

METROPOLITAN SWIMMING, INC.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Wednesday, January 15, 2014

PRESENT: John McIlhargy, Brian Hansbury, Bruce Brooks, George Rhein, Mary Fleckenstein, Corinne Cody, Monique Grayson, Don Wagner, Denise Byrne, Edgar Perez, John Yearwood, Amine Boubsis, Elliot Ptasnik

EXCUSED PRIOR TO MEETING: Nicole Pasco, David Ellinghaus

ABSENT: Ryan Wagner, Rich Finkelstein, Colleen Driscoll and Rob Ripp.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Chris Mance, Jonah Montgomery, Laurie Lawson, Melissa Freehill

1. **WELCOME:** John “Mac” McIlhargy wished everyone a Happy New Year and called the meeting to order at 6:15pm at Lehman College APEX.
2. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

A motion to approve the minutes of the BOD of September 28, 2013 was made, seconded and accepted by all members in attendance. The minutes were approved as published.
3. **GENERAL CHAIR:** John McIlhargy
 - a. We will not have as many Board meetings as in the past. We take care of a lot of business through emails.
 - b. Responsibilities of all Board members – have reports at each meeting and email the reports to Mac
 - c. Information re: Interactive Hall of Fame to be established at Lehman College APEX. Mac presented an update on the estimated investment for the display - \$35,000.
 - d. This is separate from the \$5,000 donation given each year to Lehman College
4. **REGISTRATION COORDINATOR / METRO OFFICE:** Mary Fleckenstein
 - a. Suggestion to host the Hall of Fame Dinner every other year instead of each year. We would do a reception or something when the Interactive HOF opens later this year, and host the HOF Dinner in 2015.
 - b. We are up to 9,371 registered swimmers as of January 15, 2014.
 - c. Mary thanked everybody for the support that she received over the last few weeks.
 - d. We have to stress to our coaches and to our clubs to please read the information given to them. There are still way too many errors in registration files – please read the directions and/or Mary’s emails. Reminder: a “change” is not a registration. Swimmers that transfer must be labeled as “renew” – “change” should only be used subsequently – for example if the swimmer changes address, or for spelling/birth date corrections AFTER the initial registration file!

- e. Do not wait to register your swimmers! Use your Club Portal to check your swimmers registrations. If a name is not on the list – he/she is not registered!!!
 - f. February 8, 2014 – Peter Clark will run a Club Leadership Clinic and Business Management Course at the JCC of Manhattan.
 - g. 4 Clubs are looking to join Metropolitan Swimming.
 - h. Reminder to all: Metro is using MailChimp for newsletters and important information. Please read! If anything needs to be sent out, please remember to send the info to Mary at least 2 weeks in advance!
5. **SAFETY COORDINATOR:** Brian Hansbury
New report of occurrence has been posted on the website. All teams need to submit info online to US Swimming the paper copy is no longer needed nor is it accepted.
6. **SAFE SPORT COORDINATOR:** Brian Hansbury
- a. More legislation will be available soon.
 - b. USA Swimming will host four Zone Workshops in 2014. These workshops have been designed specifically for registrars, times officers and safe sport chairs.
 - c. Still concerns about timers – should they have a background check or not!
7. **OFFICIALS CHAIR:** Bruce Brooks
- a. Not too much to report.
 - b. We received a request from New Jersey to help cover some of their meets as they are short on referees!
 - c. As in the past few years, Senior Mets will again be an Officials National Certification meet – Requests for evaluation must be submitted to the Meet Referee as soon as possible.
 - d. We have about 230 officials now, but Bruce would like to increase the number of Officials in Metro, especially from teams that do not host meets (but do attend meets).
 - e. LIAC has 26 officials; BGNW has 19; AGUA has 17
 - f. Busy year for our officials as some weekends have 6 or 7 meets!
 - g. National Level – **Ken Graham** (Patriots) attended a training workshop; **Jackie Spierer** (Suffolk County Area Chair) will attend an Open Water National training.
8. **AGE GROUP CHAIRS:** John Yearwood and Edgar Perez
- a. We will use a different company for the buses for Zones this spring. Better price.
 - b. Hobie Swim and the tech suits issues – we will save cost and make everyone happy by getting a generic Metro Team suit for warm-up only (with Metro logo) – like a trainer suit for the girls and maybe a drag suit for the boys - and let the swimmers use their own favorite tech suit when racing. Tech suits will still be available for optional purchase
 - c. Reminder – don't attend the Zone Qual. meet if you have no intention of going to Zones!!! Only swimmers who actually intend to attend Zones, if they make the team, may compete at the Zone Qualifier Meet.
9. **FINANCE CHAIR:** George Rhein
George will discuss a couple of issues with the Finance committee after this Board of Directors' meeting.

10. DIVERSITY / INCLUSION: Elliot Ptasnik

- a. December 7, 2013: Imagine Swimming hosted a meet at which **Anthony Irvin** ran a clinic for swimmers between sessions. There was a Showcase 50 freestyle race between **Eric Miou**, Olympian **Brett Fraser** from the Cayman Islands, **Doug Lennox** from Puerto Rico and Irvin. It was a great way to promote Diversity within the LSC. (Anthony Irvin won the race in 19.40 seconds)
- b. January 26, 2014: Coaches Clinic on Diversity - New York City Parks & Rec. has 1500 swimmers and about 24 pools! Shaun Anderson, a USA Swimming Diversity Consultant, will be in attendance. Location to be announced!
- c. We need better advance warning before these events so that we can promote it to the membership!
- d. USA Swimming is funding a pilot program (\$1,000) to help set up the partnership between USA Swimming and New York City Parks & Rec.
- e. Metro will apply to host the 2015 Eastern Zone Diversity and Inclusion Camp – application is due February 21, 2014
- f. Elliot would like to revamp the Metro page on Diversity & Inclusion.
- g. The NY Parks and Rec. has taken over The Flushing Meadows Corona Park Aquatic Center.
- h. Anthony Irvin is a great supporter of Metropolitan Swimming.

