

## USJA Board of Directors Conference Call Meeting Minutes 3-8-2021

(Dial in Number: (712) 770-4010. Code 671923)

Present on the call:

- Bob Rush
- Dave Goodwin
- Ed Rodriguez
- Celita Schutz
- Sparky Bollenger

The meeting was called to order at 5:16 with Bob Rush giving an update of the PPE loan request for the USJA. He explained that there have been several attempts to apply for a loan. This has been a long and arduous process. A very frustrating experience overall. We have reapplied and are currently in a holding pattern awaiting a determination from the lending institution. Bob noted that he has been calling every 48 hours to see if there is an update. Dave noted that perhaps we should draft a communication out to the membership informing them of the steps taken to secure PPE funding. Bob agreed to will communicate out a message to the membership.

Bob went on to the next financial issue. That we are starting to see funding coming back as clubs opening and donations are continuing. Bob went on to state that if the financial momentum continued we should have 10-20k in the bank shortly. However, Bob asked if he could loan the organization the funds to pay the insurance due shortly. Dave recommended we consult Mr. Goldsmith prior to proceeding with any loans. Bob agreed, as did the rest of the board.

Bob raised the next issue about having sparky be an assistant to Mark as he seems to be extremely busy. Ed and Dave agreed that Sparky could help Mark. A vote was taken and the results were as follows:

- Bob-Yes
- Dave-Yes
- Sparky-Yes
- Celita-Yes
- Ed-Yes

Bob went into the next topic, a promotion for Ed, Celita and former president John Paccione. Gary Goltz raised the issue and he asked we discuss the issue as a board of directors. Celita explained that Sensei Matsumura submitted her paperwork for 7th dan and it was rejected because she was the codirector of the summer nationals, which she did not understand. She went on to state that her time in grade between 3rd and 4th dan was way overdue. Dave asked if we could justify counting that time towards her 7th. Ed agreed and recommended we promote Celita to 7th dan. Further, Ed said that we should focus on her outstanding service and the prestige she brought to the USJA before other considerations. Sparky also agreed that given all she has done for Judo, he would recommend her promotion as well. He went on to note that Bob and Dave are also way behind in time in grade. Bob asked Ed if promoting Celita would be a quid pro quo? Ed responded that as long as she was abstaining from her promotion, there is no issue. Dave put forth a motion to decide if we as a board we are willing to take up the promotion. Sparky, Dave, and Ed are in favor of taking up the issue. Bob abstained. The motion passed and the board voted on her promotion. Dave asked for a vote to promote Celita, Sparky made a motion to promote Celita to 7th dan and Dave seconded the motion, the vote is as follows:

- Dave- Yes
- Ed-Yes
- Sparky-Yes
- Mark-Yes (via email)
- Bob- abstained

The motion passed and Celita will be promoted to 7th dan. Bob then asked if there was any further promotion issues we wanted to take up at this time. Dave noted that John Paccione took the organization from a destitute to financially stable. He made numerous difficult decisions to move the USJA to a position of prominence. He noted further that If anyone deserves to have an exception made, its John. Bob asked that we consider Ed's promotion first. Dave noted that Ed as well should be given special consideration as he has done a considerable amount of work on the international stage as competitor, national team coach and leader of continental unions. Dave put forth a motion to promote Ed to 6th degree and John Paccione to 7th degree. Sparky seconded the motion and a vote was taken. The vote was as follows:

- Ed- Yes (for John)
- Celita-Yes for both
- Dave-Yes for both
- Sparky-Yes for both
- Mark-Yes for both (via email)
- Bob-No for John, abstain for Ed.

Celita asked if a non USJA member could run the Summer Nationals? The board agreed that a USJA member should run the Summer Nationals. Having no further new business, Sparky put forth a motion to end the meeting and the meeting was concluded at 7 pm.

**From:** Dave Goodwin <[sensei@bushidodojosi.com](mailto:sensei@bushidodojosi.com)>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 12, 2021 10:32 AM  
**To:** Ed Rguez Quilichini <[rodzquil@msn.com](mailto:rodzquil@msn.com)>  
**Cc:** celita <[celita@kokushikai.com](mailto:celita@kokushikai.com)>; Sparky Bollinger <[bollingerhc@gmail.com](mailto:bollingerhc@gmail.com)>; Mark Tamulionis <[mark.tamulionis@gmail.com](mailto:mark.tamulionis@gmail.com)>; Bob Rush <[cemjudo@comcast.net](mailto:cemjudo@comcast.net)>  
**Subject:** Re: Promotion Support

Mark submitted his vote for these promotions. Also, Mike Hall was told to send out a bill for the promotions and certificates, FYI.

**From:** Mark Tamulionis <[mark.tamulionis@gmail.com](mailto:mark.tamulionis@gmail.com)>  
**Date:** March 11, 2021 at 10:17:05 PM EST  
**To:** David Goodwin <[sensei@bushidodojosi.com](mailto:sensei@bushidodojosi.com)>  
**Subject:** Promotion Support

Good evening sir,

Sorry I couldn't be on the call this week, but I just wanted to toss my support behind the promotions of Celita, John, and Ed. Congrats to all three. Hope all is well! Let me know if you need anything.

Thanks,  
 Mark