

Pacific Northwest Association of Masters Swimmers
Conference Call
May 30, 2017 at 6:45 pm

Minutes

The meeting was called to order by President Sally Dillon at 6:50 pm. Also present were Kim Boggs, Kathy Casey, Linda Chapman, Isaac Contreras Sandoval, Zena Courtney, Jim Davidson, Bob DeWard, Sherry Grindeland, Stephanie Hiebert, Arni Litt, Hugh Moore, Steve Peterson, Lucianne Pugh, Walt Reid, and Sarah Welch.

A. Officer Reports

1. President: In a written report, Sally congratulated Zena on her 2nd place finish at the USMS Marathon Distance Open Water National Championship 7-mile "Swim Around Lido Key" in Florida. Also from PNA, Alan Bell took first in the 65-69 age group. BAM Coach April Cheadle has been nominated by her team for the USMS Coach of the Year Award. Walt Reid has been nominated by the USMS Recognition & Awards Committee for the IMSHOF "Honor Contributor" award. Three long-time employees at the National Office are retiring. Jim and Anna Lea Matysek (IT and Membership Services) retired May 19 and Tracy Grilli (also Membership Services) will be retiring June 30. The Huntsman Games in southern Utah will no longer be sanctioned by USMS, but it will be recognized. Results will not be considered for World Top Ten or Records. The NW Zone's quarterly meeting was to be held by conference call on June 11; all LMSC leaders were invited to attend. At the meeting, Sally appointed Walt Reid to the PNA Historian position.
2. Minutes: **It was MSA to approve the minutes of the April 22, 2017, board meeting.**
3. Financial: In a written report, Arni stated that the net income from January-April was \$10,298, which is \$170 less than the same time last year. Expenses are down \$2072, primarily due to New Swimmer goodie bag expenses not yet occurring. Registration fees are up by the amount of the senior discount that the board eliminated. LMSC donations are down by 18% (\$270). A quarterly distribution of \$5/swimmer was paid to the larger clubs in April. Income from the TAC Masters meet in February was received (\$183.75). PNA paid the NW Zone annual registration surcharge in May (50¢/registered swimmer totaling \$717.50). Arni provided complete financial statements. **It was MSA to approve the financial report as submitted.**
4. Membership: Stephanie reported that we have 1500 members; 752 women, 748 men.
5. Director at Large: In a written report, Kathy stated that she contacted Mike Dunwiddie, the director of the Weyerhaeuser King County Aquatic Center (KCAC), for information regarding the possibility of hosting a USMS nationals at KCAC, including potential dates. She also asked Mike for an accounting of costs of KCAC if we had hosted a national meet this year to give us a vague idea of what costs might be in the future (but the information had not been received by meeting time). Kathy served as the USMS Rules Liaison and Teri White served as the USMS Officials Liaison and head starter at the Spring Nationals held in Riverside, CA, in April.

B. Coordinator/Committee Reports

1. Meets: Linda reported that sanctioning was complete and online entry was "live" for the Senior Seattle Open. Due to a new USMS rule stating that Top Ten and records can only be set in fresh water, times won't count since Colman pool uses salt water. Salt water provides a buoyancy advantage. Linda proposed that relays be seeded at future PNA Champs (SCY only) by age group first and then time, so that teams competing against each other are in the water at the same time. **It was MSA to seed relays at PNA Champs (SCY) by age group first, then time.** Between meetings, **the board voted via email to allow the Snohomish team to host their meet on Sunday, November 5.**
2. Open Water: Jim had no report. Zena said that the Swim Defiance open water event had 64 registrations, with 20 being one-event registrations. She was in the process of putting together an email extolling the benefits of full membership and Steve offered to review the message before distribution.
3. Newsletter: Lucianne had no report.
4. Social Media: Isaac submitted a 3-page report that analyzed activity on PNA's new Facebook page. At the meeting, he noted that the Facebook page had been out for about 5 weeks and most reactions are for events. Women are participating more than men and younger age groups are not participating as much as expected.

Isaac invited board members to join as a “poster” on Facebook. He is cross-posting with PSM and other club pages. Zena said that she used Facebook ads for the Swim Defiance event, which is something PNA might consider in the future. Linda offered to send the link to the notes from the social media workshop held at the last USMS convention.

