

**Missouri Valley Swimming, Inc**  
**House of Delegates Meeting**  
**Roeland Park, KS**  
**September 24, 2017**

Voting Members in Attendance: Patrick Norman (AAAA); Katie Price-Norman (Age Group Chair/AAAA); Wendy Vernon (CAST); CNS, Todd Harvey (CNS); Linda "Lee" Wolfe (At large appointee/CNS); Bill Florea (At large appointee/CSC); Todd Kramer (CSC); Ingenue Cobbinah (Diversity and Inclusion Chair/EKC), Mike Godard (At large appointee/EKC); Carmen Mengers (EKC); Marjorie Sherard (EKC); Woody Woodlief (At large appointee/FTLL); Kimmi Schattgen (JCAY); Sherryl Wittrock (JCAY); George Adcock (KCB); Natalie Cannell (Athlete at large/KCB); Judith Deedy (At large appointee/KCB); Gardner Howland (Senior Chair/KCB); Bonnie Boyles (KCSA); Brandon Heredia (Athlete at large/KCSA); Heather Clark (LA); Payton Gunderson (LA); Keith Heckman (At large appointee/LA); Andrew Schmidt (Safety Chair/LA); Jeff Dean (At large appointee/AAAA); Hannah Garner (Athlete at large/MM); Justin Kuhlman (MM); Mike Ballard (NLU); Courtney Myers (Athlete Representative/NLU); Curtis Myers (Officials Chair/NLU); Cristin Stammler (At large appointee/ NLU); Tyler Lawart (RA); Cassie Campbell (TSA); Adam Florence (At large appointee/TSA); Shawn Geil, (Records Chair/TSA); Natalie Haag (General Chair/TSA); Bob Shearer (Technical Planning Chair/TSA); Cameron Murphy (Athlete Representative/TST); Dulcy Sellon (Secretary/UN); Mark Sutton (Finance Chair/ UN); James Kuhlman (At Large Member/WKSC); Alison Pick (Coaches Representative/WSC); Zeke Metz (Athlete at large/TSA); Tarrin Fisher (Athlete at large/TSA).

Non-voting members attending: Scott Bliss (Executive Director)

Natalie Haag, General Chair, called the meeting to order at 11:00 am and asked that everyone sign the roster which would serve as the roll call. The members in attendance are listed above. She asked for the athletes' report and noted that with the athletes in attendance MV had met its goal of having 20% athlete participation at the House of Delegates meeting.

#### Athlete Report

Courtney Myers, Athlete Representative, reported that MV's athletes at the USA Swimming Convention had enjoyed the experience and learned a lot. They were planning for an athlete leadership training retreat and a mentorship program in which athletes would work with adults to learn more about the organization's governance. Natalie noted that the awards reception held the previous evening for MV's top swimmers had been undertaken and organized by the athlete's committee and had been very successful.

#### Approval of the Minutes

Natalie asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the last House of Delegates' meeting. The motion was made, seconded and all voted aye.

### Financial Report

Mark Sutton, Finance Chair, presented the MV Financial Report. He stated that our assets had grown since the past year. We had under spent last year's budgeted amounts and thus were a good financial position. We had been able to move funds into the Merrill Lynch investment account. Natalie asked for a motion to approve the Financial Report. The motion was made and seconded and all voted aye.

### Old Business

Katie Price-Norman, Age Group Chair, made the motion for the Age Group Committee to add the All Star Meet to the meet schedule for January 2018 and to have this meet treated as a non-team travel meet for which MV would pay for the coaches attending the meet, the meet's entry fees and some swimmer equipment. Alison Pick seconded the motion. Discussion for the motion showed that the coaches approved this meet addition. Patrick Norman also asked that a study of participation numbers be done for the meet when it was offered as a team travel event versus non team travel event. Natalie reported that these statistics had been reviewed for Central Zone meets with no significant differential in attendance between team travel and non-team travel meets. The historical data for the All Star Meet wasn't useful because the prior non-travel meets had been held in Lawrence. The numbers will be reviewed again in the future. Scott Bliss announced that he would reserve a block of rooms to help parents with swimmers attending but MV would not pay for these rooms. Natalie asked for the vote on the motion to add the All Star meet in January 2018 to the meet schedule. All voted aye.

### New Business

Mark Sutton, Finance Chair, presented the 2018 budget proposal. This budget includes a previously approved registration fee increase of \$2 which offsets the USA Swimming fee increase and allows MV to receive the same amount as last year from each registration. The proposal shows a balanced budget with \$158,218 in revenues matching \$158,218 in expenses. MV does have \$8,071 set aside for unallocated expenses and he encouraged members to bring ideas forward for the use of these funds. Shawn Geil stated that MV has one of the lowest registration fees in USA Swimming and we are still able to hold quality events and have a paid staff. The motion was made and seconded to approve the budget proposal and all voted aye.

Natalie stated that legislation passed by the USA Swimming House of Delegates is posted on our website. The number of directors sitting on the USA Swimming Board of Directors has been reduced, including a reduction in the number of Central Zone positions like that currently held by Amy Hoppenrath. One item that MV will need to consider is the USAS proposal to add a flex membership option for the 2018 registration year. This membership would allow the swimmer to register for \$20 and participate in two meets. MV would receive \$10 from this fee. The coaches' committee will consider this option and, if approved, present a proposal at the spring HOD meeting.

