

MEETING OF THE LAKE ERIE SWIMMING BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Monday, August 17, 2020 Zoom Meeting

Minutes

Mission:

To enrich the lives of our athletes through the sport of swimming by providing safe and inclusive programming in a culture that encourages competitive excellence and personal growth.

Vision:

Lake Erie Swimming inspiring the pursuit of excellence in swimming and in life.

Branding words:

Lead; Engage; Succeed; Inspire

Call to Order: Vince Colwell

Roll Call:

Stacy Aroney, Eileen Bringman, Branden Burns, Vince Colwell, Pam Cook, Erin Crabtree, Diane Finnerty, Josh Forsythe, Mark Krusinski, Kristen MacPhail, Megan Maholic, Mia Nagle, Sarah Tobin, Zach Toothman, Chuck Kunsman

Not in attendance:

Sonja Haywood, Adam Katz

Conflict of Interest Declarations: NONE

Addition(s) to and Approval of Agenda: APPROVED

Approval of Consent Agenda: APPROVED

Announcements:

1. Virtual USA Swimming Convention
 - a. The following board members have a vote and need to be present for the HOD meeting – Saturday, Sept 26
 - i. Vince Colwell
 - ii. Eileen Bringman
 - iii. Erin Crabtree
 - iv. Stacey Aroney
 - v. Josh Forsythe
 - vi. Zach Toothman
 - b. Central Zone meeting – date/time TBA
 - c. All board members can attend any of the meetings
 - d. Zach Toothman and Megan Maholic (LESI athletes) will try to attend all athlete meetings
 - e. Zach Toothman is going to run for Central Zone Junior Athlete Rep
2. Send committee reports to Sarah Tobin, secretary, one week prior to the board meetings.

Action Items:

1. Board Manual
 - a. MOTION: Approve the Board Manual as written. **PASSED**
 - b. Most items updated were housekeeping items; Pam Cook aligned the committees correctly
 - c. Secretary will now assume responsibility of updating manual
2. Lifetime Membership
 - a. LESI gives a USA Swimming lifetime membership every 4 years
 - b. Sarah Tobin received it in 2020
 - c. LESI may choose another person to receive this by the end of the quad which is 2024

Discussion Items:

1. LE HOD will have to be virtual via teleconference
 - a. HOD is Sunday, October 4, 2020
 - b. Pam Cook will contact Tina McCauley to see if Tina will assist Pam
 - c. There are a few legislation items that need to be discussed/voted on
 - d. We will also have to discuss championship format
 - e. We need to keep the meeting organized and orderly
2. Evaluation document and procedures for the Board of Directors
 - a. Julie Bare put together items in which should be evaluated
 - b. Vince Colwell has the list of items and will discuss with the board vice chairs and will put together a task force
3. Personnel Committee
 - a. Kristen MacPhail and Erin Crabtree will work on this

Reports:

1. Athlete Reps – Zach Toothman, Mia Nagle, Megan Maholic
 - a. **Click here** for athlete committee report
 - b. Athletes would like to design a LE logo for the athletes
 - c. Week of September 14 – athlete appreciation week
 - i. Would like a few coaches attend a Zoom call with the athletes that week. The coaches reps will help the athletes organize this Zoom call
 - d. Athletes are going to create a website
2. Coaches Reps – Stacey Aroney & Josh Forsythe
 - a. The weekly Monday calls with Jay Chambers and the LE coaches have started again
 - b. Stacey has a call scheduled with Jay Chambers Friday, August 21
3. Admin Vice Chair – Kristen MacPhail
 - a. **Click here** for full report

