

METROPOLITAN SWIMMING, INC.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Saturday, February 22, 2014

PRESENT: John McIlhargy, Brian Hansbury, Bruce Brooks, Mary Fleckenstein, Corinne Cody, Monique Grayson, Don Wagner, Nicole Pasco, David Ellinghaus, Edgar Perez, John Yearwood, Amine Boubsis, Elliot Ptasnik, Ryan Wagner, Bob Fitzsimmons and Rob Ripp

EXCUSED PRIOR TO MEETING: Denise Byrne, Richie Finkelstein, Colleen Driscoll

ABSENT: George Rhein

1. **WELCOME:** John “Mac” McIlhargy called the meeting to order at 1:33pm at Lehman College APEX, between prelims and finals of Senior Mets.
2. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

A motion to approve the minutes of the BOD of January 15, 2014 was made, seconded and accepted by all members in attendance. The minutes were approved as published.
3. **GENERAL CHAIR:** John McIlhargy
 - a. **Hall of Fame:** John, Mary, Monique, Martin Zwiren and Greg Kincheloe met on Friday, February 21st at Lehman College with Dave Mc Clatchey – Account Manager of 1157 Design Concepts – about the Interactive Metropolitan Swimming Hall of Fame to be built on the wall in the hallway of the APEX by the pool (right after the admission table). A copy of the design was available. Two modules will be available: Hall of Fame and History of Metropolitan Swimming. We are waiting for Lehman College’s approval of the plans and vendors. We will need pictures and History. No HOF Dinner this year but we will host a Reception once the Interactive display is completed. Awards would also be given at this year’s reception.
 - b. **Eastern Zone:** The May meeting will be held on Saturday, May 10th in Fort Lauderdale.
 - c. **Officials:** Mac and Bruce Brooks are pleased to announce the appointment of our new Official Co-Chair – **Robert (Bob) Fitzsimmons** – BGNW Marlins. Welcome aboard! This will be a great way to ease the transition until Bruce steps down.
 - d. **Zone Athlete Support:** A motion was made to contribute 100% of the cost for one athlete (father passed away suddenly during ZQ). Motion was seconded – all voting members accepted – Motion carries.
 - e. **Senior Mets LCM Summer 2014:** Mac asked the Senior Chair to make sure that the pool is secured for the Summer Senior Mets in July. Don said he will take care of this.
4. **TREASURER’S REPORT:** Corinne Cody
 - a. The latest report was available at the meeting – Budget vs. Actuals – September 2013 to February 22, 2014.
 - b. The Swimposium expenses still need to be added.
 - c. The Tax return is done!

5. **AGE GROUP CHAIR:** Edgar Perez and John Yearwood
 - a. Zone Qualifier meet went very well.
 - b. We have 116 swimmers going to the Eastern Zone Championships at the end of March.
 - c. We may need to adjust the timeline a bit for next year's meet.

6. **ATHLETES' REPRESENTATIVES:** Nicole Papsco and Ryan Wagner
 - a. There were many problems with the ballots at the athletes election held during Senior Mets.
 - b. Discussion followed. The election was not a representation of our athletes and membership and is not valid.
 - c. Long discussion followed. We then continued with the agenda for the day.
 - d. Outcome of discussion will be on page 4.

7. **OFFICIALS CHAIR:** Bruce Brooks
 - a. Bruce welcomed Bob Fitzsimmons as Bruce has requested to step down from his position as Officials Chair. The transition will start right away.
 - b. Bruce thanked everyone for their support!
 - c. We are just under 250 officials at this point!
 - d. Set as an Evaluation meet for Advancement and Re-Certification, and as Officials' Qualifying Meet for National Certification, Senior Mets was extremely well attended by Metro Officials and also included 5 officials from other LSCs (4 from NJ and 1 from Maine). We have now about 25 officials with National Certifications.
 - e. Mac and Corinne praised Bruce for his hard work on the Metro Board.

8. **NATIONAL TIMES VERIFICATION/TOP 16:** Monique Grayson
 - a. Not much at this time
 - b. Lots of Metro meet within the last few months (and 15 high school championship meets).
 - c. Not many times left in the Holding Tank at this time.
 - d. SWIMS meeting this spring for Registration/Safe Sport/Times.