C. Old Business

1. Editorial Calendar for *The WetSet*: Zena and Lucianne will address this topic during the newsletter policy review.
2. LMSC Leadership Summit: Zena attended the leadership event, which was put on by USMS in March. She previously provided notes and touched on some highlights. She found it interesting to hear of different procedures; for example, some LMSCs pay registrars or other volunteers. A lot of discussion and ideas were generated, primarily for attracting and keeping volunteers. Zena suggested that PNA’s new board “Snapshot” document be posted on the PNA website and that Isaac could post information about volunteering on Facebook. Steve said that there is information on the website that could be updated.
3. Convention delegates: Sally noted that PNA has six automatic delegates who will attend due to their positions as leaders or members of certain committees: Kathy, Jim, Sally, Jane Moore, Steve, and Sarah. Applications to serve as PNA’s four appointed delegates were received from Linda, Hugh, Walt, and Teri White. **It was MSA to waive policy C.1.2.** This policy states required that those selected would be “actively involved in PNA during the year prior to the convention, including attendance at a majority of Board meetings. **It was MSA to approve Linda, Hugh, Walt, and Teri as PNA’s delegates to convention.**
4. Board position description revisions: Sally has received comments on position descriptions from Teri (Officials) and Wendy Neely (Coaches). She encouraged others to review the information for their positions and submit recommended changes.
5. Policy review: Sally distributed an updated list of policy sections with volunteer assignments. Her goal is to review and amend policies as needed by the end of the year. To that end, it is hoped that some sections can be on the July meeting’s agenda.

D. New Business

1. Extra speakers or new phone system: The purpose for upgrading the PNA system is to make it easier for those calling in during face-to-face meetings to be able to hear those in the room. There are products on the market that have a central speaker (such as the one PNA has) and extensions that can provide mini-speakers that reach the ends of a large table. Steve did extensive research into the options available. Our current speaker phone cannot be expanded. A new expandable unit costs ~\$600. Hugh noted, and it was agreed upon, that the extra microphones make a huge difference. He suggested PNA buy from Amazon because they allow returns if the purchase does not meet PNA’s needs. Linda suggested using Google hangout or Skype. That would require that people at the face-to-face meeting would all have a laptop. She suggested a splitter and microphones and using a mic mixer to plug into a laptop. Isaac said he has tried something like this and it doesn’t work with a phone number. Everyone must participate in Skype by phone or by computer. Steve will do this as a mock meeting with friends.
2. Nationals in PNA, 2020: Sally has worked with Kathy to determine that the dates KCAC is available are 4/29-5/3, 5/13-17, and possibly 5/6-5/10. Sally said that Hugh has agreed to mentor a meet director if PNA wins the meet bid. She has contacted PNA’s largest clubs: BWAQ, LSM, LWM, BAM, and ORCA to see if they are supportive of the concept and those who have replied were very positive. Setup and warmups would be on a Wednesday, the meet would run Thursday-Sunday. PNA would only bid for a SCY spring meet; it would not be financially feasible to do a LCM meet as revenue per minutes is much lower. PNA could consider SCM as it is allowed, and it would attract Canadians to the meet. Sally asked for volunteers to join a committee to explore the possibility of bidding next year for a 2020 meet. Linda, Kathy, Jim, Kim, and Isaac all volunteered to join Sally on the committee.
3. Date & location of December potluck and budget meeting: Sally noted that the Seahawks play at 5:30 on Sunday, 12/3. **It was MSA to meet on Saturday, December 2.** Time, location, and meal plan will be discussed at a future meeting.

E. Announcements

1. Steve said he would send the year-to-date summary for conference call expenses to Arni for reimbursement.
2. Kathy noted that the current issue of *Swimmer* magazine has a feature on buoyancy shorts. She made it clear that they are fine for practice or for the wetsuit division in open water swims, but they are illegal for pool competition of any type.

F. Next Meetings

Tuesday, July 18; 6:45 pm at Kim Boggs' home in Federal Way

Tuesday, September 5; 6:45 pm conference call

Saturday, October 28; 1-4 pm at Sally Dillon's residence in Issaquah

The meeting adjourned at 8:50 pm