

**New England Swimming
Wellesley Community Center
Wellesley, Massachusetts
October 6, 2009**

Members Present: Laura Matuszak (GMA), Priscilla Davis (UN-NE), Mariella Allard (UN-NE), Mary Ellen Tynan (PSC), Bob Menck (UN-NE), Jamie Bloom (WYST), Jessica Harrison (SAC), Carol Healey (UN-NE), Joe Frazier (BGSC), Matt Craven (SAC), Sherry Wingfield (NAS), Kathy Dacey (UN-NE), Tim Murphy (BOSS)
Guests: Mary Riddell (NE-Office), Lisa Sholudko (LRAC), John O'Neill (LRAC)

Quorum Established 7:01PM

Laura Matuszak (GMA) announced that New England Swimming was losing two major contributors in Rosemarie Meissner, NTV Chair, and Rick Osterberg as webmaster. The countless hours and attention to detail that both exhibited in their positions was unprecedented and went above and beyond their expected duties. Rosemarie spent hours scouring over meet results to insure that our swimmer's times were accurate, current and entered into the SWIMS database correctly. Rick took over as the NES webmaster in 2002 and from that point forward he became intricately involved in all aspects of New England Swimming. He attended every Board meeting and he was always depended on to know the facts, and to contribute with the upmost authority on swimming topics. They will both be sorely missed.

Consent Agenda Item - Secretary's Report, Mary Ellen Tynan (PSC): Laura Matuszak (GMA) explained the purpose of Consent Agenda. Perhaps Reimbursements and the Treasurer's Report could be handled this way. As a non-profit Board, we must do the reading ahead of time. Through this process we can spend more time working on the LSC. Kathy Dacey (UN-NE) made a motion to pull the minutes, Matt Craven (SAC) seconded. Discussion around specific items reported in the minutes. Bob Menck (UN-NE) made a motion to approve the minutes with corrections. Joe Frazier (BGSC) seconded. Motion passes.

Treasurer's Report, Carol Healey (UN-NE): Accounts are as follows as of September 1, 2009:

Checking: \$68,623.27

Savings: \$26,320.14

Savings CD's: \$103,705.93

Money Market: \$128,876.93

Motion to approve Treasurer's Report made by Matt Craven (SAC), seconded by Joe Frazier (BGSC).

Reimbursement Requests, Mary Riddell (NE-Office):

We have not received further receipts from Patrick Murphy (GMA).

National Championships:

US OPEN: Mary Riddell (UN-Office) reported that Marielle Dunn (ABF) is all set. Colby Dunn (ABF) submitted a reimbursement request, however, he did not compete in an individual event (only relays). This makes him ineligible and this was explained to his parents. Emily Murphy (ABF) is not eligible because she did not compete with her team for 6 months prior. Taylor Grey (GMA) is all set. Matt Craven (SAC) made a motion to approve reimbursement for Marielle Dunn (ABF) and Taylor Grey (GA). Bob Menck (UN-NE) seconded. Motion approves.

Long Course Junior Nationals: Motion made by Ray Grant (SSA) and seconded by Joe Frazier (BGSC) to reimburse Colby Dunn (ABF), Alexandra Frasier (ABF), Roy Sung (SAC), Raymond McGorry (SAC), Gabriel Davis (SAC), Clare Foster (SAC), Kelly O'Connor (YNS), Tim Bouvier (YNS). Motion passes.

Reimbursement Policy 2009-2010, Laura Matuszak (GMA): Laura reported that the policy was updated with new meets. New England Seniors will count as 2 meets towards reimbursement. Correct typographical error.

