

Buffalo City Swim Racers

Meeting Minutes
January 12, 2013

Opening:

The regular meeting of the Buffalo City Swim Racers was called to order at 10:00am on January 12, 2013 at 651 Delaware Avenue by Keven Keane.

Present:

Mike Switalski, Lisa Samar, Rich Bleichfeld,, Kevin Keane, Ryan Connolly, TrinaTardone, Marie Ryder

Absent:

Jean Lalomia, Dave Thomas Jr., Samuel Cammarata

Meeting was an overview of what has been accomplished, what was learned during the pilot program, and where we are headed. The following are highlights from the discussions: (meeting notes as well as the power point presentation are available for review as needed)

- Pilot program was 6 weeks long and included: Ellicott Masten YMCA, WATTS tutoring and KCC. 18 swimmers started the program with 3 dropping out for different reasons. Learned: 1) forms must be simple (Spanish translation) 2) alternative swimsuit for kids with body image issues or religious reasons need to be offered 3) need to track the swimmers that leave.
- There has been a lot of interest expressed from schools, kids, and individuals – could have 200 swimmers in the fall. Need to prepare a modular program that will fit different sites. Each situation will have different needs and will vary in cost. Swimmers, coaches, pools, transportation and the academics will be different in each setting.
- Biggest issue as we move ahead is finding coaching for 200 swimmers. May try to “partner” with other swim teams.
- Budget planning must be understood and adhered to. Need to balance funds by site as some donations may be for specific schools or areas of the city.
- Spring 2013 – continue the program at the YMCA with KCCS sustaining the swimmers from the pilot and adding 20 -25 new kids. Currently BCSR has \$5,000 from the Buffalo Fire Department, \$10,000 from M&T to use for the continuation of the program at the YMCA. Academics will be covered by the school.

- Future sites are:

PS 39 MLK and PS 37 Futures – they do not have pools and are small kids equaling 80 swimmers.

PS 89 Lydia T Wright has a pool 40 swimmers.

PS 204 Lafayette HS has a pool and 80 swimmers.

- Funding

Without parent investment if funds dry up so does the program...

Private & Public Funding avenues: Wendt, Rich, M&T, Community Foundation of Greater Buffalo, Buffalo Sabres, individuals, 21st Century Grant, Urban Center grant, BMHA, BPS

Mike has continued to meet with different sources – many were invited to see first hand how the program works by visiting during a practice at the YMCA.

- Food for thought: How do we sustain Mike? What should he do and what should others do? Are the committees set correctly? Changes/ additions? How can we share knowledge within the group? Will we need an administrative assistant? Need to plan for growth and sustainability.

B. New Business

Motion: Moved by Ryan Connolly to approve Board Insurance. Motion carried.

Adjournment:

Meeting was adjourned at 1:00pm by Mike Switalski.

Minutes submitted by: Lisa Samar

Proofed by: Mike Switalski

Approved by: