that people have vacation plans and many teams last season had to forfeit due to lack of enough players that week – the requirement of summer teams is to have rosters of 10 players

Final Proposal:

	<u>Rustin</u>	<u>O'Henry</u>
Mon	league D7-10	practice / warm up space or perhaps open play
Wed	open play D4-6	skills clinic (rotating based on attendance)
Thur	open play D1-3	Team Power B



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

Minutes of the Eleventh Meeting of the 2010-2011 Board of Directors Tues. April 12, 2010

Passed - Consensus

Try outs will be skills based similar to Power – Rob presented a format for one court with max of 60 in one gym. We will use this as an experiment to test out. If successful we will consider applying this for Fall tryouts. The format is instead of forming teams of six we will have drill based tryout and captains assess player's abilities for the draft. Passed by consensus

B. Pride Update

We will solicit volunteers early to do this correctly to properly represent Gotham. Registration is already in and will be with other gay sports leagues.

C. Retreat Issues – Near Term Work

Tax status – Clovis will look for and meet with a pro-bono attorney (Josh and Seth to attend also) to see about transitioning Gotham to a 501c3 from its current 501c7 status.

Membership survey – Josh to create survey; e-mail comments. suggestions to him

Gotham Classification/reclassification – develop a Gotham rating system rather than use a NAGVA rating – can use for Green Apple and other tournaments/events – can use this to have skill appropriate players in divisions including captains; other leagues have had captains, coaches, players have input to a player's rating; for Gotham's size this would be cumbersome

Expansion - consider how Gotham should expand and what benchmarks to utilize – Seth to put committee together

VII. Reports

A. League Manager

None.

B. Power Manager

None.

C. Tournaments Director

Tournaments are running well. Thanks to the people who have helped run them.

D. Social

Successful weekender last Tues – thanks to Manny; almost all social committee was there (Industry Bar).

E. Development

No report at this time.

F. Outreach/Community Events

Women's tournaments – positive feedback; not sure if we will have women's tourneys over the summer.

G. Coaching

None.



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

Minutes of the Eleventh Meeting of the 2010-2011 Board of Directors Tues. April 12, 2010

H. Webmaster

None.

I. Grievance

Andre played in Big Apple; requested a league refund; Eric asks for a Board member to move to recommit the request to the committee to review the request; Lew to move to reverse the decision of the Grievance Committee to refund the remaining league season dues; Scott seconded; motion fails 4-16-0. Brendan motioned to recommit the issue to the grievance committee to review, seconded by Rob. Passed by acclamation.

The Committee recommended partial refunds to two members who sustained injuries during league play:
Mona – bad shoulder
Tina – broken nose
Board adopts the two refunds

Chris C. – Requested a refund because of unanticipated increased work commitments. The Grievance Committee recommended denying the request because it did not involve an injury, which is typically the only reason the Committee has deviated from the “no refund” rule listed in the Rules of League Play. Board adopts the committee’s recommendation to deny Chris’s refund request.

There was a violation of Gotham’s anti-violence policy when one teammate rushed toward another teammate after a post-game verbal dispute. The two were separated by others in the gym before any physical contact was made.. An agreement was reached between the parties, which the Grievance Committee subsequently adopted, that the member be suspended for one game. The Committee also recommended that veteran leaders help show newer captains how to be more proactive with difficult situations and have more veteran captains mentor more junior captains; some captains may not be comfortable in defusing situation

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 Josh, seconded by Scott to adjourn. Passed by acclamation.

Meeting adjourned at 9:32 PM.

UPCOMING BOARD SCHEDULE:

May 1-6, 2011 – Executive Board/F11 Captains Elections
May 10, 2011 – Final (Transitional) Board Meeting
May 14/15, 2011 – End of Season Tournaments
May 21, 2011 – End of Season Party
May 21-22, 2011 – Spring Fling



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

Minutes of the Final (12th) Meeting of the 2010-2011 Board of Directors

Tues. May 10, 2011

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

Attendees:

Seth Eichenholtz	Commissioner
Josh Christensen	Vice-Commissioner
Craig Skelton	Secretary
Lew Smith	Treasurer
Rich Reid	Division 1 Rep
Clovis Thorn	Division 2 Rep
Dale Shoemaker	Division 3 Rep
Kleber Suarez	Division 4 Rep
Leo Pedraza	Division 5 Rep
Manny Ciccone²	Division 6 Rep
Brendan Becker	Division 7 Rep
Michael Hess	Division 8 Rep
Scott Donner	Division 9 Rep
Jeffrey Reich-Hale	Division 10 Rep

John Wetsell	Webmaster
Rob Fennell¹	Power Representative – At-Large
Joe Sena	Power Representative – Sunday
Leah Hughey	Power Representative – Saturday/Monday
See Div 1 Rep	Member-At-Large/ League Manager
Billy Bowden	Member-At-Large/ Power Manager (Non-Voting)
Joe Hom	Member-At-Large/ Assistant Secretary
Pam Tong³	Member-At-Large/ Assistant Treasurer
Bob Arcari	Member-At-Large/ Tournament Director & Programming/Events
Alan Kramer	Facilities/Coaching Committee Chair
Omar Portillo	Community Events and Outreach Coordinator
Eric Eichenholtz	Grievance Committee Chairman (Non-Voting)
Rene Deida	Development Director (Non-Voting)
Daryl Cochrane	Social Director (Non-Voting)

Bold = in attendance at start of meeting. ¹- Arrived 7:45 PM; ²- Arrived 8:05 PM, ³- Arrived 8:30

I. Call to Order



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Minutes of the Final (12th) Meeting of the 2010-2011 Board of Directors

Tues. May 10, 2011

Meeting called to order by Seth at 7:29pm.

II. Approval of Minutes – March 8, 2011 and April 12, 2011

A motion was made by Joe Hom to approve the Minutes from the March 8 meeting, Brendan seconded. Seeing no objection the motion passed by acclamation.

For the April minutes the following corrections were recommended:

- the current Division 5 Rep is Leo Pedraza
- the current Division 1 Rep is Jeffrey Reich-Hale
- Lew was present for the April meeting
- The meeting date was April 12 2011

With the listed corrections there was a motion made by Rich reid to approve the minutes, seconded by Brendan. Facing no objection the motion passed by acclamation.

III. Public Comment

No public comments.

IV. Executive Board Reports

A. Commissioner -- Seth Eichenholtz

i. Election Results

The results are in and posted. Even though it was the shortest voting period we had the largest ever response rate, with 529 people. We also have the All Star winners which will be announced at the End of Season Party along with the tournament MVP's. One thing I noticed that I wanted to talk about involves term limits for Captains, it's something we've talked about in the past and in case it comes up again, this is something we should consider. When you have more than 12 people running for captain in a particular division, old captains get voted out and new captains get voted in. It was true for both Fall '10 and Spring '11. So before we make some future move to impose term limits for captains we should remember that by getting more people involved you create turnover. We had 10 captains voted out in the fall and 5 voted out in the Spring even though we had very low turnout across the board for candidates this season. So if people complain about captains or team selection encourage them to get involved. Seeing no objections to the Election Results Report they are adopted.

ii. Summer Permits Update

Today we officially obtained and paid for our Summer Permits for both Rustin and O'Henry. Starting on June 6th we will have both schools and all three gyms on Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday nights through the end of August. With the caveat that sometimes stuff comes up over the summer including construction and capitol improvements. We know, at least at Rustin, they took this into consideration and still decided to give us our permits so at least they're reasonably sure. We've paid for through the end of the Board of Ed fiscal year which ends June 30th and then we'll have to pay for the next portion at that point. So that's all set and when we get to the summer programming discussion later tonight we'll



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

**Minutes of the Final (12th) Meeting of the 2010-2011 Board of Directors
Tues. May 10, 2011**

know what we're dealing with in terms of gym space. It has also come back to us through the administration at O'Henry that the custodial staff says nice things about our group, so thank you to the Division Reps and membership at O'Henry for continuing to honor that relationship.

iii. Governance Committee Update

Despite multiple attempts, the Governance Committee was unable to meet, therefore, there is no update.

iv. Tax Status Update/Fundraising Opportunities

Clovis and I met with attorney's from Lawyers Alliance and learned a few things. First, we found out that our current tax status is appropriate for our structure and stated purpose. We also learned that there are other possibilities out there that we might consider. One idea that we hadn't thought of was if we wanted to do any tax deductible fundraising outside of our current structure, we could look for a fiscal sponsor. That would be another tax exempt organization that could take us on as a fiscal sponsor which would allow us to at least explore if there's the capacity to raise money. There's still a lot of information to gather and we need to get a clearer idea about some things like:

Why raise money?

What would we use the money for?

What are the long term goals of the league?

One other thing that came out of this meeting, let me start by saying we're going to talk more about this later, but the budget proposal tonight includes hiring a part time employee. Lawyers Alliance said they can work with us to help us get set up in terms of structure, taxes, and payroll.

v. Recap

It's been two years that I've been Commissioner, I set out with the goal to continue the trend of past Commissioners and hand off the league better than it was when I started. I like to believe I did that, we did a lot of expanding throughout my term.

But, I really want to thank you guys because you've all been wonderful. Sometimes this job can focus you on the negativity in Gotham and I'm sorry if I wasn't always my kind patient self. I appreciate all of your efforts, I couldn't have done it without everyone here and Gotham couldn't be what it is without you and all the work you do. Having Josh as Vice Commissioner for the last two years was key to our success and I look forward to him being Commissioner.