Vote on Office Manager, Laura Matuszak (GMA): The Personnel Committee was made up of Ray Grant (SSA), Joe Frazier (BGSC), Mary Riddell (NE-Office) and Laura Matuszak (GMA). We had 15 applicants for the position. Phone interviews were conducted. Five of the applicants were interviewed in person. They Committee felt that the strongest candidate was Carol Healey (UN-NE). The Committee is bringing their candidate before the board. Mary Riddell (NE-Office) has been with New England Swimming for 25 years. The new position will include the old job, website maintenance and SWIMS management. Since Carol is still serving as treasurer, this will continue until May. Mary Riddell (NE-Office) will continue with the deposits until a new Treasurer is elected in May. Joe Frazier (BGSC) will do the reconciling. Long-term the office will transfer to Carol's house. Kathy Dacey (UN-NE) made a motion to approve Carol Healey (UN-NE) as Office Manager. Seconded by Matt Craven (SAC). Motion passes unanimously.

Purchase of Recording Device, Kathy Dacey (UN-NE): Kathy reported that they need a better device for Board of Review issues. Laura Matuszak (GMA) said that the Board of Review needs a digital recording to send to USA Swimming. Motion made by Matt Craven (SAC) to approve purchase of recording device made by Matt Craven (SAC) and seconded by Mariella Allard (UN-NE). Motion passes.

Reports from Convention, Laura Matuszak (GMA): The Convention was held September 15-20, 2009 in Chicago.

Jamie Bloom (WYST): Jamie reported that she had a good experience. There was good information and networking. She went to Zone meeting and diversity meeting. Time well spent.

Matt Craven (SAC): Most important meeting was the Eastern Zone Summit Meeting. Everyone has the same issues. Peter Clark mentioned mentoring for coaches. The Age Group Chair Meeting was very helpful. There is not a formula or a science behind establishing cut times.

Jessica Harrison (SAC): Jessica reported that she learned it is important to get athletes involved. There is an Athlete Representative on every team. USA Swimming is going to try to establish a blog with other Athlete Reps around the country.

Tim Murphy (BOSS): Tim gave a report on the World Games. National Training sites will have an effect on smaller programs. Money will go directly to these "sites of excellence". Time went to the Zone Meeting. He reported that the new suit rule is appropriate and sooner or later men and women will be wearing the same suit. Sid Cassidy receive the USA Swimming Award.

Priscilla Davis (UN-NE): Officiating session discussed 2nd suit issue. There is a new DQ slip. Women in Officiating: there is funding for women to go to bigger meets. Board of Review discussed that if there is a problem on a Zone trip, must convene a panel with another athlete.

Laura Matuszak (GMA): Laura attended the presentations for general chairs. Topics included ideas for more productive meetings, LEAP program that is the LSC excellence program, and it was great to be with other Board members. There are ways to do things better.

Matt Craven (SAC): LEAP is a great program. There are incentive programs to encourage clubs to do the club recognition program. During the Age Group Chair Meeting they suggested putting information in meet programs on busy meet weekends. Also, how we talk about our LSC is very important. We should be positive about our LSC.

Banquet and Top Ten, Laura Matuszak (GMA): Laura thanked Mary Riddell (NE-Office), Rick Osterberg, and Rosemarie Meissner (GMSC) for putting it all together. Mary Descenza-Mohler is to speak. She is really positive. Mary Riddell (NE-Office) said a parent from Zones sent her a slide show. Maybe we could show it in the lobby. 250 reservations as of today and big stack in mail.

Age Group Committee – Cut Times, Matt Craven (SAC): Matt reported that the cut times are not finalized yet. The 13-19 is nearly set. They are not getting slower. Eight times are getting faster. Still working on 12 & unders. The number of swimmers at the Upper Valley Aquatic Center last year was huge. Some feel we should keep

summer cuts. Sherry Wingfield (NAS) noted that with harder cut times the meets may be undersubscribed and then would have to be subsidized. Mary Riddell (NE-Office) reported we need to start working on the Regional assignments. Laura Matuszak (GMA) stated that our philosophy is on our website. Please have cuts done and posted by October 20th. Then work on Regional time standards.

Senior Committee, Tim Murphy (BOSS): Tim requested help with the cut times. He will work with Matt Craven (SAC). Some need to get faster. We need to control bonus events.

