

**Lake Erie Swimming Board Meeting
Solon Police Station Community Room
March 19, 2012**

Present: Julie Knurek, Julie Bare, Craig Yaniglos, Diane Finnerty, Pam Cook, Sarah Tobin, Dale Craddock, Eleni Gill, Morgan Cohara, Mike Babbin, Katie Miller, Tom Stacy, Jim Stacy, Frank Campbell, KJ Stang, Kim Stewart

Absent: Chuck Kunsman, Irena Mazi, Marilyn Duman, Eric Dennis, Paige Kelly

Guest: Cindy Sapochetti

Meeting was called to order at 7:15 p.m..

There were no conflicts of interest.

Announcements: Paige Kelly is the new Junior Athlete Rep. Diane will be attending the Treasurer's Workshop. Tina and Pam will be attending the Zone Workshop in Chicago.

Consent Agenda was approved.

Action Items

1. **COPPA Policy Revisions** – See attached handout reflecting amendments. The COPPA policy will be printed in the board manual. The section on advertising was changed to reflect limited advertising per board approval. In addition, pictures of swimmers will be posted on the LESI website with parent/guardian consent only. Pam would like to use photos on the website of swimmers in our LSC with Olympic Trial Cuts. COPPA Policy was approved as amended.
2. **Volunteer Gift Policy and Paid Position-** Report from task force on volunteer gift policy and LSC paid positions was reviewed. Item two, which recommends giving gift cards to an area restaurant with a hand written letter to all LSC volunteers, was discussed in detail. Motion to get rid of Item two failed. Motion to amend Item two to read that the board will establish which volunteers should receive gift cards and hand written notes passed. Monitoring of SWAG and gift cards is a concern. This will become a line in the budget. Quad Chairs and LSC champ meet directors are currently paid positions and the task force recommends continuing this policy. Meet directors who are not paid donate their money to the general fund. Motion to approve the report from the task force on volunteer gift policy and LSC paid positions with amendments passed.
3. **Procedures and Funding for OW Select Camp.** A handout regarding the OW Select Camp was distributed. Two different options for athlete selection were detailed. Option one invites the most qualified athletes. Option two requires an application with certain requirements. Mike Babbin feels the first option is administratively difficult. Option two allows the LSC to look at people who are actually interested, plus preference is given to those who have open water experience or have at least committed to swim open water Zones. Motion to approve option two for open water select camp approved. Sarah does not think the coach should be driving the van. Parents can always drive their own kids. We may not need two vans if enough parents decide to drive their own kids. West Virginia is also joining in the select camp, which reduces our overall cost to about \$6000. Suggested cost per athlete at this point is \$125. Motion to approve Open Water Select Camp Proposal with athlete selection process option 2 included (and option 1 deleted) passed.
4. **Lindsey Ahren's request for funding to ICG in Korea.** Lindsey is requesting partial funding of her airfare to the ICG in Korea. International Children's Games is a Cleveland Sports Commission event, not a Lake Erie event, although swimmers from Lake Erie do participate.

Lindsey is not currently a Lake Erie coach. Motion to partially fund Lindsey Ahren's airfare to ICG in Korea failed.

Discussion Items

1. **Community Service Award.** One team has responded to Sarah. This award was established last year. It was better publicized last year and teams do have to apply. Sarah will put it back on the website hoping to get more applications. We will send it out for board vote in email form after the deadline.
2. **Virtual Club Championships.** USA Swimming website ranks teams in a virtual championship. Only 11 and over are recognized through USA Swimming. The top 3 teams in our LSC will be recognized at our October HOD meeting. Plaques will be given. The Sr. chair (Tom) will be in charge of tracking this. Motion to recognize the top 3 teams in our LSC in USA Swimming's Virtual Club Championship passed.
3. **Revision of Club Service Point Structure.** This program has been fairly successful. Revisions have been suggested to help make the program more equitable. The revisions will be pursued after presentation of this year's awards in May. If you are interested in being on this committee, let Julie Bare know.
4. **Site of Gold Champs for 2013.** Craig recently visited Spire after recommendations from some that Spire be considered for gold champs. There are hotels within a five minute drive of Spire for teams who have to travel. From a financial perspective, it would save us about \$5000. Parking is free. We can run prelims on both sides of the pool for short course. We could be done with prelims between 12 and 1. Facility decision is up to the board, but HOD can overturn. Frank says he does not like the current CSU contract from a liability standpoint. He feels strongly that we need to look at Spire. Jim says that he does not want to jeopardize our relationship with CSU. Julie Bare suggests we slow the process down a bit and have LC at Spire, but not proceed with SC their at this point. Motion to move Gold Champs SC Champs 2013 to Spire failed. Motion to move Gold Champs LC 2013 to Spire passed.

Reports

1. **Athletes** – nothing
2. **Administrative** – nothing
3. **Age Group** – nothing
4. **Treasurer** – nothing
5. **Finance** – In December there was a \$20,000 loss in the budget, but this is a timing issue as registration money is not posted until January.
6. **Secretary** – nothing
7. **Legislation-** Julie Knurek is working on Y liaison legislation and NCAA liaison legislation. There will be four pieces of legislation. The first one introduces the positions as voting members of the Board of Directors. The second one defines the positions. The third piece of legislation takes out the diversity committee chair as a voting board member. The last piece includes ex officio at large members as voting members at HOD. Five athlete reps will need to be added to the board.
8. **Zone** – Chaperones were again discussed. Most people on the Zone committee think that expenses for chaperones should be covered. Eleni recommends that we pay chaperone expenses assuming chaperones share rooms. If a chaperone wants their own room, they must pick up the additional cost. If we go to an away meet requiring airfare, we can make changes at that time. The ratio of chaperone to athlete is 1:6 through 11 and 12, and 1:10 for kids 13 and over.

9. **YMCA** – Dale says Lake West will be having a coaching change. Terry is retiring. This team is a large team with about 80 athletes. There is another team near Hartville asking questions about joining USA Swimming. Dale reports a lot of interest from Y coaches about attending the regional coaches' clinic.

Old Business

1. **Coach Performance** – Irena is not here to discuss, but Pam says she has received a document about this issue.
2. **Fines** – Dale says his team is being fined for a swimmer not making a time trial cut. Dale says he cannot find documentation of this. Pam says there are parents deck entering kids are not aware that there are time standards involved. If the meet announcements don't include these qualifying standards to time trial, this does not seem fair. It was decided that we will not issue fines for time trials and deck entries until the meet announcements include clarification of these issues.
3. **Thank You** – from Lauren Heller for Jr. National airfare was read.

New Business

1. **Club Incentive** – Responses are due by April 2. Statistics and details will be stressed in hopes of keeping this program alive in view of finances. This program needs to be justified.
2. **Fall HOD** – This will be decided next month. Several teams have applied to host.
3. **Club Service Award** – Sarah will be sending out something on this by email. Please respond promptly.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Kim Stewart.