B. Vice Commissioner – Josh Christensen
No report.

C. Secretary – Craig Skelton
Thank you all very much for the chance to serve as Secretary for



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

**Minutes of the Final (12th) Meeting of the 2010-2011 Board of Directors
Tues. May 10, 2011**

the last year, and congratulations to Seth on his new office.

D. Treasurer – Lew Smith

i. FY2012 Budget

It's time to look over the budget proposals for next year and approve a final budget for FY2012. We have three budgets to consider. The first budget is proposed by the Executive Board and is the baseline budget, the two other proposals are offered as variations of this budget.

1. Executive Board Proposal for FY2012.
2. Board Member Proposal – Board Member Compensation Reduction (Dale Shoemaker)
3. Board Member Proposal – Social Committee Budget (Daryl Cochrane)

The Executive Boards Proposal uses past budgets as a guide and continues a tradition of projecting conservative revenues and estimating liberal expenses. This proposal also calls for a \$24,000 line item allowing us to hire a part-time league administrator. This proposal projects an annual net income of \$1350.00.

In discussing this proposal the following points were made:

- It has been a goal since the first retreat to hire a League Administrator.

After discussion a motion was made by Lew to adopt the proposed budget for FY 2012 and seconded by Rob. Seeing no objections the motion is approved.

The second proposal made by Dale Shoemaker Make a change to the amount of league dues waived for non-Executive Board voting members. E-Board members league dues would continue to be waived 100%, non-E board members and Power Reps dues would be waived 50%. This proposal projects an annual net income of \$4,887.00

BENEFITS:

- This would be more commensurate with time devoted to the league. The Executive Board spends an incredible amount of time running the league compared to non-Executive Board members.
- Helps minimize possibility of people running for non-Executive Board positions just so they won't have to pay league dues, and then not sharing equitably in responsibilities.
- Non-E board members have more skin in the game as at least partially paying members
- Based on (I think?) approximately 14 non-Executive Board positions, this would result in a considerable savings per



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

Minutes of the Final (12th) Meeting of the 2010-2011 Board of Directors Tues. May 10, 2011

season. This savings could be applied to programs benefiting the membership such as:

- Offset cost of proposed paid league manager position.
- Fund a Reserve account to be used for emergencies
- Offset new equipment costs
- Increase end of season recognition perks
- Avoid having to increase league dues

In discussing this proposal the following points were made:

- There is a significant amount of time invested by Board Members, attending meetings, working try-outs, and opening and closing the gyms.
- The dues waiver isn't anyone's main motivation, but it is recognition for the work that's done.
- Perhaps the dues waiver should be merit based.
- This is presented as one way to cut costs, not a silver bullet meant to solve our budget.
- Dues Waivers have been given throughout Gotham's history.
- A \$5.00 Dues increase for members would achieve the same net gain.
- Increasing the leagues reserve was a stated goal of the first retreat.
- There is a concern that we're going to disincentives Board Members, or devalue the work that they do.

After our discussion a motion was made by Dale to accept his proposal, the motion was seconded by Seth. On a vote of 1-11-1 the motion failed.

The third proposal made by Daryl Cochrane adds a \$2000.00 line item called Social Committee Fund. As the Social Director Daryl felt there was no recognition in the budget for the social aspects of Gotham. He proposes the money be split among the divisions and power classes annually, which would result in each division controlling about \$25.00 per season. The remainder of the fund (roughly \$750.00) would be used at the discretion of the Social Committee.

In discussing this proposal the following points were made:

- funds are currently made available for events and projects when specific proposals are made. For example: "I would like \$400 for 25 shirts to hand out at the AIDSWalk."
- With the exception of the End of season Party and one time we gave \$50 out of the Community Events Budget to the first Women's Open Play for refreshments, none of the socials have cost the league any money. People have purchased things on their own or received



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

Minutes of the Final (12th) Meeting of the 2010-2011 Board of Directors

Tues. May 10, 2011

donations for events, but no league money has been spent.

- \$25 per Division or Class per season doesn't seem like much.
- It is the only discretionary fund in the budget.
- A limited number of members participate in social committee activities, and the added value to our members is negligible.
- We already spend \$34,000.00 dollars on the End of Season Party, which is a social.
- The league is not opposed to allotting funds for social activities on a case by case basis. There is hesitancy to establish a discretionary budget.

After some discussion a motion to adopt daryl's proposal was made by Clovis and seconded by Rich. By a vote of 0-14-0 the motion failed.

V. Old Business

A. Spring 2011 Season Issues

i. End of Season Tournament Scheduling -- Update

- As you know there were many changes with the End of Season Tournament Schedule. Sorry about all of that, everything seems to be worked out now.
- Division reps you are responsible for running your own tournaments, which means if your team is eliminated, you can't leave.
- Medals are in the mail, we'll let you know when they arrive. We made need help putting stickers on them.
- For all Championship matched the league will provide paid R1's and R2's.