- b. Sanction information is updated with the COVID protocol for meets. 2 intrasquad meets have been sanctioned
 - c. Established a mission statement for the Club Incentive Program
- 4. Senior Vice Chair – Eileen Bringman
 - a. [Click here](#) for full report
 - b. Would like to bring back the Olympic Training Center trips; would like to have some incentive opportunities for athletes to determine who attends
 - c. Re-evaluating Senior Champs
 - i. Offer Senior Champs in late February but maybe offer a Fall Senior Championship at the end of October
 - d. ASCA virtual clinic; Pam Cook and Vince Colwell will send out the registration information this week to the LE coaches
- 5. Age Group Vice Chair – Erin Crabtree
 - a. [Click here](#) for full report
 - b. Will send out a survey to clubs in early September which will include, but not limited to
 - i. Do you currently have a pool to practice
 - ii. Are you able to run a swim meet at your facility
 - iii. Etc
 - c. Championships may need to be virtual so we need to see if clubs have the ability to run a swim meet
 - i. May be able to use the same facility for a few teams
 - d. Mid States Meet will not be at IUPUI. IUPUI is not allowing rentals on campus
 - i. There is a meeting in September with all the Mid States teams to discuss the meet
- 6. Technical Planning – Adam Katz
 - a. No report
- 7. Treasurer – Diane Finnerty
 - a. No report
- 8. Finance Chair – Mark Krusinski
 - a. Not many transactions to date
 - b. In the positive \$34,000
- 9. Operational Risk – Branden Burns
 - a. The first intrasquad met was held last weekend; another meet will be held next weekend. The first meet went very well
 - b. COVID task force and Operational Risk will meet in the next few weeks. Then both groups will meet with Technical Planning
- 10. Secretary – Sarah Tobin
 - a. No report

11. Membership/Registration/Permanent Office – Pam Cook
 - a. Registrations are starting to come in; these registrations are from now until Dec 31, 2021
 - i. 266 athletes
 - ii. 20 non athletes
 - b. Club renewal will start September 1
12. Safe Sport – Sonja Haywood
 - a. Will be meeting with Pam Cook Tuesday, August 18

Old Business

New Business

Meeting Adjourned at 8:06 p.m.

Next Meeting:

Monday, August 31, 2020 via Zoom

1.) Goals of Senior Committee

- a. This is the perfect opportunity to create a new path. Take this experience and turn it into a positive.
- b. Larger Senior coaching groups meeting regularly.
 - i. Breakfasts in the past but zoom would be more inclusive.
 - ii. Send out broad invite for second meeting.
- c. USOC Trips – Great experience and incentive
 - i. Sectional or Futures Level
 - ii. Top Male and Female IMX Score
 - iii. Utilize Senior Champs for selection – Top 10 high point, recognition at Senior Champs.
 - iv. Add person to committee who is in charge of logistics/planning.

2.) Championships

- i. Mixed Relays are great – reaction from the kids has been great.
- ii. Look for ways to make these events exciting
- iii. Increase finals participation
- iv. Ohio Swimming – Fall Championship and then a last chance type of meet in the spring
- v. Potential Fall Champs
 - 1. Braun?
 - 2. Earlier Weekend would probably be ideal with HS starting earlier. Don't want to cut into fundraising from other teams hosting.
- vi. If 2021 Senior Spring Champs occurs FAST would host at spire as long as not on the hook for pool rental if meet does not happen due to Covid. Teams provide timers based on entries.

3.) Diversity and Inclusion

- a. Black History Meet in Spring in North Carolina
- b. Lake Erie used to fund a coach and a LSC group to that meet.
- c. How can we grow that?
- d. Who can we approach to grow this committee?
 - i. Still looking for answers but some great ideas

Attendance – Cindy Dial, Mike Milliken, Mike Davidson, Matt Davis

Admin Vice Chair Reports 8/16/2020:

Legislation:

Bill Stewart: No report

Awards Committee

Heather Stewart: No report

Sanction Committee:

Nancy Veto: Updated Sanction format and other info up on the website. Currently 2 meets sanctioned

Club Incentive Committee: *Still getting some ideas - rough draft of concept*

Mission: Assist LESI clubs to reach their full potential inside and out of the water by providing opportunities to motivate, recognize and reward clubs for their participation and performance in Lake Erie and USA Swimming programs.

