

Pacific Northwest Association of Masters Swimmers
Zoom Videoconference Minutes
Sunday, September 19, 2021

Attendees: Linda Chapman, Kathy Casey, Jim Davidson, Sally Dillon, Dick Green, Doug Jelen, Lorraine Masse, Hugh Moore, Jane Moore, and Steve Peterson. Non-voting members: Walt Reid and Sarah Welch.

Call to Order and Introductions: The meeting was called to order by President Linda Chapman at 10:02 am.

A. Officer Reports

1. President's report: (See "Supporting Detail" below for details.) LMSC Development [Committee] now offers four types of Zoom-call webinars: Education, Community, Peer-to-Peer, and LMSC Update. Three P2Ps are coming up: Membership Coordinator (Sep 30), LMSC Secretary (Nov 4), and Event Hosting (Dec 2) – the latter of particular interest to meet hosts, team reps, and coaches.

Sally commented that she's trying to resurrect the Zone Chatter newsletter, not produced since she was Zone Chair, saying Jeff Moxie is potentially interested. Linda said she would forward the webinar information to add to Sally's data accumulation.

The USMS Annual Meeting, following a series of online committee meetings and forums, will occur via Zoom September 24-26.

Hugh asked if Linda wanted to mention Volunteer Relay as a replacement for Convention. We might send 3 or 4 people at the most; the National Office may pay for lodging but likely not travel. Linda encourages whatever we can do to create more opportunities for an enhanced member experience and PNA growth.

PNA membership is at 92% of 2020 levels; about 80% of pre-pandemic levels.

Linda asks board members to bring their goal(s) and funding requests to the November meeting so (1) we know how we can support you and (2) there can be budget consideration for 2022.

Linda thanked new grandparents Hugh and Jane Moore for their many years of service and significant PNA contributions; they will be moving soon to the other Washington to be closer to their daughter's family. We will need replacements for Hugh (Bylaws Chair) and Jane (Appointed Director).

2. Approval of minutes: **MSA to approve the July 11 meeting minutes as amended.**
3. Financial report: Lucianne was not present to answer Sally's query about the 8/16 \$162 postage transaction; it is believed to be PNA's annual P.O. box rental fee.

Total Assets as of August 31: \$71,416.77:
 Checking account balance: \$13,108
 Savings account balance: \$58,309
 Credit card balance: -0-

Total Income, July and August: \$1,577.60:
 \$1,522 Online swimmer registration
 \$55 Donations
 \$1 Interest

Total Expenses, July and August: \$354.14:
 \$162 P.O. Box rental
 \$150 Sanction fees
 \$42 Club Assistant support

Net income YTD: \$8,406.17

MSA to approve the financial report.

4. Membership: Currently 1353 (620 men + 733 women). Linda theorized the relative difference lies in men joining for competition versus women for fitness.

B. Coordinator/Committee Reports

1. Meets: Lorraine reported three submissions since last meeting: the PSM SCM meet November 20 plus Anacortes (TACM) and Bellevue Club (Masters Mile), both requesting February 6. TACM had been on Super Bowl Sunday the last two years; their alternate is Feb 20. Sally said BC would reluctantly OK January 30, given that each appealed to a different crowd though a week apart.

PSM is not planning to ask for a subsidy for the SCM meet, depending on attendance. They cleared \$10+/swimmer with 181 participants in November 2019 and did subsidize the June Snohomish meet for around \$2k (83 PNA-only swimmers). Using more volunteers to minimize cost this time, they could break even with 125 swimmers or be down \$1200 with 100 swimmers – 180 would be great. But this is dependent on KCAC not raising fees. Sarah plans to survey for likely participation, likely to get swimmers from other zones. The safety plan will follow King County requirements, including vaccination. **MSA to approve Saturday, November 20 for PSM SCM.**

Approval of dates for TACM and BC was tabled pending discussion with meet hosts Jillian Dees (TACM head coach) and Brandon Eckhart (BC aquatics director). Lorraine will confer; confirming vote will be by email.

Lorraine will also reach out to BWAQ's Angela Turley about hosting PNA Champs in April. (PNS is hosting its first meet since late 2019 at KCAC, October 16 – under very limiting protocols.)

