

**Pacific Northwest Association of Masters Swimmers
Board Meeting Minutes
Conference Call
September 15, 2015**

President Mike Grimm called the meeting to order at 9:06 pm. Also present were board members: Kim Boggs, Kathy Casey, Linda Chapman, Jim Davidson, Sally Dillon, Jessie Hickel, Hugh and Jane Moore, Arni Litt, Steve Peterson, and Sarah Welch.

1. **Review proposal for a contribution to the campaign of Kirkland's proposed park district:** Linda led the discussion. After years of work by the City of Kirkland and 2½ years by the "build a pool" committee, the city has decided to put a Metropolitan Parks issue on the ballot this fall. It would create a special district and funds to provide for a community center and a significantly sized swimming pool complex. While a 50-meter pool is desired, it will be at least 25-yards by 32-meters (13 lanes). Recreation and therapy pools will be included, along with other fitness facilities. This makes for a larger project but it will more likely get approved. By state law, the staff and city council cannot campaign for the project. The Build the ARC campaign group is seeking funds to assist in the promotion of the project to gain voter approval. Cost for the campaign is estimated at \$50-\$75K. WAVE Aquatics and PNS have pledged significant contributions to the campaign. It was noted that Juanita High School is slated to be re-built and the pool and field house will no longer exist once that project is underway. It was agreed that a new aquatic facility in Kirkland would benefit Masters swimming in the Pacific Northwest. Linda requested that PNA consider making a contribution of \$6-\$8K. Arni noted that in 1999 PNA contributed \$2K for the UW swimming pool project. Hugh expressed concern that the current request is for the promotional campaign rather than for pool construction and that this might set a precedent for many similar requests. Arni reported that PNA has an unrestricted fund balance of approximately \$35K. Sarah expressed concern about the amount requested and said she would be more comfortable with \$3-\$5K. A motion was made and seconded (Hugh/Sarah) that PNA donate \$3K to the Build the ARC campaign. Jim noted that we have had a surplus of over \$30K for a number of years and he believes this project is significantly important. It was moved and seconded (Sally/Jim) that we amend the motion by increasing the amount of donation to \$5K. **The amendment passed (6-4). The amended motion passed (10-1).** Linda will provide Arni with details for sending the donation.
2. **Review proposal for recommending HyTek for use by our PNA meet hosts.** PSM is in need of meet software for their SCM event being held in November. Sarah explained that HyTek offers a significant discount on the purchase of their software if the LMSC will 1) recommend HyTek to all of our meet hosts and 2) advertise HyTek on the PNA website. The savings is \$80 on the initial purchase. It was moved and seconded (Sarah/Jim) that PNA will email its member teams and clubs to recommend Meet Manager software and place the HyTek logo on our website in order to secure the 25% discount on initial software. Linda explained that Active Network (owner of HyTek) has committed to updating the software every 2 years at a cost of ~\$200. HyTek's Meet Manager is the most widely used program. It was confirmed that this agreement applies only to Masters groups in PNA. Linda noted that a facility license (e.g. KCAC) costs quite a bit more. The discount only applies to the initial purchase. Since Active Network is already a USMS sponsor, Arni suggested that we should already get the discount. **The motion passed (11-1).**
3. **Review of USMS Convention proposals.** Attending this year are Kathy, Linda, Jim, Sally, Arni, Hugh, Jane, Steve, Sarah, and Walt Reid. Over 40 Legislative proposals will be voted upon at convention and we discussed the following:
 - a. Proposed Event Sanction Fee: In recent years USMS-sanctioned open water events have been assessed a \$1000 insurance surcharge. This increase was due, in part, to a couple of tragic accidents that had occurred in open water events. PNA has sanctioned 5 events for a total expense of \$5K each of the last 3 years. PNA implemented a \$5 insurance surcharge for every entry, which has brought in about ½ of the \$5K total due each year. The LMSC has absorbed the additional cost. The insurance proposal to be decided at convention recognizes that insurance claims take place at pool events as well and that open water swimming should not bear the brunt of the higher insurance costs. In the past, there have been no national sanction fees for pool events. It was pointed out that prior to 2012, USMS insurance costs were fully covered by the individual registration fees and that the significant insurance increase that occurred in 2012 was mostly absorbed by open water events. The proposal assesses LMSCs with a \$70 fee for every sanctioned pool competition. It reduces the sanction fee for open water events to \$300 + \$5/participant. There is a minimum charge of \$500 and a maximum of \$3000. Sarah explained that the proposal was 18 months in the making. She also

- noted that there is a 5-year window before an adjustment to insurance rates might take place. Jim looked into the Friday night open water swims that take place in the area and they get ~100 swimmers and pay \$700 for insurance. The race entry fee depends on the actual race entered (pay more for longer races). Hugh thinks some of the LMSCs that don't charge any sanction fees will be upset with the proposal. The consensus is that this won't hurt PNA significantly. Sarah would like to get the roadblocks out of the way for open water events as the number of sanctioned events across USMS has been reduced by half since the insurance surcharge went into effect. She also said there will continue to be a "pool" of money available to assist LMSCs that would be hurt by the sanction fees. Jim asked about a dues increase and Sarah noted that USMS is mid-way through a 5-year dues increase cycle.
- b. Pool One-Event (OEVT) Registrations: There are a couple of proposals regarding the OEVT registration for pool meets; one would eliminate it all together. In PNA we have found that historically, the OEVT registration has not encouraged anyone to join full-time. We use it for open water swims exclusively. The pool issue is with records, which OEVT registered swimmers are not allowed to set.
 - c. Other: Arni sits on the Legislation Committee and suggested that we send our concerns directly to her so she can bring them up in the Legislation meetings. She reminded delegates that attendance at the "stand-alone" HOD meetings is mandatory.
4. **PNA Open Water Buoys**: Jim received a request from Zena Courtney to use the PNA buoys for her unsanctioned "AquaRun for a Child" race on Sunday. There were no objections.

It was MSA to adjourn the meeting at 10:15 pm

The next meeting will be Saturday, October 24 in Issaquah

Minutes prepared by Sally Dillon, PNA Secretary