Open Water Swimming, Laura Matuszak (GMA): Laura reported that Jack Fabian (GMSC) has informed Laura Matuszak (GMA) that he would like to see the Championships continue on the same weekend in conjunction with the Tuesday Night Athletic Club and LRAC. Need to change the beer sponsorship. Bob Menck (UN-NE) reported it was an interesting meet. Biggest issue was sponsorship. There were technical issues and he suggested that in the future a team take control of the meet. John O'Neill (LRAC) reported that you put your faith in the timing company, lifeguards, etc. Next year's meet is scheduled for September 11, 2010 at Second Beach.

Symposium and Camps, Sherry Wingfield (NAS): USA Swimming said we can host a symposium; just pick a date for next fall and a place. Think what we would want to offer. USA Swimming will pay for coach, parent and official clinics. There would be sessions for 12 & unders and 13 & overs. Sherry is also looking at a camp in the spring. It may be a camp/clinic combo. Swimmers and coaches. She would like to attract new coaches to gain experience. Maybe at Elms College. John O'Neill (LRAC) said he may have space available.

Technical Committee, Mariella Allard (UN-NE): Mariella asked Technical Committee members to stay after the meeting.

Athlete's Report, Jessica Harrison (SAC): Laura Matuszak (GMA) would like us to be linked to the Athlete Rep blog. Jessica will check it out. Jessica reported she will also try to get in touch with the team athlete reps. Mary Ellen Tynan (PSC) asked if team athlete re contact information could be on the website.

Coaches' Report, Jamie Bloom (WYST): Jamie reported she has only heard from 18 coaches so far.

Official's Report, Bob Menck (UN-NE): Bob reported that at the Senior Meet at BU, Frank Ching will be the Meet Referee and Scott Doty the Administrative Referee. Bob also clarified the suit rule. Jammers or less for boys, and girls suits are not to be on shoulders or covering the neck and can only go down to the knees. for Age Group swimming, modesty suits allowed. There is a waiver at Nationals for religious beliefs. No plastic or rubber in the suits allowed. Bob reported the Meet Committee will be comprised of Meet Director, Meet Ref, Coach and athlete as base and may add additional member. There is a new group of Referees: Jodi Mullins, Bill Bond, Alice Jinn, Patty Murphy, Mike Iosue, Maureen Shea. Bob also reported the policy for relays will be that officials will use the relay warm up time to cover responsibilities with head timer. Names must be verified along with order. All changes must be reported ASAP to a Chief Judge or Referee.

Other:

Mary Riddell (NE-Office): We are having a problem with Team Unify "Find a Club" feature on USA Swimming disabled. Matt Craven (SAC) asked if anyone has thought to put a "locate a pool" feature. Clarification made that we do not sanction Y dual meets

Jamie Bloom (WYST): YMCA Swimming and Diving are part of a YMCA Virtual Invitational on October 17th. Very exciting.

John O'Neill (LRAC): John asked if the Board would consider making a Top Ten list for Short Course Meters as they are recognized national times.

Bob Menck (UN-NE): There have been conference calls with YMCA. Officials are doing clinics at the same time as the YMCA certification is not universally accepted.

Laura Matuszak (GMA): (1) Connecticut swimming is working with us for senior circuit meets so we can promote and support them by combining resources. Laura noted her biggest concern is long course. (2) Laura would like job descriptions from each of the Chairs. Please look in the by-laws and expand. This will help with the LEAP program. (3) New board – need guidelines, general documents and job descriptions (4) Laura met with the Chair of Indiana Swimming Arlene McDonald to help with Strategic Planning in spring. Please think about the dates for Strategic Planning. Would people prefer it to be the same weekend as Annual Meeting?

Next meeting:

Board Meeting: January 5th, 2010 at 7PM at the Wellesley Community Center.

Annual Meeting: May 1, 2010 at the Wellesley Community Center.

Motion to adjourn made by Kathy Dacey (UN-NE), seconded by Matt Craven (SAC). Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Ellen Tynan , Secretary
New England Swimming