

NANTUCKET DOLPHIN BOOSTER CLUB



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[Minutes 5/29/19](#)

The meeting took place in the CPS Staff Lounge. The meeting was called to order at 6:03 pm by Dolphins Booster Club President, Heidi Fee, and was attended by Booster Club members, Suzette Brown, Heidi Fee, Mark Gerardi, Jill Roethke, Kristen Dussault, Steve Roethke, Will Phelps, David Cox, Suzanne Gerardi, and Coach Beau Garufi.

COACHES' REPORT: Coach Beau reports that there are changes in meet fees due to two injuries. Beau was able to readjust the fees. Beau found a place to stay in Providence for Seniors which is a savings of \$900 for Boosters. Also working on finding a place to stay for the Harvard meet which would be a savings of approximately \$1,100. Food card needs to be renewed. Things are going well, kids working hard. Hopefully they are coming home tired and hungry. Beau hasn't heard from many kids about having swim equipment. Hope the kids will order their equipment from the link Beau sent in an email. Steve asked if it is advisable that each kid has the same equipment and Beau acknowledged that yes he was hoping for that outcome for consistency within each lane. Beau says he has enough exercise bands for the kids and they have been taught the exercises and they cycle through the exercises. Steve asks a followup question asking if Beau would expect each swimmer in the Fall to have their own equipment. Should Boosters try to assist or streamline the process purchasing the equipment by setting up something on the online store? Maybe get a better price if purchased in bulk? Beau says he thinks for Dolphins he would like to maybe have a bulk number of each item so it is available for the kids. Much discussion about how to arrange for the equipment to be available. Steve said to Beau that if there is a need you have for your team, "don't be afraid to ask Boosters for support" that is the mission of the Boosters. Heidi said we can definitely look into the equipment. Beau suggested to see how it goes with the smaller group and then decide what he might want to do.

Beau suggested that as we approach the end of the second cycle of training after this meeting coming, he would like to do parent/swimmer/coach conferences. Asking if there may be support for this idea. Resounding positive support for this idea. Beau wants to build a relationship with the parents and swimmers and would like to begin now prior to gaining many more swimmers in the Fall. Suzette suggested this is a great idea. Beau will send out a spreadsheet for signup. Steve clarified that this will be for any current swimmer.

BOARD REPORT: Heidi reports that the executive board met earlier this month to talk about the Swim a thon and it was decided that \$592.80 would be donated to the STAR program. This number reflects half of the money raised for this function. The previous donations to the Star program have not been a particular percentage of the money raised. The Swim a thon program this year focused on the younger swimmers 10 and under due to fund raising exhaustion for the older swimmers including WACK. Hotel update, Boosters debit card will be expiring on June 9. Heidi is filling out two authorizations to be given to Suzette for the Marriot June 7-9 for the upcoming meet to be sure there is not a problem. Jill offers that even though the old card number is expired there is a period of time that that card will continue to be linked to the account and should be valid. Heidi wants to be sure there is not a problem during that meet. Jill said typically when she took care of this in the past she would always just double check at the front desk. Kristen said he will always have to run his card for incidentals.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: motion to approve the minutes from 5/9/19 meeting. Second received.

TREASURER'S REPORT: One deposit from Amazon. Waiting on payments from WEST. Meet fee payments made so far. Second page is running total of WACK expenses to date. Jill reports she has one typo, for Fairfield Inn, Sectionals it says Todd's hotel but I think it was Beau's hotel. Todd's hotel was more than that. Jill also said that Jim said he had another check from Swim a thon? Heidi clarified that that check was not received from Jim yet.

Jill had a follow up to conversation from last meeting from a comment by Jodi and Jim regarding a Dolphin's budget. We have done a really good job with WACK budget. Jill reports she did an exercise to see how much money Dolphins had last year (\$14,000) and compared it to this year (\$8,500) and once we back out \$592 to Star we will be at about \$7,900. We used \$6,200 this year. I know there were some unusual expenses like the scholarships and website and we beefed up the awards, just to follow up. I think the expenses when talked about were fine but when added together it is a lot of money spent. So just to know, like what Jim said, to make sure we can sustain the operations. What is planned for next year especially if we want to do more for the kids which is good but knowing what we spent would be good to have this dolphins budget. Heidi commented that she and Jim have discussed this topic to make sure the budget will be separated as two though it is really one account. In August, when we do the budget we will likely easily show the budgets separated. We will have the expected Dolphins expenses separated out and planned for including awards, gifts, etc. Heidi is researching Miacomet Golf club to try to set up a tournament for a Dolphins fundraiser. Heidi is trying to get that set up before October. We are still talking about the details with Alan from the club. Early on in September we will still get summer people. Heidi is letting Mike research that and she is hoping we can put back what we spent this year. multiple comments supporting this idea. Steve commented that every month, on another board he sits on, they look at where the organization is this year according to the budget and where they want to be this can be referenced using Quickbooks. Maybe having those budgets every or every other meeting presented. David asked if at any previous Booster meeting have we ever done a treasurers report that separated out the two budgets as is being offered at this time. Jill commented that in the past this was never done because what was taken in was about equal to what was spent so it wasn't really necessary. David commented that in the past, Jim has stated that there was too much money in the Dolphins account and he wanted it to be spent. Jill replied that she has spoken to Jim about this and she agrees with that but not to this extent, half of it in one year Jill says she agrees it is fine to spend but we need to be smart that we are doing fundraising to replenish the money. David asked how many less Dolphins we have this year from last year. Kristen commented that Jim also wants there to be money for scholarships. Will commented that there is no end to ways to spend money. There has been talk about getting new blocks for the pool and that is going to be real expensive. The new scoreboard was very expensive. If the Dolphins could have a big fundraiser and raise some money that would be great. Jill commented that a new sound system was also talked about. David asked if we are having big meets here, are we changing the format. Jill responded to Davids comment that the idea behind the new blocks was not about having big meets but when our kids get to the big meets, regionals, silvers, sectionals, states and they see the blocks, they have no idea what to do with them. It is not fair to the kids to not be prepared, it is about training our kids. Maybe we could split the cost with the high school Boosters club. Steve commented that the new blocks are not new but are the standard now in swimming. It is just a matter of time before all the schools cycle them out. We might be able to get the community school, high school and the Dolphins to each kick in a third and something that seems daunting may not be so when spread out. Will says if you have a 2 or 3 year goal to fundraise it can be done. Steve says the blocks are old, the originals.

