

**Pacific Northwest Association of Masters Swimmers
Annual Board Meeting
Sally Dillon's Residence
April 5, 2014**

PNA President Lisa Dahl called the meeting to order at 9:01 AM. Also present were board members Linda Chapman, Herb Cook, Jim Davidson, Sally Dillon, Jeanne Ensign, Mike Grimm, Jan Kavadas, Arni Litt, Hugh Moore, Steve Peterson, and Sarah Welch. Guila Muir and Mike Lund also attended.

I. Warm-up

A. Introductions: Mike Lund was introduced as the PNA Treasurer heir apparent.

B. President's Report: Lisa reported that Guila Muir has expressed interest in filling the vacant At Large Representative position. While there was support for Guila's appointment, Lisa chose to delay the decision until the ongoing vote for new governance is completed. Hugh noted that if the 30% favorable vote is attained, the new board configuration could go into effect at our next meeting, at which point the At Large position would no longer exist.

C. Minutes: It was MSA to approve the minutes of February 25, 2014 as written.

D. Treasurer's Report: Jeanne reviewed details from the March 31 financial statement. LMSC registrations and donations appear to be ahead of this time last year. PNA has \$43,929 in the bank and no outstanding debts. PNA clubs continue to receive \$5 for each of their swimmers' registrations as per the monthly report from USMS. The same amount is set-aside for swimmers who register unattached to a club with our LMSC. New club Vashon Rockfish (ROCK) has registered with our LMSC. Sarah and Jeanne will meet to review the 2014 budget numbers. Arni reported that the USMS Mini-Rulebooks have been received and they will be distributed to all head officials at our meets. **It was MSA to approve the treasurer's report as presented.**

Jeanne explained the duties and challenges associated with transitioning the treasurer's position. She has prepared a summary of the treasurer's responsibilities for Mike and will continue to work with him over the next few weeks before she leaves Seattle and returns Missoula, MT. Jeanne will continue to mentor Mike via email and phone in the coming months. **It was MSA to approve Mike Lund as the PNA Treasurer.**

E. Membership: Arni reported that PNA LMSC has 1423 members as of April 4. Our total registration in 2013 was 1624 so we are just 200 members shy with only 3 months into the year. Arni also reported that USMS has gone into agreement with a national sports club called Life Time Fitness that will offer benefits to members. There are currently 76 LTF clubs in the US, which affects 26 LMSCs. PNA is not one of them.

II. Sprint Set (committee reports, as needed)

A. Meets: Linda reported that 83 swimmers attended the ORCA Pentathlon at Juanita Pool. The meet went well with a national record set in the men's 200 freestyle (Rick Colella, age 62). She has posted information for a dual-sanctioned LC meet being held in Boise mid-May. The Masters will swim in the afternoon sessions with the 13+ kids. BAM has moved their fall meet to October 4 due to difficulty in obtaining officials supporting another event scheduled for their previously selected date. Regarding PNA Championships – Hugh asked for volunteers to serve on the team size committee; Jan, Linda, and Sarah volunteered. He will ask Kathy Casey to form a protest committee. Swimmer registration is going well with only a few team registration issues.

B. Open Water: Jim reported that we have five open water events scheduled for the summer. We approved four for the schedule at the last meeting: Fat Salmon on 7/19, ORCA event at Luther Burbank Park on 7/27, Whidbey's Adventure Swim on 8/2, and the Last G 9/20. Since then the date and location for Zena Courtney's event has been established. BWAQ will be assisting her with this year's race and she has selected September 14 for the AquaRun/Swim Defiance event. **It was MSA to approve the event for the PNA calendar.** Jim noted that the financial obligations from last year have been resolved and the event will be expected to follow all procedures before it will receive an official sanction. The Fat Salmon and ORCA events have applied through USMS and Jim is finalizing their approval. The financial report forms will be adjusted to allow the expenses to be better represented. Finally, Jim reported that he is conducting the annual open water swimming workshop on Saturday, April 19 from 10am – 1pm at Timber Ridge. Race directors and safety coordinators are expected to attend and others are welcome.

C. Other: Sarah reported that a Coaches' Certification Clinic for Levels 1 & 2 would be held in Tukwilla on October 18 & 19. Bill Brenner and Mel Goldstein are expected to run the clinic, along with possibly another coach. PNA would provide some financial help for our coaches and Sarah will see if PSM can pick up the cost of the meeting room since most of the coaches come from that club. Swimmers will be able to participate for a small fee.

III. Main Set

A. Governance: Hugh led the discussion of the board transition if the membership approves the changes to PNA Governance. The Club and Team Development position is currently vacant. As a part of the new board structure, a candidate needs to be found. No one present volunteered. BWAQ and PSM should choose the names of their club representatives in time for the next meeting. The current At Large Representative positions will disappear the current representatives could be appointed as the new At Large Directors if they are interested. Kathy Casey informed Sally that she would like to run for the new position and Herb stated that he would be willing to continue until the end of his elected term (April 2015) or he would step down if someone else is interested in the position. The new board will need to appoint two other Directors and develop policies for filling board positions. The Governance committee provided a summary of procedures that will be discussed more fully once the governance proposals are approved.