Alison Pick, Coaches Representative, said USA Swimming is working to improve butterfly competitors and has a Facebook page on the Butterfly Revolution. USA Swimming is also joining with Team Unify so that Deck Pass will be available on its website. SWIMS will also be linked to Team Unify so meet entries can show SWIMS times. The intent is to make the process for presenting provable times much easier. She also reported that Sectionals will be adding 50's of stroke and 200 yard/meter relays. The top 24 swimmers at Sectionals will score and the D final will be for 18 and under only. USA Swimming is also now allowing the registration of coaches aged 16-18. These young coaches must obtain all the coach safety certifications but they will not need a background check. These coaches must be in line of sight supervision of another certified coach over the age of 18 and they cannot be the only coach for a club at a meet. Shawn Geil added that USAS is compiling records for mixed relays and will begin awarding NAG records for mixed relays on May1, 2019. Mixed relays must have two male and two female participants to be eligible for these records.

Katie Price-Norman, Age Group Chair, reported that the coaches committee had approved all the championship meet adjustments and time standard revisions proposed by the Age Group Committee. These changes have been posted on the website for the last thirty days. The Committee made the motion to approve these changes. Alison Pick seconded the motion. Discussion on the motion revealed that bonus swims for the 500 free and 400 IM had been added. The mile and the 1000 will not have bonus possibilities. The Qualifier standards were not changed. Natalie thanked Katie, Garner Howland, Bob Shearer and George Adcock for all the work necessary to complete these revisions.

Alison Pick, Coaches Representative, stated that Wichita Swim Club would host the Wichita Regional Coach Clinic in the spring of 2018. USA Swimming will determine the clinic's date. When that is known it will be posted and MV's spring HOD meeting might be scheduled for Wichita to accommodate the coaches attending the clinic. She also announced that Peter Andrew had been selected Senior Coach of the year.

Natalie Haag, General Chair, stated that the Board had discussed a proposal made by Amy and herself to create a swimmer development staff or contract position. The Board' strategic plan includes several initiatives designed to improve club and swimmer development but these had proven difficult to accomplish with limited human resources. The proposal would be to fund additional staff to improve swimmer development, club development and club board-coach relationships. Working through social media to increase swimming's public image might also be a part of this undertaking. She sought members who might wish to volunteer for a short term task force to devise the proposal. The task force would work until February and a proposal for

the swimmer development undertaking would be presented at the spring meeting. An athlete will be needed for the task force too. Katie said that the age group committee was excited about this proposal and would help with the athlete recruitment.

Natalie announced that Candace Pearson, our Safe Sport chair had moved to Texas and that MV needed to appoint a replacement for her position. The Board of Directors had agreed to appoint Tarrin Fisher as an interim Safe Sport Chair until the spring HOD meeting. The motion was made to endorse the Board's interim appointment and seconded and all voted aye.

Scott Bliss, Executive Director, stated that the coaches' committee had voted on the two conflicting championship meet bids for the long Course 2018 meet schedule. The coaches recommended that the Wichita Swim Club be awarded the District West Championships and that AAAA be awarded the long course championships. A motion was made to accept these recommendations and approve the schedule as amended. The motion was seconded by Todd Kramer. Discussion on the motion revealed that LA had asked the Lawrence School District for the gym as a crash area on the meet date and had been informed that the District might give the gym to a basketball camp. Shawn Geil moved to amend the motion to add a stipulation that AAAA's championship meet approval is contingent on AAAA providing a crash area plan subject to the approval by the Coaches' Committee and the Board of Directors. The motion to amend was seconded. Gardner Howland, Senior Coaches Representative, noted that the crash area might be outside. All voted aye on the motion to amend the motion. The motion to adopt the amended motion for the approval of the meet schedule approved with all voting aye.

Ingenue Cobbinah, Diversity and Inclusion Chair, reported that the multi-cultural camp would be held in Mason, Ohio next year. A coach and four athletes would be able to attend with the addition of two alternates if positions not filled by other LSC's were available. She will be working with coaches to devise criterion for athlete selection. All of the information about the camp and the selection process will be published on the website. The multi-cultural meet for 2019 will be held in Edwardsville but the date for it has not yet been determined.

Curtis Myers, Officials Chair, reported that language on the four hour rule had been changed and asked that questions about it from meet directors be sent to him. He also stated that meet directors can now have no other role at a meet. Requests for approval of suit exceptions for transgender swimmers need to go to USA Swimming.

Natalie said athlete leadership training at Rice University will be held in April and MV can send one athlete funded by USAS and an additional athlete whose air fare MV will fund. A coach can be sent too. MV will create a selection committee to choose the participants. She also

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announced that a nominating committee had been selected. Shawn Geil will head the committee and its members will be Alison Pick, Todd Kramer, Chris Stamler, and Hannah Garner (Athlete). The committee will nominate candidates for General Chair, Administrative Vice Chair, Treasurer, Secretary and one at large member at the spring HOD meeting.

The motion was made to adjourn, seconded and all voted aye. The meeting adjourned at 12:25.

Respectfully submitted,

Dulcy Sellon, MV Secretary