Membership: Admin VC will chair- appoint additional members

Objectives :

1. Strengthen all Lake Erie Clubs
2. Increase participation in LE and USA programs
3. Increase education of all members
4. Give back to membership

Responsibilities:

1. Educate membership on Club Service program and track points
2. Be up to date on USA/LESI programs and offerings - club recognition, club excellence, safe sport recognition , IMX, Clinics, educational opportunities etc.
3. Identify programs that align with area(s) in LESI strategic plan.
4. Choose a focus program (s) and find ways to motivate, recognize or reward Clubs

Athletes' Executive Committee- 8/16/20 6:30 pm (via ZOOM)

Present: Zach Toothman, Megan Maholic, Mia Nagle, Nathan Phillips, Tori Culotta

Absent: Sydney Bare, Abbey Kutchel

- I. Additions to the Agenda
- II. Approval of the Consent Agenda
- III. Minutes Review
 - A. Approval of Minutes from July 19: **PASSED**
- IV. Consideration of Agenda Items
 - A. COVID-19 Update
 - 1.
 - B. Athlete Features for Sept:
 1. Will be posting on Instagram and Twitter now
 2. Jordyn Homoki Commitment to Miami
 - C. Monthly Discussion Corner
 1. September Topic
 - a) Highlighting LE Athletes in what they do
 2. August Review
 - D. Quarterly Review Minutes
 1. See attached
 - E. Instagram Followers Challenge- Megan
 1. Very Successful and numbers seem to be trending up. Will be discussing more at Subcommittee meeting
 - F. LSC Food Drive Recap (Summer Service Initiative)- Mia
 1. Very successful for the few teams that participate
 - G. Discussion of Legislation for Fall
 1. Will be tabling the legislation until Spring
 - H. Athlete Appreciation Week
 1. College Takeovers
 2. High School Takeovers
 3. Spirit Week
 4. Multi-LSC Event
 5. Olympian Zoom Call
 6. Movie Zoom Call
 - I. Club Athlete Representative Involvement
 1. Will set up a zoom call to discuss athlete rep involvement is needed
 - J. Apparel/Logo Design Contest
 1. Will discuss at BOD to see how we can proceed with this
 - K. Athlete Website
 1. Will meet with Erin to discuss this
 - L. Brainstorming Ideas/Misc. Announcement
 - M. Reports
 1. Social Media and Athlete Engagement- Megan Maholic

2. Service Initiatives and Projects- Mia Nagle
 3. Athlete Events and Operations- Zach Toothman
- V. Time/Date of Next Meeting: 9/20/20 at 6:30pm via Zoom
- VI. Items to Discuss at Next Meeting:
- VII. Meeting Adjourned – Via ZOOM 8/16/20 at 7:00pm
- VIII. Minutes Submitted By Zach Toothman

Present: Abbey Kutchel, Nathan Phillips

Absent: Erik Seicean

- I. Additions to the Agenda
- II. Approval of the Agenda
- III. Minutes Review
 - A. We created a plan for the canned food drive and we discussed our return to practice policy.
- IV. Consideration of Agenda Items
 - A. Check in and any COVID updates
 - 1. No updates to report. Everyone is continuing to practice.
 - B. Discuss how the canned food drive is going so far
 - 1. The drive is going well so far for everyone's teams. Nothing to report here.
 - C. Begin to email/reach out to the participating teams for halfway point numbers of donated goods.
 - 1. Instead of doing this, we will be posting an Instagram update marking the event's halfway point.
 - D. Review our social media and promotion strategy for the event
 - 1. Post an Instagram story marking the halfway point of the drive.
 - E. Discuss any other miscellaneous announcements
 - 1. None to report.
- V. Time and Date of Next Meeting: 8/27/20 7:30 PM (via Facetime)
- VI. Items to Discuss at Next Meeting: Review the food drive and begin brainstorming ideas for a fall service initiative.
- VII. Meeting Adjourned - Via ZOOM 7/30/20 at 7:45 PM
- VIII. Minutes Submitted By Mia Nagle

Athletes Events and Operations Committee- 7/21/20 4:30 pm (via ZOOM)

