

## MINUTES OF MEETING

**ATTENDEES:** Chris Kelly, Heidi Stark, Tara Dellavecchia, Patti Bohonowicz, Kristina Henry, Rachel Stratton, Wendy Hughes, Lynda Wiggins, Mark Oliphant

## AGENDA

- **Financial Update**

- The attached update was discussed. We discussed the team's desire to have high-quality coaching. Alternative membership options were also discussed. Based on the discussion, the following course of action will be taken:

- Continue the \$120/quarter fee
- Better advertise the availability of financial aid through the YMCA
- Investigate implementing a reduced fee for those who can make one annual payment
- Investigate the use of TeamUnify's credit card processing features, and allow a small discount for those who agree to pay by credit card and commit to an annual membership
- Reduce the fee over time through fundraising. Prime sources of funds for our team are in hosting meets, and we will plan to host one outdoor meet this summer.

The benefits of becoming a 501(c)3 non-profit entity were discussed, and Patti volunteered to file the paperwork. Lynda was concerned that becoming a non-profit involves additional paperwork and other work on the Treasurer's part and may subject us to an audit. We tabled this idea for the time being.

- **Membership criteria** (see above)

- We discussed the decline in team membership (see financial update) and Kristina expressed the desire to recruit back some of the members we've lost. She'll at least check in with them to determine if they're interested in returning to the team. Overall, Kristina volunteered to be our team point-of-contact for potential new members. She'll make up a new flyer to post on our bulletin board, and she'll be listed as the new contact for potential new members with the YMCA, on the YMCA's website, and our TeamUnify website.

Thanks, Kristina!!

- **Practice Schedule**

- The schedule will remain the same for the next couple of months. Kristina will check with Special Olympics (S.O.) -- last year, based on the schedule, we moved our Wednesday practice to start immediately following S.O. at 7:30 p.m. There was a discussion about moving practice to Chesapeake College during this period (March-May), but there is a concern for volunteers from our team being able to support S.O. and then drive to Chesapeake College for masters practice.
- Next step: Kristina to confirm S.O. schedule. We may also investigate having one practice/week at Chesapeake College at other periods throughout the year (independent of S.O.). We will do an online survey of members before making that decision to ensure there is enough interest before giving up any timeslots at the YMCA.

- **Yoga** (based on our financial status, we decided not to offer another session of Yoga at this time)

- **Swim Series Competition Status (are we in 1st place?)**
  - Mark reviewed the Quality Scoring model in place for the Maryland Swim Series meets (and the reason why he always asks if people can swim the maximum number of events at meets: 3 individual and 2 relay events). Quality scoring is *average points per swimmer* (not total points). Although it's not mandatory, it would be preferable if everyone entered the maximum number of events at the next 2 meets. Our team has placed 1st in only 1 meet (Howard County) under the Quality scoring model; the uber-team Maryland Masters has come in first place the past 2 meets (even at our own home meet).
- **Team Equipment**
  - Rachel stressed the need for team members to bring their equipment to every practice. Kickboards and pull buoys are available on deck if you don't want to purchase your own; but everyone should have hand paddles and flippers. Snorkels are a good idea for some but optional.
- **Team Donation to YMCA** (based on our financial status, we decided not to pursue an additional gift to the YMCA at this time)
- **Warm-ups** (Tara will take the lead on determining if there is enough interest in another order for team warm-up suits)
- **T-Shirts** (Chris will take the lead: we are developing a T-shirt for our next sponsored meet, the 2010 Maryland Championships. We have a good revenue opportunity for offering a high-quality T-shirt to participants in this meet.)
- **Next Meet: Ann Johnsen 200 Club** (We decided to continue our tradition of swimming the 200 breaststroke at the Annapolis meet next weekend.)
- **Maryland Championship Meet** (The next meet we are sponsoring is the Championship meet on Sunday, March 28 at Loyola College. An updated flyer was distributed and discussed.)
- **Any Other Business**

Financial Update attached (below).

**FINANCIAL UPDATE:**

In 2009, we had net income of \$680 -- helped make up a \$1275 deficit from 2008.

Team membership has declined over the 2 years: average of 24/session to 17/session. Currently we have 14 members (December-February):

Julie Reed  
Jared Legg  
Lynda Wiggins  
Mark Oliphant  
Patti Bohonowicz  
Heidi Stark  
Kristina Henry  
John Mulflur  
Sherye Hathaway  
Amanda Cooper  
Ona Kareiva  
Wendy Hughes  
Charlie Cauffman  
Chris Kelly

Our team fees have risen over the 4-year period 2006-2009 to address increased coaching costs (additional coached practices)

Our coaching expenses have more than doubled in 4 years and more than quadrupled over the 5-year period

- Expenses have risen while income has declined.
- Our income from meet hosting (e.g. \$800 from the December meet) helps offset our expenses and made up for the shortfall in 2009

Breakdown of how our funds were allocated in 2009:

Coaching:	75%	
Pool fees:	14%	
Miscellaneous:	3%	(yoga, food, etc)
Reserves:	8%	(contingency)

We have a single membership "type" with one fee per session. Several times over the years a few people have expressed interest in alternate membership arrangements.

We do offer financial assistance through the YMCA.

We are an independent organization not affiliated with the YMCA. We have a good working relationship which allows us to receive dedicated pool time.

- In 2008, Talbot Masters donated \$1,000 to the Talbot YMCA for new electronic timing and scoreboard equipment