Taxes: Suzette met with Cheryl about the taxes and she will likely have to file an extension and Suzette is waiting to hear back from her.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: scholarship, concession, apparel, and social, no new news. Heidi will set up a meeting with fundraising committee once she gets a date for the golf tournament. Jill asked about a fundraising chair now that Jodi is no longer on the committee. Maybe we should be encouraging someone who has an interest in golf to be part of the fundraising committee. Someone asked if there was a fundraising chair and Suzette commented that Heidi was co-chair of the committee and currently is chairing that committee. Heidi said if she can get another person who is interested to take part, she is welcoming to them. Jill commented that we have been trying to get younger blood to join in and help mentor. Steve says the numbers around the table are dwindling and we have to find a way to encourage the younger swimmers parents to become more involved. Heidi commented that she feels Boosters is kind of organic and when the swimmers are very young, parents time is more limited and as the kids age and become part of WACK, the involvement more naturally increases. Steve agreed that our WACK swimmers represent our more interested parents generally because of the greater time and financial commitment. Maybe we need to encourage those more competitive younger swimmers' parents into the organization to mentor them as we could use a co-chair for fundraising and we still have a vacancy in the Vice President position. We have an opportunity for the right kind of person whose child wants to continue to swim for a longer period of time. Heidi commented that when her daughter was 8 her son was 6 so she had to be home. We need to think about having the meetings geared towards a time those parents could participate maybe during the practice. This would encourage those parents to offer suggestions about any topics but especially setting up socials to get the involvement to increase. These meetings could allow for those parents to bring the younger non swimming siblings. Jill said those parents whose child doesn't swim WACK have said they don't want to go to the meetings because it is all about WACK, we have talked about filling the vacant position with a dolphins only parents. Heidi offered that she spoke to several parents prior to the awards ceremony and they didn't realize that their child was part of the swim team because their child doesn't go off island to compete. Suzette suggested that bringing those parents and children in through social activities will encourage greater participation. Steve commented that the fact is that Dolphins team does not travel any more. David asked what is the future of the Dolphins? Steve said that is a good question, Dolphins is not what it used to be, that doesn't mean it is bad but it is different. Steve said maybe we need to talk to Jim and see if there is a way to arrange one or two away meets that the younger squad can go to make them feel like they are part of a team. Much discussion about finding other teams off island that would be interested in participating in some meets to keep the kids engaged. This feedback should be shared with Jim because a solution is out there and if the numbers are dropping we need to figure out why. Bigger issue is to relay to Jim that some parents didn't feel their child was a part of the awards night/ team. Agreement by all that we need to have greater information opportunities for parents to educate. Todd had a handout about the swim team. Suggested that this handout be put on the website. The older kids have spoken to parents in the past about why they enjoy swimming. Discussion about a "flex program" to enter a couple meets to see if they want to participate before joining. Should we have a few informational sessions this summer to talk about swimming with any parents that may be interested?

David asked what is the number of swimmers that these USS team directors would like to see to accept us? Steve said there really isn't a good answer to this because it varies. Jill commented that our short course season is set in a groove. The long course is where we need to find more venues. Maybe with Todd at Phoenix now we can find an opportunity.

USS: Jill travel and room blocks are done.

NEW BUSINESS: Heidi just got a Marriot rewards card in her name. Heidi doesn't stay at hotels so this card will specifically be for the coaches. She thinks we could get some free rooms for the coaches by collecting these rewards points. Jill said she looked into this with Ainsley, in order to get the points, the credit card and the points need to be the same name. Heidi clarified that when Heidi books the hotel for the coach, the rewards card will be credited. The rewards card can be transferred to the next President. Whoever books the room gives the rewards card number and those points will be credited to that rewards card. This will give us free hotel

rooms periodically.

Steve one quick follow up thought, about getting information out to people about a vacancy in Vice President or any committees. maybe we put a cut and paste block on every email that is sent out including the Team website from any Jim and Beau emails that these vacancies exist and inform people that we are looking for support in these positions. Nobody is going to step up if they don't know we have these vacancies.

It would be a good idea to add Yeti water bottles with Dolphins Logo to our apparel committee.

ADJOURNMENT: adjourned at 6:58 pm