Present: Emma Claire Lambert-Shemo, Krya Miklos, Tori Colutta, Zach Toothman

Absent:

- I. Additions to the Agenda
- II. Approval of the Agenda:
- III. Minutes Review from May 22nd: **PASSED**
- IV. Consideration of Agenda Items
 - A. Review April Discussion Corner
 - B. #IWantASeason Campaign
 - C. LE Spirit Week
 - D. Brainstorming Ideas/Misc. Announcement
 - E. Time/Date of Next Meeting: 8/26/20 at 6:00pm via Zoom
- V. Items to Discuss at Next Meeting:
- VI. Meeting Adjourned – Via ZOOM 7/21/20 at 6:20pm
- VII. Minutes Submitted By Zach Toothman

BOD Athlete Reps Quarter 1 Review Meeting- 8/2/20 6:30 pm (via Zoom)

Present: Zach Toothman, Mia Nagle, Megan Maholic

Athlete Features- They are going very well but not many people know we do them or nominate other athletes for this feature. Will start to publicize these on Instagram and Twitter and let LE know when they can send in nominations prior to AEC meeting.

Twitter- We have had great success with our Instagram in gaining followers and attention. However, our Twitter is falling behind. We discussed how we need to streamline our announcements from our Instagram Posts to Twitter. Megan will work on this aspect for the upcoming quarter.

Discussion Corners- We all think that this is really good. It provides information to athletes and allows for club reps to be involved since they do not do much in their role prior to these. However, not all club reps complete these discussion corners. We discussed possible incentives for us to start in order to get them to complete them. We also came up with the idea of letting their coaches know if the club athlete rep is not participating. Mia will discuss more with Erin to try to figure out a way to get the club reps to participate in these discussion corners this quarter.

Follower Challenge- This was by far the most successful event we ran this quarter. We discussed how we should continue doing fun stuff as we reach important milestones. Zach asked a question for ideas on the previous discussion corner for the future milestones. We will discuss more with the AEC at the end of the month.

Takeovers- We thought this was also very successful and a lot of people wanted to do them after they were done. We discussed with back to school coming up it would be cool to do two takeover weeks. The first week from August 24th-28th we would have college-bound LE athletes take over. Then the following week from August 31-Sept 4 high school athletes would takeover. We could possibly have dedicated club athlete reps be the high school takeovers to show that if you participate in discussion corners and other events you may be asked to be involved in more athlete rep stuff. These takeovers will lead us into Athlete Appreciation week in September from Sept 7-Sept 11.

Apparel/Logo Design Contest- We discussed that we would like to have our own LE athletes Logo and to design apparel to sell to other athletes. Zach presented a design he thought of to include. We would have to ask the BOD and present a budget to purchase the apparel if we were to go with this route. Will discuss at AEC before moving forward with this idea.

Athlete Website- We are really proud of how we developed our athlete page over the past couple of months. However, we think that we have a lot of information and stuff to post on our page that it may be best to make our own website. We would need the entire AEC to be involved in this project. Mia will talk to the Brilmeyer's regarding this before we move forward with the idea.

Hashtag Campaigns- They start out really strong but they fade as not many people continue them on. We discussed that this was because of the lack of people to pool from to continue going. As one of the tinier LSCs we do not have many athletes who have Instagram to continue the campaigns.

Outside LSC Involvement- Since Zach has many connections from other LSCs we think it would be great to do something with them. We thought of doing our winter service initiative with Ohio Swimming as a competing challenge. We decided to start with an event with a couple of other LSCs during Athlete Appreciation week. We will discuss more at AEC and until then Zach will choose a couple of LSCs that we could reach out to and do something with.

Athlete Appreciation Week- We will be doing a spirit week, try to get an Olympian zoom call set up, a movie zoom night, the LSC event mentioned above, and much more. Zach's committee will work on this in conjunction with Megan's committee to get this going. We do not have much time but it's definitely doable if we work strategically.