9. **TECHNICAL PLANNING:** David Ellinghaus
 - a. Senior Mets is very well attended and is a fast meet.
 - b. We will review the standards for the mile for next year as there were 123 entries for this event (58 women and 65 men). We decided to let everyone swim and have requested positive checking to be done by 6pm on Saturday, February 22nd.
 - c. Some coaches have been asking to add a "D" final for the 50 free and the 100's ... Senior Committee will need to look at this.

10. **COACHES' REPRESENTATIVE:** Amine Boubsis
 - a. Suggestion to maybe give travel stipends to coaches again.
 - b. This was discontinued many years ago as it is not the responsibility of an LSC to support the coaches travels – the Clubs of those athletes attending National meets should be supporting the attending coaches. Recommendation: write something up and bring it to budget meeting to present to the board.
 - c. Swimposium – are coaches aware of this opportunity – a MailChimp email was sent to all by the office.

11. **REGISTRATION:** Mary Fleckenstein
 - a. Registration total for 2014 is 9,599 (5,295 female and 4,304 male swimmers)
 - b. There are also 150 “others”, 502 coaches, and 241 officials
 - c. Total for 2014 as of now: 10,451 members

12. **SAFE SPORT/SAFETY COORDINATOR:** Brian Hansbury
 - a. Continued Education and Continued Background Check
 - b. Deck Changing – Yelling – bullying – touching athletes – all are problems in many LSCs. There should be no allowance for this.
 - c. Insurance Policy – USA Swimming hired people to look over all the Policy & Procedures Manuals re: Safe Sport from all LSC’s and made 39 recommendations.
 - d. Meet Directors must remember to fill out the incidents reports and then enter the information on USA Swimming web site.
 - e. Be strict on Deck Changing. Coaches must not allow it. We have a responsibility as a board to make sure athletes and coaches understand this.

13. **WEB SITE COORDINATOR:** Monique Grayson
 - a. Mac reminded all in attendance that anything that goes up to the web site must first go through Monique or Mary Fleckenstein.
 - b. Motion to remove the Officials and Coaches lists on the Metro Web site. These pages are antiquated. Coaches have deck pass as well as their USA Swimming Registration Card. Discussion followed on this. Coaches and Officials may actually print their own cards so there are no reasons for them not to carry it. Motion was seconded and approved by all. **Motion carries.**
 - c. Officials must just have a link to the Officials Page on USA Swimming as their database is continually updated.

14. **DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION:** Elliot Ptasnik
 - a. Elliot wants to apply to host the 2015 Eastern Zone Diversity and Inclusion Select Camp in Metro. As of now, we don’t have a LCM pool available but are still looking into that. This would be for the last week of June 2015 for approximately 30-35 athletes (ages 13-16), along with coaches and administrators. Will also need a place to host the athletes (dorms for example).
 - b. Clinic with the Madison Boys & Girls Club in April – contact Elliot if you want to run a clinic.
 - c. We need more info posted on the Diversity Page on the Metro Website.
 - d. New York Parks & Recs. – New Clubs are applying at this time – Trident Swim Club (TSC) and All Sports for All People of Camp Olympia (ASAP).

15. **OPEN WATER:** Rob Ripp and Colleen Driscoll
 - a. Colleen was unable to attend this meeting
 - b. Rob gave info on two championships that are scheduled at this time:
 - a. Third Annual Huntington/Cold Spring Harbor Open Water Swim at West Neck Beach – June 22, 2014 – Distances: 400 meter (for 10-under); and 1 mile, 2 mile, 5K races for 11-up. A map of the West Neck Beach Course was available as well.
 - b. July 13 – 5k – Bea Hartigan
 - c. USAS One-Day OW Registration for non USA Swimming members will be accepted.

- d. The Open Water packet was mailed to the Metro Office. We are in need of more buoys. What happened to Metro's buoys? There is a budget for OW so we may need to purchase some more.
- e. Mac would like to see more Open Water swims available in Metro as well as a true Metro OW Championship.

