

**Pacific Northwest Association of Masters Swimmers
Board Meeting
Teleconference
December 8, 2015
Minutes**

PNA President Mike Grimm called the meeting to order at 7:20 PM. Also present were Kim Boggs, Linda Chapman, Zena Courtney, Lisa Dahl, Jim Davidson, Sally Dillon, Matt Edde, Stephanie Hiebert, Jessie Hickel, Arni Litt, Hugh and Jane Moore, Steve Peterson, and Sarah Welch.

1. General Business

- A. President's Report** – Mike thanked everyone for attending and being flexible as we switched from an in-person meeting to a conference call. He has been busy traveling and reading about USA-S Winter Nationals.
- B. Approval of Minutes** – **It was MSA to approve the October 24, 2015 minutes as amended.**
- C. Treasurer's Report** – Arni reported that the financial report through November was included in the 2016 budget draft. The insurance surcharge increased to \$5000 because the Ally Fell open water event was not included. PNA currently has a net surplus of \$2400, having originally budgeted a loss. Arni will process requested reimbursements to Sarah, Steve, and Linda, and make a donation that was approved in October.
- D. 2016 Proposed Budget** – Arni presented the proposed budget in spreadsheet form, with tabs (detailed category worksheets) rolled up into a summary worksheet. She highlighted some of the changes: USMS registration is \$52. PNA is collecting \$2 less than in 2015 per PNA Board decision. PNA's share is \$13 of the regular registration fee. Meet income is lower due to a conservative estimate from Linda. Donations are higher as Arni expects more seniors to contribute. Sarah submitted clinic costs and revenues are equal to expenses. Postage costs are reduced, as envelopes won't be needed until next year. Support for coaches increased in order to fund Coach of the Year recipient's attendance at the ASCA clinic. Convention expense is expected to be higher due to travel costs and an anticipated increase in PNA attendees. New-swimmer goodie bags costs have increased. And insurance charges will be assessed for pool in addition to open water meets. Sarah suggested that we "pull" those budget items that anyone wanted to discuss, approve the remaining uncontested items, and then vote on the pulled items separately. Line items pulled were summary spreadsheet lines 70 and 71 (Hugh), 36 (Steve), 58 and 75 (Sarah), and 77 (Sally). **It was MSA to approve the budget excluding the pulled items.**
 - a. Line 36 – expense for those without email to receive registration. **It was MSA to add \$15 to line 36.**
 - b. Line 58 – expense for USMS registration of 6 officials who are "key" to running Masters meets. Sarah asked that we promote Masters by paying the official's registration. **It was MSA to change Line 58 to \$312.**
 - c. Lines 70 & 71 – insurance surcharges for open water events. Jim noted that Fat Salmon brings in more than their share of the insurance surcharge and he'd like the race to be able to retain the funds beyond the \$1000 maximum and apply it to their profit. Arni pointed out that the race made a good profit last year. Sally said the \$5 is collected directly from the swimmers and the extra offsets the surcharges paid by the swims that are much smaller. Hugh expressed concern about the pool surcharge and Arni clarified that PNA has budgeted to cover the \$50 for each meet. In looking at total expected surcharges, PNA will only be out about \$100. Sarah would like us to think about what we can do to encourage meet hosts, regardless of event size. She would like us to "study" this over the coming year. She thinks we received a break from USMS from the new open water surcharge and didn't pass it on to the meet hosts. Jim would like to see more participation in the smaller open water events. He considers the OEVT charge an impediment to growing meets. **It was MSA to approve Lines 70 & 71 as proposed.**
 - d. Line 75 – expense for providing new swimmer bags. Arni asked how many new swimmers received bags in 2015. Lisa replied that she didn't know but noted that we haven't purchased bags for 3 years; they are the most expensive item. The shirts do not have dates on them and Sylvia's subsidizes the shirt cost in return for including a Sylvia's coupon in the bag. Jim asked how many years' supply we get for \$5000. No answer was provided but Sarah said we typically give out 20 bags per meet (more at Champs) for a total of >150/year at a rough estimate of \$16/bag. Linda looked online and reported that 106 people indicate on their entry form in 2015 that it was their first Masters meet. **It was MSA to approve line 75 as proposed.** Steve's concern was how we came up with the \$5000 figure and Sarah noted that we approved that amount last year but did not spend it.
 - e. Line 77 – support for rental of Colman Pool during the summer for the 5K/10K e-Postal swims. Sally noted that the event held each summer is open to any PNA member, not just PSM members. While PSM is paying for much of the pool rental, and the swimmers each pay \$15, the proposed \$150 is an appropriate amount to ensure that other PNA swimmers can have the opportunity to swim. **It was MSA to approve \$150 for Line 77.**