B. Upcoming Tournament Update

i. Spring Fling (May 21-22)

Is next weekend, and is sold out. All 18 Spots!!

ii. Fire Island (July 16) is the 3rd week of July.

C. AIDS Walk

There is obviously a huge conflict with the AIDS Walk this year, you can still join our team and fundraise.

D. Summer 2011 Season

i. Tryouts June 6th, permits are set.

ii. Open Plays start June 8 and 9.

E. Pride Update

i. Queens Pride – Jeffrey Reich-Hale

Division 10 Rep Jeffrey Reich-Hale is organizing a group to go to Queens Pride June 1st, please see him if you're interested in joining them as they represent Gotham in Queens!



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**VI. New Business
None**

VII. Reports

- A. League Manager – Rich Reid**
- B. Power Manager – Billy Bowden**
- C. Tournaments Director – Bob Arcari**
Four Friendship tournaments left, a big thank you to everyone that helped with those this season. I really appreciate it.
- D. Social – Daryl Cochrane**
The Social Committee met last week to discuss upcoming plans. Details to follow.
- E. Development – Rene Deida**
- F. Outreach/Community Events – Omar Portillo**
- G. Coaching – Alan Kramer**
- H. Webmaster – John Wetsell**
The database went down for over a day so they gave us a free month of hosting.
Things are fine now that we're back up. I'm adding some tournament software too.
- I. Grievance – Eric Eichenholtz**
The Grievance Committee continued it's conversation with Andre Carnero and decided in a vote of 3-7 to not refund his dues. Seeing no objections to the recommendation to deny the refund request the recommendation is adopted.

VIII. Announcements

Josh- Thanks to Seth and Craig and Lew for their time on the board. It's been great working with you guys. I'm very excited to be commissioner. For those of the Board who remain Summer is the best time for us to get operational things done and we will need you to work this summer. I also finished fixing up our backyard!! Lew and I won Gold in Denver.

Lew- It's been a great pleasure working with all of you this year.

John- Things are great.

Bob-my partner of 10 years broke up with me so life has been a little tumultuous for me lately. I'm sorry if I haven't been focused.

Clovis- My team finished in third place this season.

Jeffery-My team finished in 2nd place, I hope to see you all in Queens.

Rob-Thanks to John for coaching my team for the last four seasons.

Eric- very happy about my teams third place finish this season.

Brendan- I have an application in on an apartment in Sunnyside, wish me luck.

Craig- I just want to say thanks again, its been a pleasure working on the board with you all. Obviously I'll see you in the gym and perhaps I'll be able to continue working with you in some capacity.

Seth- Thanks again I'm looking forward to continuing on as Secretary. It's been interesting and it's helped me grow.

IX. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Rich, seconded by Lew. Seeing no objection the meeting is adjourned at 9:41pm.



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Gotham-Wide Election Results	Division 1	Division 2	Division 3	Division 4	Division 5	Division 6	Division 7	Division 8	Division 9	Division 10	Power (Non-League)	Total	Percentage
Commissioner													
Josh Christensen	40	48	41	50	47	46	54	49	47	28	12	462	97.1%
Write-in	2	1	2	0	2	1	2	4	0	0	0	14	2.9%
Vice-Commissioner													
Clovis Thorn	37	50	41	52	46	49	53	54	46	29	16	473	99.4%
Write-in	1	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0.6%
Treasurer													
Lew Smith	39	50	43	55	50	51	57	53	44	28	13	483	99.2%
Write-in	1	0	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	4	0.8%
Secretary													
Seth Eichenholtz	39	48	41	54	48	53	56	56	51	31	15	492	99.4%
Write-in	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	3	0.6%
Total Votes	43	52	48	59	55	58	59	61	56	33	18	542	

<u>Commissioner Write Ins</u>	<u>VC Write Ins</u>	<u>Treasurer Write Ins</u>	<u>Secretary Write Ins</u>	<i>Write ins are only noted if they are members of Gotham otherwise they are counted as abstentions</i>
Waseem Akhtar	Craig Skelton	Rich Reid	Craig Skelton	
Seth Eichenholtz (2)	Daryl Richardson	Dale Shoemaker	Daryl Richardson	
Lew Smith (2)	Daryl Cochrane	Daryl Richardson	Eric Eichenholtz	
Rich Reid (2)		Arvin Rada		
John Rappaport				
Michael Chia				
Leah Hughey				
Daryl Cochrane (2)				
Daryl Richardson				
Craig Skelton				

Prior Response Rate			
Spring 2009	Fall 2009	Spring 2010	Fall 2010
509	484	504	529