Age Group Vice-Chair Committee Reports

Mission: To enrich the lives of our athletes through the sport of swimming by providing safe and inclusive programming in a culture that encourages competitive excellence and personal growth.

Vision: Lake Erie Swimming inspiring the pursuit of excellence in swimming and in life.

Branding words: Lead; Engage; Succeed; Inspire

Age Group Championship Meets Committee

Present: Erin Crabtree, Kristen MacPhail, Ellie MacPhail (athlete), Sarah Tobin, Stacey Aroney

Absent: Adam Katz, Carl Shallenberger

Date: July 23, 2020- via Zoom 7:30pm

- I. Approval of Agenda
- II. Review of Previous Minutes and Approval- new committee, no previous agenda/minutes
- III. Consideration of Agenda Items:
 - a. 8 & Under Champs-
 - i. # of Events swimmers are allowed=too many
 - ii. # of Events offered: revisit and revise (look at “distance” events offered)
 - iii. Awards have been discontinued- new awards needed
 - b. Regionals-
 - i. Meet Information Needs to include Proof of time for Deck Entries to ensure swimmers aren't entering that are faster than the meet allows
 - ii. Do we need to redistribute teams to even out length of meets at all 4 sites
 - iii. Need to just add 4th site in Youngstown if the teams still want it, instead of voting on it every year
 - c. JO-
 - i. Options to hold the meet in Winter 2021
 1. Normal- probably Spire since as of now (August 2020) CSU isn't allowing outsiders to rent the facility
 - a. Email sent to Spire for quote- no response yet
 - b. 3 sessions-timed finals to control numbers
 2. Virtual
 3. No meet
 - d. Has to be equitable to for all teams
 - e. Survey needs to go out to all Lake Erie teams about pool access and ability to run their own meet
- IV. Time/Date of Next Meeting: TBD-via Zoom
- V. Items for Next Meeting
 - a. Meet proposals for HOD Vote
 - b. Mission Statement needed
- VI. Meeting Adjourned – Via Zoom July 23, 2020 8:30pm

VII. Minutes Submitted By Erin Crabtree

Open Water Committee Report

Submitted by Jen Butler for July/August 2020

- I. Working with Diane, within Open Water Budget, to purchase 2 kayaks for Lake Erie to use for Safety Guidelines & Aquatic Outfitters for buoys in bulk for discounted purchasing by LE or individual athletes
 - a. Working with Masters Open Water may help us save some money and good Safety precautions
- II. Jen is attending the webinar from USA Swimming for open water in late August
- III. Working on a Safety Plan
- IV. Covid-permitting, will start advertising for open water at short course JO's and Sr Champs
- V. Masters Swimming in the area already has open water, been in touch to figure out what works and what doesn't. Working with Mark Marshfield (official) -Safety for Masters Open Water.
- VI. Central Location looking like Fairport Harbor

Mid-States Committee

Present: Bill Bare, Erin Crabtree, Kevin Rachal (Ohio LSC Age Group Chair)

Absent: None

Date: 8/11/2020- via phone

- I. Approval of Agenda
- II. Review of Previous Minutes and Approval-none
- III. Consideration of Agenda Items:
 - a. Bill, Erin and Kevin will be Team Ohio contacts
 - b. Needed collective agreement to respond to Arlene-IUPUI currently will not allow outside groups to host meets
 - i. We don't believe a Spring (March or April meet) would be well attended if NCSA/NISCA/Sectionals/LSC Championship or regular meets are offered; but of dates presented May 22/23 would be best option
 - ii. We proposed finding a different pool over cancelling in January, if it is an option
 - iii. We were not ready to just cancel for 2021 without a conversation with entire Mid-States conversing in meeting
- I. Time/Date of Next Meeting: Collective Mid-States Meeting led by Arlene McDonald (IN)- Mid-States Coordinator; September 2020
- II. Items for Next Meeting
 - a. Will we hold 2021 Mid-States Meet? If so, where/when? Or cancel for 2021
- III. Meeting Adjourned – Via Phone 8/11/2020
- IV. Minutes Submitted By Erin Crabtree