2. Open Water: Nothing much to report. Jim will contact previous hosts to get dates for next year. We've lost two OW events and hope to get at least one back. Steve mentioned recently doing the Lake Chelan Swim (fundraiser for youth swim lessons) and noted that Chad Hagedorn was ultimately unsuccessful swimming the English Channel after 2½ years of preparation. Weather delayed his swim for ten days; Chad eventually left at midnight but seasickness interrupted progress after a couple hours underway.
3. Newsletter: Lucianne "continues to pull something from nothing." The Nov-Dec issue content due date is October 15!
4. Social Media: no report
5. Club and Team Development: Sally posted her updated list of club and workout group representatives. It includes some status details about the clubs and WOGs from websites and Club Finder. Numerous changes have occurred over the past 18 months, including dissolution of a number of groups. As seen in Linda's report, total membership numbers continue lower than in the past. Sadly, COVID-19 occurred mere months after 2019's "record" membership registration year. Sally asks anyone having information that can be added to her spreadsheet to please pass it on.

Sally is currently working on the list of individuals who register as "coaches" with USMS. Many do so having taken one or more certification classes but are not otherwise active coaches. They won't be "lost" but her goal is to focus on those actually on deck (or in some cases in the water). She also plans to develop accurate mailing lists so future correspondence can be accomplished more easily, having lost those lists when we moved from our Club Assistant website provider.

Coaches Chair Kathleen Brooks, listed as SixGills coach, has not communicated since April, hence Sally suggests appointing a new chair. Kathy and Walt praised Sally's work but pointed out that coaches are very busy and not necessarily the best choice as chair. Linda suggested it might be better to have a non-coach or retired coach, someone more knowledgeable but not an active coach. Sally would recommend Wade Praeger, but he's our Fitness Chair, happy to do it and has written one article already. Sally's goal is to work with the Coaches and Fitness Chairs, to be in regular contact with and to support our member groups.

6. Bylaws: Hugh noted that his replacement needs to be knowledgeable, or willing to become so, on the bylaws, policies, and USMS rules to keep the board on track at meetings. Doesn't necessarily need to know all the job descriptions. Should anticipate when bylaw and policy references might be needed. Note: *this* job description has yet to be posted on the website.

C. Old Business

1. Update on Convention Proposals:

- a. Legislation Proposal L-4: From Legislation's Zoom forum on September 15, it appears that L-4 as we wrote it will fail in lieu of the Committee's substitute L-4A (striking our five added requirements). Sally sent chair Cockrell an email with further clarification of the precipitating events and our position. Hugh asked if the meaning of "nominated by that zone" constitutes an endorsement; Kathy thinks this is clear. Kathy said pulling L-4 (best done by someone outside our LMSC) keeps it forefront in delegates' minds, else our silence makes us complicit in voting it down. Sally noted that despite this furor the four-person Elections Committee did not even meet until March. Linda said if L-4 fails we can still raise our own policies to a higher standard regarding At-Large Zone rep nomination. [Much discussion omitted.]
- b. Rules Proposal R-12 (Kathy): (Mandatory lane numbering right to left as swimmer faces the course). FINA changed "shall" to "recommended" to accommodate facility exigencies. Most high-level meets place the blocks in the correct direction. Some pools have permanent blocks or inset tiles numbered oppositely but typically it's removable blocks put in by people not aware of the requirement. Kathy feels that those running the pools need to tell maintenance how the blocks should go in, consistently. Sally mentioned that she and Teri White now agree with FINA.

D. New Business

1. Approve PSM SCM meet date: **MSA per B.1 above.**
2. Approve Jan-June meet dates: **Tabled** pending further discussion per B.1 above.
3. Appointed Directors for 2022 (due by December): We've not used a nominating committee in the past but are not precluded from one. Hugh reminded us that the concept, as Sarah Welch had stated in 2014, was to engage "robust volunteers." Linda will check with Bob DeWard but has no one else in mind to replace Jane. Offline, please recommend candidates for the positions. Possibly other coordinators might want to become more "official" (e.g., Dave Baer per Sally).
4. Club/Workout Group Registration (Sally/Sarah): The National Office is implementing new guidelines to simplify and clarify Club Finder listings. Sarah will forward the email about this to Linda. Regional Clubs, a logical place to start searching, don't necessarily have a single pool or representative so will not be listed per se, but must register first before their WOGs will appear on registration screens. WOGs with the same name as a Regional club will no longer be allowed, so some recharacterizations will need to be made (e.g., a few unattached swimmers with PSM as their WOG).

