

MINUTES - MESI Board of Directors

April 20, 2020 via Zoom

Mission: Create opportunities and provide resources to promote excellence in Maine swimming.

Vision: Maine Swimming: You CAN get there from here!.

Core Values: Sportsmanship, Excellence, Leadership, Fun

Present: Kristy Barry, , Maddie Buck, Trevor Edmonds, Keli Gillespie, Holly Hatch, Matt Montgomery, Zack Mullin, Marcel Da Ponte, Stacy Kennard, Jay Morissette, Brim Peabody, Betsy Perron, Taylor Rogers, Mike Schmidt, TJ Willis, Jim Willis, Carrie Wood-Peabody.

Absent: John Smith, Nicole Viele

Guests Ali Bragg, Emma Farnham, Lindsay McMahon, Mary Ellen Tynan.

Mission, vision and core values read.

Secretary's Report

Motion by Taylor Rogers, second by Mike Schmidt to accept the 4/13/20 minutes with the following amendments:

Brim Peabody also attended the meeting with TJ Willis and the Governance Committee.

The Technical Planning Chair should be removed as a member of the COY selection Committee.

Motion passes unanimously.

TJ Willis and Maddie Buck received sweatshirts in recognition for their service as Senior Athlete Reps.

Zone Meeting Report

All Zone meets are cancelled for the summer and there will be an extra long course meet next May. The qualifying period for 2021 Zone meets has been moved back to 1/1/19.

Senior Recognition Update

On instagram, we will focus on one team each day and recognize the seniors on that team.

Finance Committee

\$152,795 in the bank as of 4/20/2020.

Awaiting the announcement of the Governor's plan to reopen the state before completing the budget.

The Finance Committee will meet following the LSC assistance task force meeting this week. The task force will focus on club needs during the re-start process. Taylor Rogers reminded the group that refunds/rebates, not grants, should be considered.

Crisis Management Team

The team has been meeting each week on Thursdays. No meets can be sanctioned before May 31, per USA-S.

USA-S has identified goals for providing financial assistance for cases of dire need, re-opening and maintaining LSC stability over the next 6-12 months.

LSC's will need to think ahead and plan for rebuilding reserves.

We will need to think outside the box for training and competition.

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Though the spread of the virus may slow in the next few months, it is likely to pick up again in the next year and teams/LSC's should come up with contingency plans.

Coach of the Year

We have several nominees and the nomination period is closed.

Motion by Marcel Da Ponte, second by Taylor Rogers to appoint Betsy Perron to the Coach of the Year Selection Committee.

Motion passes unanimously.

One other alternate member is needed.

Motion by Jay Morissette, second by Taylor Rogers to appoint Brad Burnham to the committee.

Discussion: If he turns down the nomination, the board can appoint someone else.

Motion passes unanimously.

Committee will meet the week of 4/26 and the COY and ACOY will be announced on 5/1/20.

Senior Zoom Event

Six Maine college coaches will participate in a discussion of collegiate swimming on Tuesday 4/28 at 4:00. Conference will be on Zoom. Mary Ellen Tynan will assist in setting up and will moderate; questions can be submitted via chat.

Athlete Committee Update

Currently working on an application for the Athlete Committee.

Beisel Clinic

Sunday 4/26. At least 113 have signed up.

DEI Travel Proposal

Motion by Zack Mullin, second by Taylor Rogers to accept the Outreach Accommodation and Travel Support proposal presented by the DEI Committee.

Discussion: Should financial support for accommodations be based on travel distance or by regional location of the meet? Agreed that support should be offered based on distance travelled.

Friendly amendment to the motion by Zack Mullin, second by Taylor Rogers to change the proposal to provide travel reimbursement when a family must travel at least 75 miles to lodging for the meet.

Matt Montgomery asked if it were necessary for MESI to make the reservation, because many teams prefer that all athletes stay together. The issue is that many families need the money up front and can't wait for reimbursement following the stay. Taylor Rogers suggested that families make the reservation, submit the confirmation number to MESI and then we can arrange to have the room billed to the MESI credit card, but that would not be possible as the reimbursed rate may not be the same as the hotel price. Jim Willis suggested basing the reimbursement on the IRS per diem rate. A check could be handed to parents on deck at the meet.

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Suggestion: reimbursement should not just be for championship level meets since athletes will need to compete at regular season meets in order to qualify for those meets. DI and DII meets don't offer events that outreach kids can typically swim.

Suggestion: In anticipation of rearranging the 2020-2021 schedule, change the language to read "all MESI sponsored events" and include the provision that travel to other meets may also be reimbursed, depending on availability of funds. To budget for this, we would need to have at least \$2000 allocated for "other meets" and \$3000 for championship level meets.

Consider that the number of outreach swimmers is likely to go up this year.

Motion by Taylor Rogers, second by Holly Hatch to table the discussion until the DEI Committee has completed an amended proposal.

Motion passes unanimously.

Zack will join the Finance Committee meeting this week.

Governance Committee Report

The committee has reviewed the By-laws and is near completion of a review of the Policies and Procedures. They will present amendments and additions to the Board of Directors in small batches for review and approval.

Other Business

Coach Zoom Gathering: Tom Avischious will join the group on 4/30 at 7 pm. Topics for discussion will be re-entry considerations, and USA-S offerings to members, including free screening of The Last Gold, free mental health services and webinars.

MESI Logo: A few designs are in the works. The task force will pick one to present to the BOD and then the design will be presented to the HOD for approval.

Marcel Da Ponte requested some clarification of the P&P regarding the bid process. Taylor Rogers will share the applicable P&P with Marcel.

TJ Willis asked if we had considered a virtual banquet. Some athletes thought it would be a nice idea but others questioned whether or not we would have good attendance. The Athlete Reps will discuss the idea.

Motion by Taylor Rogers, second by Holly Hatch to adjourn.

Submitted by Betsy Perron, MESI Secretary on April 26, 2020