11. COACHES REPRESENTATIVE: Amine Boubsis

- a. Swimposium – Sunday, April 13, 2014 – at Lehman College - 2 sessions learning clinic for Coaches, parents, Officials, and Swimmers. Session will be from 9:00am to 12:00pm, and then from 1:00pm to 4:00pm. Possible presenters will be Paul Memont (officials), Peter Clark (Club Leaderships), Jane Grosser (Parents), Michael Brooks (Coaches) and Kate Ziegler (Athletes).
- b. March 23, 2014 - Clinic will be held by Ryan Lochte in Long Island – this is a charitable event with some Metro coaches as instructors. Tough weekend as far as meets!

12. ADMINISTRATIVE VICE CHAIR: Denise Byrne

- a. Swimposium 2014 – (see info above) – there will be 2 clinics for Officials, Parents, Club Leadership (1 clinic only), Coaches and Athlete. All those that would like to attend will need to sign up - suggestion \$20! About 20 to 25 individuals will be allowed at each clinic as the classrooms can't hold more than that. Information will be posted on the Metro Web site.
- b. We are all set for the Swimposium – just need to send the agenda to USA Swimming. Lunch will be provided.
- c. Metro Policy and Procedures Manual – confusion about the description of Open Meets, Closed Meets, and Open Metro Invite Meets (procedures and accountability)
- d. Proposal for a new policy re: streamline tracking of Meet Directors – Administrative Officials (AO) – Meet Referee – Meet Information still need to be improved .

13. DISABILITIES COORDINATOR: Denise Byrne

- a. We were given the opportunity from USA Swimming to send a representative from Metro to Colorado for training swimmers with disabilities (January 16-19). Denise recommended Jeff Ely (Sachem Swim Club) – Jeff has also accepted to become a member of the Disabilities Committee.
- b. A few teams have been inquiring about what to do for swimmers with disabilities.

14. **TREASURER REPORT:** Corinne Cody

- a. Corinne has updated the Metro Swimming – Reimbursement / Expense Voucher to reflect a Committee Chair or Board Member Approval for all requests.
- b. She also worked on the “Contractor” time sheet form for payment at LSC run championship meets (Announcer, Meet Manager Operator, Timing Console Operator. A form must be submitted for each position held at Metro Run meets.
- c. The Financial Statements for fiscal years ending August 31, 2013 & 2012 was available (Statement of Financial Position – liabilities and net assets); (Statement of Activities for the years ended in August 31st).
- d. We were able to reduce the amount that parents will need to pay for Zones \$300 for 11-18 and \$160 for 10&under.
- e. The travel requests for December meets are now in. Forms for the Spring meets are posted on the Web site.

15. **SENIOR CHAIR:** Don Wagner

- a. Revisions on the Training Trip that is funded by Metropolitan Swimming. Will probably be held at Chelsea Piers – maybe in association with Connecticut.
- b. Mac is also suggesting that maybe the trip could be an away trip every other year and a local training the other year. The main thing is to get the swimmers to train together and focus on the next step: College swimming – Don will work on a proposal.
- c. Don spoke about New Jersey LSC Share Program – possible inclusions to Senior Mets - New Jersey Swimming has made a proposal to Metro to allow their Junior National and faster swimmers to be able to compete in our Senior Mets Championships – about 20 athletes – they would reciprocate in NJ on opposite years. Discussion followed on this subject. Problems with the meet requirements of 3 Metro Meets – and also much less chances for our Metro swimmers to get to swim at finals!
- d. Another possibility would be to host a Tri-State Senior Championship meet (for example NY-NJ-CT)

16. **ATHLETES’ REPRESENTATIVES:** Nicole Papsco and Ryan Wagner

Neither Nicole nor Ryan were in attendance at the meeting.

- a. Mac mentioned that we need more athletes’ representation on our Board and attendance at Meetings! Suggestion to add Adult athletes on Board. We need to have a certain percentage of athletes based on the number of Board members.
- b. New Athletes’ election must be organized and held at Senior Mets

17. **VOTING – HALL OF FAME:** John McIlhargy

- a. Mary Fleckenstein made a motion to approve the funding of the Hall of Fame Interactive Display to be installed at Lehman College Apex on the wall in the hallway by the pool, not to initially exceed \$50,000. Monique Grayson seconded the motion – discussion followed on the actual display and its financing – all voting members are in favor – **motion carries**.
- b. Mary Fleckenstein made a motion to hold the Hall of Fame Dinner every other year instead of every years and to host a Reception when the HOF Display is up and running – the motion was seconded – all voting members were in favor – **motion carries**.

18. UNFINISHED / OLD BUSINESS:

- a. Reminder that for the 2014 Metro LC season, all meet bids are due to David Ellinghaus NO LATER than January 22nd. A tentative calendar will be posted on the Web site and emailed to all teams by Wednesday, January 29th. Teams will have until Wednesday, February 5th to modify their original bids (no new bids will be accepted after January 22nd). The final LC Calendar will be posted and emailed by Wednesday, February 12th.
- b. LC Senior Mets are July 17-20, 2014
LC Junior Olympics are July 25-27, 2014
- c. There will be Committees meeting following this BOD meeting

19. NEXT MEETING:

The next BOD meeting will take place at Lehman College on Saturday, February 22, 2014, in between Prelims and Finals at the Winter Senior Mets.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made, seconded and approved by all. Motion carries. Meeting adjourned at 7:580pm

Respectfully submitted
Monique Grayson

January 26, 2014