

## **Buffalo City Swim Racers**

Meeting Minutes  
June 27, 2012

### **Opening:**

The regular meeting of the Buffalo City Swim Racers was called to order at 6:15pm on June 27, 2012 at City Honors School by Mike Switalski.

### **Present:**

Mike Switalski, Lisa Samar, Gary Giovino, Erin Walsh, Hank Olejniczak, Brian Wrotniak, Jean Lalomia, Ken Richmond, Rich Bleichfeld, Samuel Cammarata, Ryan Connolly, Marie Ryer, Kevin Keane, Trina Tardone, via phone: Eric Stimson

#### **A. Approval of Agenda**

#### **B. Approval of Minutes**

This was our first “official” meeting. Will need approval of minutes at next meeting.

#### **C. Open Issues**

##### 1. Update on 501c3 by Kevin Keane:

Kevin filed all necessary paperwork, got permission from the interim superintendent, Amber Dixon, and was given a verbal approval from NYS that the certification has been approved. Should have official approval in 10 days. Then can file for non-profit status and get an IRS# so we can set up a bank account.

- Any board member willing to make first donations to the account should send checks to Mike or Kevin.

##### 2. Meeting updates:

**M&T:** Nancy Brock, thought they could help best with first expansion of the club. Offered staff at M&T to help with legal council etc...should ask for help at branch levels as well.

**BPS Foundation:** should not be a problem to get \$10,000 for the foundation with or without 501c3 status.

**Lou Petrucci:** asked for donation of use of the pools, thought would not be a problem (went from \$54,000 to \$0).

**Buffalo Sabres Foundation:** want to set up a face to face meeting to discuss the program. Rev. Pridgen working on getting a meeting set up with Terry Pegula.

**Independent Health Foundation:** asked for information in writing about the program, thought there would be monies to donate.

**First Niagara Foundation:** loved the idea of the program. They are changing the structure of their foundation and thought BCSR would fit into 2 of the new categories – education and health.

Open discussion: Eric via phone: discussed Team Unify as USA Swimming's preferred web host. Offers tools for team management/communication/calendar and is easy to use. Buy in at \$1200/year - \$99/month + \$275 set up fee. BUT if team purchases suits from them first year is free after set-up fee. Team Unify will match lowest price we find on any equipment and will give a store credit for each suit purchased by the team. Discussed Hytek as program of choice for meet management.

Hank: Asked for introduction letter to help the corporate world understand the program.

Ken: Need to consolidate contact lists so different people are not asking same foundations and businesses for funds.

Other possible corporations to reach out too: Speedo, Rich Products, New Era, Wegmans, Nike, Kiefer Sports Group

Kick-off event should be a swim meet/fundraiser with support from USA swimming and Make A Splash. Asking Citibank to help get Olympic swimmers to the event.

- Watch video link sent by Dr. Taylor.

### 3. Committee Updates:

**Grants:** Gary and Erin, have a foundation list, picking ones to focus on - want to get some funding quick then work on bigger grants for sustainability. Will work with Communications to have a good flash point sheet to get things started. Mike: meeting with Dr. Taylor and BMHA to see what funds they might have to help get program moving. Need 50 to 60,000 to get started.

**Communications:** Marie and Ryan, handed out a sheet of their initiatives – attached to hard copy of minutes – working on getting a domain name for the website. Need to have a clear message and identity so everyone is on the same page when communicating about the program.

**Governance:** waiting for Jim Jarvis to finish working on editing the by-laws, then the committee will meet to review and finalize.

**Student Athlete Recognition:** Sam and Marie are setting up 3 levels of student athlete recognitions for swimming, academic improvement and personal bests. Feel each child will be coming from different places academically and recognition should be based on personal improvement.

**Parent Recruitment:** Rich, will be looking for assistance on the pool deck from parents once kids are in the pool. Will need training and background checks – USA swimming has links on their website for training...

**D. New Business**

Motion: Moved by Kevin Keane that BCSR set up a bank account at M&T or First Niagara Bank upon non-profit status approval.

Motion Carried.

**Adjournment:**

Meeting was adjourned at 7:45pm by Mike Switalski. The next general meeting will be at 6pm on 7/18/2012 in CHS Museum Room.

Minutes submitted by: Lisa Samar

Approved by: Mike Switalski