

## Missouri Valley Swimming, Inc. Board of Directors Meeting

July 28, 2016, Lawrence, KS

Board Members in Attendance: Clarence Aitken, Seasonal Representative; Scott Bliss, Executive Director; Sophia Brauer, Athlete Representative; Cassie Campbell, Member At Large; Natalie Haag, General Chair; Amy Hoppenrath; Administrative Vice Chair; Tom Kramer, Coaches' Representative; Patrick Norman, Program Operations Chair; Katie Price-Norman; Ashton Pearson, Athlete Representative; Candace Pearson, Safe Sport Chair; Rob Putnam, Inclusion and Diversity Chair; Wendy Savley, Treasurer; Andrew Schmidt, Safety Chair; Mark Sutton, Finance Chair.

Natalie called the meeting to order at 7:10 pm and called for officers' reports.

The athlete representatives, Sophia Brauer and Ashton Pearson reported that they had started a Twitter account @SwimMo Val and had put up information about it at pools for swimmers to post tweets and pictures. Both representatives are planning to attend the Atlanta Convention. They suggested that a junior athlete representative be appointed and that the LSC championship meet be used to hold an athlete meeting to provide more information to swimmers about being an athlete representative and about the Missouri Valley governance process.

Scott Bliss, Executive Director, reported that the fall meeting, October 7-9 would be our Swimposium and would be held at Roeland Park and Blue Valley Southwest High School (BVSW) at 178<sup>th</sup> and Quivera. On Friday the Board of Directors would meet at Roland Park and on Sunday the House of Delegates would meet at Roland Park. Saturday's Swimposium would be at BVSW and would have two tracks, a coaches' track and a swimmer/parent track. Guest speakers will include David Benzel, Caitlin Leverenz, Leslie Bonci and Todd Schmitz and college coaches, Clark Campbell (KU), a coach from William Jewel, Greg Rodenbaugh (MU) and possibly a Missouri State coach. Flyers will be put up about the Swimposium at the LSC Championship meets, an info blast will be sent to all clubs and information will be posted on Facebook and Twitter. There will also be information placed in September meet heat sheets. The proposed Swimposium fees will be early registration (until August 31, 2016) \$10 for adults which would cover all meetings and lunch and \$20 for athletes which would cover all meetings, swim clinics and lunch. Registration after August 31 would be \$15 and \$25. The quest speakers will cost several thousand dollars. USA Swimming pays ½ of the speaker fees and MV will need to cover the rest. MV will also treat the guests to a nice dinner after the event.

Clarence Aitken presented information on awards and recognitions that would be presented at the Swimposium. The suggested awards will include: Senior Excellence Award (15+). Junior Excellence Award (10-14) for both genders, an Official of the year plaque, a Top Volunteer

plaque, a Guardian Star plaque and embroidered towels for Olympic Trial qualifiers. MV Top 5 performers in SC and LC in each age group and gender will receive certificates. The committee plans to spend about \$500 for the awards and will be contacting club presidents for their nominees from their club.

Attendees for the USA Swimming Atlanta Convention will be Natalie, Katie, Patrick, Amy, Shawn Geil, Scott, Wendy, Ashton, Sophia and Todd. Attendees are encouraged to look at the Convention's scheduled meetings to determine which they wished to attend.

Board members discussed the Zone meet planning. Currently 60 swimmers have paid for the meet, 45 using team travel and 15, non team travel. The following coaches will attend: Katie, Todd, George (from the Blazers), Clarke Stokes and Ben Westberg. Eight chaperons will attend for whom MV will pay for their rooms and meals. The team will leave at 12pm August 2 and on Wednesday will enjoy a team outing to the Hall of Fame. The meet starts Thursday, August 4. The USA Zone Committee has plans to change the zone meets to include faster times and longer meets, a 4 day meet every year. The Central Zone will have two locations this year at Rochester and Pretty Prairie.

Mark Sutton, Finance Chair, reviewed the current and proposed budget. Amy made the motion to accept the budget. Clarence seconded the motion and all voted aye. Clarence made the motion to accept the proposed budget. Wendy seconded the motion and all voted aye.

Candace Pearson reported her activities to promote Safe Sport. She plans to have a blast sent to all clubs the first of the month which provides safe sport scenarios for team discussion. She suggested that LGBT issues will likely be discussed at the Convention and this could serve as a source for teams to learn how to correctly handle any future challenges in this area.

#### Old Business

The Berserker team has requested to leave MV and join the AR LSC. They want to host championship meets for AR. Randy Julian will help address the issue and work to find a compromise. Ideas for the compromise include a flat fee to MV - \$250 for the championship meet but remaining meet fees go to AR and all other regular season meet fees go to MV.

#### New Business

Natalie and Clarence raised the idea of securing corporate sponsors for MV. They wanted Board Members to discuss how this could be done and to generate any contacts they might have. Ideas such as what steps we need to pursue to secure business and foundation investment in our LSC, does MV need to build a brand and who should undertake that and does MV need to create a paid position to pursue this type of funding were discussed.

The season 1 fees will be dropped for the future.

Mark made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:57; Clarence seconded the motion and all voted aye. The meeting adjourned at 8:57.

Respectfully submitted from notes provided by Cassie Campbell,

Dulcy Sellon, Secretary, MV Swimming