- E. **The WetSet – transition** - Zena reported that Kathy Morris does not appear to be ready to take over as editor so Zena will produce the January-February issue. She will hope for help from Kathy and will encourage her to take on the position. If not, Zena will seek out a new editor through the volunteer list and recommendations that Steve mentioned from an earlier search.
- F. **Results from Kirkland referendum** – Linda reported that the referendum to form a Metropolitan Park District failed miserably. The pool committee was meeting tonight to determine a next step. The “con” side provided outlandish lies; they have been active in the past voting against school bonds and other. Discussed in a post-election meeting was the analysis that there was likely not enough time to properly promote the initiative.
- G. **Opportunities to host a Zone Championship** – Sally reported that no bids were received for two zone championships: SCY and LCM. The meets are now eligible to be run by teams/clubs in any of the 7 LMSCs. Linda said she is in the process of sanctioning the spring meet at Federal Way and the zone would need to “bend” the rules in order for that meet to be a championship. Their meet schedule is not on track with the zone rotation.
- H. **2016 Board Meeting schedule** – Sally distributed a schedule “outline”. Mike has already set a date for the January meeting and suggested that she come back with dates for discussion at that meeting.
- I. **Membership update** – PNA closed out 2015 with 1686 members. 406 have registered to date for 2016. More teams are registering as clubs.
- J. **Updating PNA records** – Mike said that the Zone and National folks want PNA to keep our records up to date. Sally and Steve both reported that Doug Jelen has recently brought all records up to date and those on the website are current.
- K. **Open Water** – Jim brought up three topics for discussion.
- Possibility of advertising in *Swimmer Magazine* – Jim shared a price sheet and considers the fees cost-prohibitive. Sally mentioned that she contacted the National Office and they offer discounts. The March-April issue features open water and includes reduced-rate ads that we could take advantage of. Jim said that unless he gets information that is cheaper than expected, and someone wants to put together something that would fit in ¼ page, we shouldn’t do it. Hugh doesn’t think we would get a return on our investment. Jim and Sally will look into the discounts and report back with information when available.
 - Blueseventy sponsorship for our open water series – Jim would like to have *blueseventy* sponsor the series of swims in return for naming rights. He distributed a flyer indicating what PNA’s and *blueseventy*’s obligations would be. Mike asked whether *blueseventy* would want exclusivity. Last year *blueseventy* donated a wetsuit for a drawing at the end of the open water season. His intention is to expand on this so that each event host receives some specific financial benefits from the sponsorship. Quite a few people expressed their concern about naming the swim series after a sponsor. It was suggested that Jim talk with *blueseventy* representatives to “feel them out” about his plan but he wants to have a proposal in hand when he makes contact. Hugh suggested the title be “PNA Open Water Series Sponsored by *blueseventy*”, and all agreed. Jim will modify the proposal and send it to Sally, Steve, Zena, and Mike for comments and suggestions.
 - Ally Fell OW swim financials – Jim explained the history behind the event, which previously was run just as a club event. 2015 was the first time it was open to USMS swimmers and they had a very late start in launching their website and getting entry procedures in place. Only 18 Masters swimmers participated. Sally noted that there were other big events in the area and hotel rooms were unavailable unless one wanted to spend over \$200. Jim thought the event was run very well and would like us to sanction it again in 2016. He proposed that we waive both the \$1.75/swimmer fee and the \$5 insurance surcharge. He would also like us to contribute \$200 to the host club since they took a huge loss on the event. He suggested that in the future we would collect all fees but otherwise stay out of their budgeting process. Mike likes the idea of “growing their skills”, but do we help them financially in 2015 and 2016? He suggested that we wait to see their sanctioning process next year. **It was MSA that we waive the \$181 that they owe in per swimmer fees and insurance surcharges.** It was MS that we donate \$200 to the swim club. Arni noted that this race cost us \$1000 in insurance in addition to the \$181 we just waived. A number of others objected to the donation. A vote was taken and this motion failed.
 - Other business – Arni asked if there was a report from the SCM meet in November and Sarah said that financial details with Club Assistant and KCAC are not yet resolved. There were 184 entrants with 10 world records set. Jim reported that two open water events have requested dates for 2016.
2. **Next Meeting** – The next meeting will be held via teleconference on Tuesday, January 26 at 6:30 PM. The main focus will be updates from committee chairs and carryover business from previous meetings.

It was MSA to adjourn the meeting at 10:16 pm.

Minutes prepared by Sally Dillon, PNA Secretary