Existing listings need updating, particularly for now-defunct WOGs, but the NO has not prioritized removing outdated pages from their servers. For example, Linda surmised that an age-grouper mom did not use Club Finder but searched Google on "swim teams near me," resulting in multiple email inquiries to former Skagit Valley coach Shannon Singer.

E. Looking Ahead:

1. Next PNA BOD Meeting: Sunday, November 14, tentatively Zoom. Designate as annual meeting?
 - a. Convention review
 - b. BOD selection of Appointed Directors for 2022
 - c. Goals for 2022
 - d. 2022 Meeting Schedule
2. Club and WOG 2022 registration: Complete by Oct 31 to be on drop down menus for swimmers
3. Swimmer annual registration: Starts Nov 1

MSA to adjourn at 11:51 am

Minutes prepared by Steve Peterson

Supporting Detail for Board Meeting:

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

- LMSC Development has gone all in on webinars: <https://www.usms.org/volunteer-central/lmscs/peer-to-peer-calls>
There are four types of webinars:
 - **Education** – zoom calls hosted by subject matter experts on a specific topic.
 - **Community** – zoom calls coordinated by relevant national committees, hosted by subject-matter experts, focused toward a specific group of volunteers. Currently Coaches and Adult Learn To Swim have regular meetings. PNA coaches should be informed of these.
 - **Peer-to-Peer** – zoom calls for people in the same role in an LMSC. Focus is on establishing and growing mentor/mentee relationships within the role and some discussion of tasks which could lead to an Education webinar down the road if needed. Sometimes abbreviated as P2P. No prep on your part, just bring yourself and join your counterparts in other LMSCs.
 - **Membership Coordinator P2P is Sept 30.**
 - **LMSC Secretary P2P is Nov 4**
 - **Event Hosting P2P is Dec 2** (inform meet hosts, team reps, coaches)
 - **LMSC Update** – zoom calls focusing on topics of interest to LMSCs. Content will be driven by attendees as opposed to entirely determined beforehand. Idea is for info sharing going both ways: national to local and local to national.

USMS Annual Meeting: Several meetings and forums to go and then actual meeting/HOD sessions are Friday, September 24 – Sunday September 26.

PNA Membership by Month – PNA is at about 92% of 2020 membership and about 80% of 2017 – 2019 levels

PNA MEMBERSHIP BY MONTH AND YEAR													
2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021 YTD Thru 09-07-21													
Count of Month	Column Labels												
MONTH	11	12	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Grand Total
2021	255	431	207	52	53	54	64	65	87	56	8		1332
2020	305	574	357	93	29	5	7	30	17	23	19	28	1487
2019	335	554	331	83	86	100	66	68	36	45	61	42	1807
2018	390	507	358	88	74	63	59	55	50	33	48	42	1767
2017	418	550	246	95	65	68	68	44	29	52	50	53	1738

- Goals for 2022 – Please set a goal or goals for 2022 for your area. Doesn't have to be big, just something to improve or help PNA in your area. Please have your goal in mind for the November meeting (ideally), or at least by March of 2022. (The January meeting will likely be all budget.) The idea is that by naming goals, PNA will have several vectors of focused effort of positive action of some sort. It will also provide opportunities for your fellow PNA BOD members and others in PNA to provide support, feedback, encouragement, and congratulations. **If your goal requires a budget, make an estimate of the amount** and we'll do our best to get it in the 2022 budget which will be written/finalized at the January PNA BOD meeting.
- As announced at the recent NW Zone meeting, new grandparents Hugh and Jane Moore are moving to Washington DC area to live closer to their daughter and family. Hugh and Jane have given decades of service to PNA and will be sorely missed. Thank you both for ALL you have done for PNA.
 - Hugh is the current Bylaws Chair. A replacement will be needed
 - Jane is an Appointed Director. Appointed Directors are selected annually ([Bylaws 8.3](#)) so getting someone for 2022 is the top priority. If the person can start before 2022, that's great.

[Sally's Club and Team Development report incorporated into B.5 above.]