

Missouri Valley Swimming, Inc

Board of Directors Meeting, Roeland Park, KS, 4-7-2018

Members in attendance: Scott Bliss, Executive Director, UN; Ingenue Cobbinah, Diversity and Inclusion Chair, EKC; Natalie Haag, General Chair, TSA; Gardner Howland, Senior Chair, KCB; Michael Meloy, Coach Representative, WAR; Courtney Myers, Athlete Representative, NLU; Curtis Myers, Officials Chair, NLU; Alison Pick, Coach Representative, WSC; Katie Price-Norman, Age Group Chair, AAAA; Dulcy Sellon, Secretary, UN; Bob Shearer, Technical Planning Chair, TSA; Marjorie Sherard, Safety Chair, EKC; Mark Sutton, Financial Chair, UN.

Natalie Haag, General Chair called the meeting to order at 9:30 am and asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the September, 2017 Board of Directors meeting which were posted on the MV website. The motion was made and seconded and all voted aye.

Mark Sutton provided the budget report to the Board of Directors. MV 's Merrill Lynch investments showed gains to our assets. Registration numbers were down 11%. He reported that 2017-2018 Splash fees had a net decrease of \$5811.95 as three new meets were added but four meets were cancelled. He stated that MV should look at the meet fees historical data to determine the trend for meet fee income. This will be done for the September meeting. Alison Pick made the motion to accept the budget report. Ingenue Cobbinah seconded the motion and all voted aye.

Scott Bliss provided the Executive Director's report. He stated that there will be changes to the registration process which will allow teams to submit their registration batches and Scott will be notified and there will be immediate feedback if there are errors in the registration batch. Flex registration will begin September 1, 2018. USAS will receive \$20 for the flex registration and MV will receive \$10. The flex registered swimmer will be allowed to compete in two meets before they must be registered as a full year swimmer. USAS will notify MV if a swimmer's meet numbers have been passed. Team Unify is also working on notification of a swimmer's third meet. Scott stressed that USAS now is using outside insurance adjusters for reports of occurrence at meets and is being very strict in checking that all meet participants were registered who competed. The Board decided that increased attention and information on the need for swimmer registrations should be made to MV clubs. The Board discussed charging a penalty to clubs who enter an unregistered swimmer when this shows up in a post meet recon report. Natalie suggested that the officials committee and the coach committee discuss the penalties to be charged to the meet hosts and clubs for allowing unregistered swimmers to compete. A report on this will be presented at the fall meeting. The Board also discussed what the Board's obligation should be to insure clubs are insured. Board members will help Scott devise insurance certification requirements. Mark suggested that if a meet host allows on deck

entries in the meet, proof of registration must be shown to the AO and this requirement should be stated in the meet's sanction. Natalie suggested adding this to sanctions in September and reinforcing registration requirements at meets now.

Courtney Myers, athlete committee chair, reported that the committee is undergoing a leadership transition. The committee will continue to work on the committee's structure and is endeavoring to recruit two athlete members from each club. The committee will again host an athlete awards banquet. Scott suggested the committee could have both a swimmer of the year and an award for the performance of the year. This banquet will be in the fall and the fall MV meeting will be early this year, September 14. Committee members will also again be attending the athlete leadership meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

The Board discussed the proposed Sports Development Director position. Natalie stated that the position would be designed to develop and implement a program to improve the competitive results of MV swimmers in the LSC and at national level meets. Mark stated that the budget would include provisions to allow for hiring this position in the spring of 2019. Natalie stated that the coaches need to discuss the acceptance and usefulness of this position. Gardner stated that the coaches and clubs lack cohesion and some fear that undertaking activities like development camps for swimmers would lead to clubs recruiting swimmers to their club. Natalie asked the coaches to discuss the possibilities of this position. Courtney suggested that the athlete committee could be used to encourage swimmers to participate in developmental camps.

NEW BUSINESS

Natalie thanked the nominating committee for their work and presented their slate of candidates. The candidates for the positions are Judith Deedy for General Chair, Curt Myers for Administrative Vice Chair, Steve Winfrey for Treasurer, Shawn Geil for Secretary, Lauren Cassou and Morgan Jones for Safe Sport Chair, and Amy Hoppenrath for Member at Large. She asked for nominations from the floor and the Board offered none. Katie raised the issue of having two athletes responsible for the Safe Sport position and asked whether an adult should hold the position. The Board decided that since the position serves to pass through issues and problems to the National Safe Sport organization, the athletes would not be investigators but could provide education to clubs about Safe Sport. The Board determined to designate them as Safe Sport Athlete Chairs and to appoint an adult as the Safe Sport Chair. Ingenu volunteered to work with the two athletes as the Safe Sport Chair. Natalie reported that Andrew Schmidt had resigned as the Safety Chair and asked Marjorie Sherard to serve as Safety Chair. A motion was

made and seconded that Ingenue would serve as Safe Sport Chair with the athletes as Safe Sport Athlete Chairs and Marjorie Sherard would serve as Safety Chair. All voted aye.

Natalie presented a Resolution for the Board to consider that would establish Missouri Valley Championship meet size and session restrictions and methods for addressing these restrictions. If the MVS SCY Championships exceed 525 swimmers for one session or the LCM Championships exceed 475 swimmers per session the Resolution would allow the referee to eliminate all bonus and automatic qualifier swims, divide the session into two or more sessions, eliminate all relay events and/or limit the 200 yard or longer events for 12 and under athletes to adjust the meet's participant number. If the MVS SCY Championships exceed 650 swimmers or the LCM Championships exceed 700 swimmers the House of Delegates shall tighten the time standards, split the meet into two meets for the following year or otherwise modify the entries to reduce the number of eligible swimmers. This Resolution would allow MV to have a mechanism for dealing with large meets that present air quality and safety issues. Katie stated that coaches work hard to get their swimmers qualified for these Championships and felt that events and relays should not be able to be eliminated. Adjustments to the time standards should be used to keep the meet numbers manageable. The Board decided to have Technical Planning, the coaches committee and the Officials committee work on this issue for the fall meeting. The Board did not vote to adopt the Resolution.

Bob Schearer, Technical Planning Chair, presented an outreach policy and proposal that addresses the needs of economically disadvantaged families in the LSC. The proposed program would offer financial assistance of up to 50% or \$75 of the swimmer's monthly program fees to qualifying families. The qualifying criteria would be the income for families eligible for free and reduced lunch fees plus 30%. The swimmer would have to be a full year swimmer and families would have to also contribute to the swimmer's fees. The teams would need to provide Scott with monthly information on the parents' contribution and the swimmer's continued activity. To fund the program the proposal suggests that meet hosts increase their MV contribution from 15% to 16%. Mark stated that with an additional 1% contribution from meet hosts \$64,000 would be available but that would not fund many athletes for a year. MV currently has 84 outreach swimmers. The Board asked that the coaches committee discuss this proposal to determine if MV should pursue the proposal.

Scott presented the short course 2018-19 meet schedule. He stated that WSC had withdrawn its bid for the Midwest Winter Classic, thus resolving this conflict. The conflict for the Winter Qualifier meet will need to be resolved by the coaches. The All Star meet is not yet listed.

Natalie asked all Board members slated to attend the USA Swimming Convention in Jacksonville to let her know by June 1 if they expect to attend. The attendees who will be voting delegates are the General Chair, Administrative Vice Chair, Age Group Chair, Senior Chair, Senior athlete

Representative and Senior Coach Representative. She also asked for recommendations for committee memberships. The Board also reviewed its policies on Records Retention, Whistleblowers, Conflict of Interest, and Travel Fund and made no changes.

OTHER BUSINESS

Mark stated that the budget would reflect funding for the addition of the multi-cultural camp and the new proposed staff position. Dues will increase by \$2 in line with the USA Swimming annual increase. He asked if we wanted to increase this registration amount to help fund the Sport Development Director position. The registration income in the budget will factor in the changes to income the Flex registration might produce. Alison Pick made the motion to approve the budget on a contingency basis until our July Board meeting. Marjorie seconded the motion and all voted aye.

Natalie provided a Missouri Valley Task Calendar and a document listing the duties of each Board position. She asked members to review the documents to see if any changes were needed.

The motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 12:15. All voted aye.

Respectfully submitted,

Dulcy Sellon, MV Secretary