The ballots have been mailed and the Survey Monkey vote went live on April 1. So far there are 127 votes with the vast majority coming the first day of voting. Linda explained that the original plan was to provide more information on the Survey Monkey site but it turned out that doing so was more complicated than expected. The information and links were instead included in the email that went out to all members and the documents that went to those without email. For the proposals to pass, the Bylaws require a 30% favorable vote from the membership so reminders should be sent to those who have not voted. Linda will ask the coaches to encourage their swimmers to vote and we will do the same with our own teammates. The original deadline to cast a vote was 30 days. **It was MSA to extend the deadline to May 13.**

A first-page article about voting for the governance changes needs to be in the May/June issue of *The WetSet*, perhaps even more prominent than the one in the March/April issue.

B. Convention: PNA is entitled to four delegates to the USMS Convention in Jacksonville, FL September 17-21, 2014. The LMSC financially supports our delegates by paying airfare and lodging expenses. Some of our members serve as automatic delegates due to their leadership positions on USMS committees. Automatic delegates supported financially by USMS are Kathy Casey (Rules chair), Jeanne (Finance chair), Hugh (Board), Jane Moore (Sports Medicine chair), and Walt Reid (IMSHOF). Automatic delegates receiving LMSC support are Sally (Rules), Arni (Legislation), and Sarah (Finance). LMSC delegates receiving LMSC support: Lisa would like to attend; Mike G. and Linda might be interested; Steve has a pending conflict. Anyone interested in one of the four LMSC spots will need to submit a 2014 Convention Application by May 18.

C. Recognition and Awards in PNA: Sally reviewed the two yearly and one occasional award that PNA presents. She suggested that the LMSC consider one or more awards for service that can be given to volunteers within the LMSC and asked that a subcommittee be formed to bring suggestions back to the board at a future date. Sarah and Hugh agreed to join Sally on such a committee.

D. PNA on Twitter and Facebook: PNA member Andrew Malinak suggested some time ago that PNA should make use of social media to spread the word about PNA and events that take place. Twitter and Facebook are very popular, especially with the younger swimmers in our LMSC. Mike G., Linda, and Guila shared the many uses that they have found and it was noted that Andrew already tweets about PNA on a regular basis. Sarah offered to set up a table at champs to see if we can recruit someone to take on a social media coordinator position. Mike G. offered to set up a Twitter account and tweet during the meet. Sally will post some signs around the facility informing swimmers of our hashtag, once Mike provides it. We can even use tweets to remind members to vote on the governance issue. Lisa asked Linda, Guila, and Mike to come up with a social media description and plan.

E. National Championship meet in PNA: Sally asked that once again we consider bidding for a national championship in order to bring a meet to our state and encourage growth in membership. The national meets are traditionally good moneymakers for the LMSC as well, especially the Spring SCY meet. Hugh reported that BWAQ has shown some interest but noted that it is too late for us to present an adequate bid at this fall's convention. He suggested we put this on the agenda for our October retreat when we will know more about future USMS meet plans.

Lisa suggested that PNA should consider having a regional SCM meet at KCAC this fall. Sarah reported that PSM would be interested in hosting such a meet but she has had a lot of difficulty in getting a hold of Mike Dunwiddie at the aquatic center.

F. Items that came up during the budget discussion in December: Sally brought up two items that weren't resolved in December.

1. *The WetSet* production – changes regarding paper copies in 2015: The discussion was tabled because both Arni and Jeanne had left the meeting and their input was needed.
2. Coach of the Year – ASCA trips or other options for award: Lisa reported that no decision has been made and she will ask Coaches Chair Shannon Sullivan to address this with the coaches committee.

G. The WetSet - deadlines and details: Steve reported that due dates for newsletter submissions, ranging from the 18th to the 22nd of the months prior to the edition, are posted on the PNA website. It was suggested that they should be even earlier and fall on the same date each month for consistency. **It was MSA that the deadline to submit articles for all issues be the 15th of the month prior to the issue.** Timing of the newsletter distribution is important as well. Those who receive the newsletter by email are first to see each issue while those receiving just hardcopy format often see them after important dates and deadlines have passed. Each issue needs to be out to the membership on the 1st of the month. There was considerable discussion and various ideas expressed about our current newsletter and our communication tools, such as seeking professional editing and eliminating the newsletter and using the website to post articles. Concern was also expressed that our members who do not use the Internet would be left out. **It was MSA that a subcommittee study and propose a comprehensive communication plan and report back during the July board meeting.** Mike G., Steve, Herb, and Linda volunteered for the subcommittee. Lisa requested that Mike give a demonstration of how to use Twitter at the June board meeting.

Guila reported that she recently submitted an ad for the next issue to Chericka Ashmann and Steve, and she passed on her payment today to Mike L. She has not heard from our editor, nor has anyone else regarding the next issue. Lisa agreed to contact Chericka to verify that she is on board for the upcoming issue.

IV. Warm-down

A. Jan will be officiating a track meet on May 20, the day of our next meeting. She requested help from Steve and Herb to help get the room open and ready for the meeting.

B. Next meetings: May 20 at 6:45 pm in Edmonds, July 8 at 6:45 pm in Tacoma.

It was MSA to adjourn the meeting at 12:12 pm

Minutes prepared by PNA Secretary Sally Dillon