6-B. **ATHLETES REPRESENTATIVES:** Continued from page 1:

- a. A motion to declare the athletes' vote null and void was made, seconded and approved by all. **Motion carries.**
- b. Mac is asking the athletes to send him a letter explaining what happened at the election.
- c. Suggestions on when to hold another election? JOs? This would not reach the majority of swimmers over the age of 13 to take part in the election. Other suggestion is to appoint an athlete's Rep. but this is not right as they have to be elected by their peers.
- d. We must follow the By-Laws (please review them) and we must run an election. This has actually been a problem with the Athletes Reps running the elections (and attending Metro Meetings!). The new athlete's Rep must be announced at the May meeting.
- e. A very long discussion followed.
- f. At this time, Mac will request advise from USA-Swimming.
- g. Input and Solution from USA Swimming Response will be posted on page 5

16. **SENIOR CHAIR:** Don Wagner

- a. Very long review of Metro Senior Swim Camp.
- b. Conversations were held through emails, on deck, etc... Metro is committed to doing everything it can to support Senior Swimming and be more inclusive.
- c. Long discussion on the budget of \$20,000 that is allocated for Senior Swimming – the BOD has always been asking for an itemized list of expenses and all plans and forms were supposed to be reviewed by the Senior Committee and then presented to the Board for approval. This was not done. There is a lack of trust in the program at this time.
- d. Elliot Ptasnik stepped in to help Don Wagner secure hotel rooms, venue, vans, etc. Guests will be Four-time Olympic Medalist Peter Vanderkaay (coming from Detroit) and Olympic Coach and Swimmer Sergio Lopez (coming from Jacksonville).
- e. How many swimmers will attend the camp: 20, 30 or 40. Camp is held locally so it would be ideal to take 40 swimmers. Discussion on the criteria for selection of swimmers. Senior Committee should work with Technical Planning to re-evaluate the selection process (power point and IMX).
- f. Questions: Are we in favor of hosting a senior camp? Yes - Are we in favor of spending \$20,000 for 20 swimmers? No – Are we in favor of spending \$20,000 for 30-40 swimmers? Yes – Would we be in favor to run the camp with the \$20,000 budget, but charging a fee to offset the increased cost of opening the camp to more swimmers and maybe opening it for more coaches /swimmers for observation on Saturday? Yes
- g. A motion was made and seconded to run the camp this year (April 17-20, 2014) for forty (40) athletes – all were in favor – **motion carries.**
- h. A motion was made and seconded to run the camp for 40 swimmers and to stay with the \$20,000 budget allocated to Senior Swimming – 5 for – 6 against – **motion failed.**
- i. A motion was made and seconded to run this year's camp for 40 swimmers with the \$20,000 budget allocated to Senior Swimming and to charge a non refundable fee of \$100 per

swimmer - all voting members were in favor – **motion carries**. The final forms will be posted on the metro Website as soon as possible. Flyer, Metro All-Star Training Trip information, Applications for athletes and for coaches will be due by March 15, 2014.

17. UNFINISHED / OLD BUSINESS:

- a. Elections in May: the following positions will be open for re-election: General Chair, Administrative Vice Chair, Coaches Rep., Secretary. The following positions are not eligible for re-election: Senior Chair (Don Wagner) and Finance Chair (George Rhein).
- b. The date of the May HOD meeting will be available as soon as possible (probably May 21st).
- c. A motion was made and seconded for the secretary to destroy the ballots. Motion carries.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made, seconded and approved by all. Motion carries. Meeting adjourned at 4:43pm

Respectfully submitted
Monique Grayson

March 14, 2014

6-C. ATHLETES REPRESENTATIVES: Continued from page 1 and 6-B on page 4:

- a. As per USA Swimming, we can reschedule a vote with a published 30-day notice.
- b. For this reason, a special election for Junior Athlete Representative will be held via email vote beginning April 7th at 8:00am through April 10th at Midnight (72 hour window). Instructions for voting will be posted on the Metro website 1 week prior to the election and all clubs and coaches will be emailed the information regarding the special election.
- c. A separate email address will be given for athletes to vote – one vote per athlete (13-Over) – all athletes must give their full name, age and team they represent. Votes will be validated by the office and in co-ordination with our Administrative Vice Chair and Athletes' Reps.
- d. Changes will need to be made for next year's athlete Rep. election – for example, have a Metro Board Member, or an athlete that is not swimming at Senior Mets, or other responsible adult, to manage the election table to help the athletes.