

Pacific Northwest Association of Masters Swimmers

Minutes: February 26, 2013

I Warm Up

A. Call to Order & Introductions. The PNA Board met at 6:50PM on February 26, 2013, at Arni Litt's home in Seattle (*Thanks, Arni, for the hospitality and snacks*). Present were Kathy Casey, Herb Cook, Lisa Dahl, Sally Dillon, Jeanne Ensign, Jan Kavadas, Doug Jelen, Arni Litt, Hugh Moore, Jane Moore, Steve Peterson, Rich Seibert and Sarah Welch.

B. President's Report. Lisa Dahl reported that her Central Area Aquatics Team (CAAT) Masters workout group had 49 swimmers and would conduct a lap-swim challenge fundraiser in March.

C. Minutes. Minutes of the January 22 Board meeting were approved as corrected.

D. Treasurer's Report. Jeanne Ensign presented Financial Statements through January, 2013, noting that registration revenue was keeping pace with 2012 and PNA had about \$46,000 in the bank. Jeanne has begun making monthly distributions of \$5 per registered swimmer to PNA's two Clubs, Puget Sound Masters and Blue Wave Aquatics. **MSA: To approve PNA Financial Statements for January, 2013.**

Jeanne requested Board guidance on how to handle the board-approved allocation of \$5 per swimmer to support the relatively small number of PNA members who are not affiliated with a Club. Consensus was that Jeanne should not create a separate bank account or balance sheet item for the unattached swimmer allocation.

Jeanne reported she would shortly make a one-time distribution of \$10,000 from PNA's cash reserve to PNA's two Clubs, prorated according to the Clubs' memberships, as approved by the Board in 2012.

E. Membership. Arni Litt reported PNA's 2013 membership at 1,237—1,002 in Puget Sound Masters, 215 in Blue Wave Aquatics and 20 unattached.

II Main Set (Current Action Items)

A. Awards Policies and Procedures. Responding to a request for clarification from Awards Coordinator Kerry Ness (who was unable to attend the meeting) the Board approved the following revision of Awards Policy A-1 in PNA's Standing Policies: "Awards Coordinator shall be responsible for medals for PNA meets. PNA shall fund ribbons used at PNA Champs; ribbons shall be ordered by the Meet Host." (*PNA Secretary Herb Cook subsequently informed Kerry and BWAQ Treasurer Judy Williams of the revised policy language.*)

B. Open Water Safety and Insurance. The Board reviewed a February 15 memorandum from USMS President Nadine Day to the USMS House of Delegates and LMSC Officers. Following recent accidents at Open Water events (none involving PNA-sanctioned events) the USMS insurance carrier imposed a charge of \$135,000 (\$1,800 per event) to provide liability coverage for 75 sanctioned Open Water events in 2013. After legislative and legal review, the USMS Board of Directors adopted new Open Water Sanction Guidelines and authorized the USMS Executive Director to retain a national Open Water compliance contractor. The USMS Board also voted to absorb \$800 of the \$1,800-per-event insurance charge in 2013, assessing the remaining \$1,000 per event to each LMSC that issues Open Water sanctions.

PNA Board members discussed the importance of heightened attention to Open Water safety, including the control and inspection of watercraft on or near any OW course. Hugh Moore said propeller guards should be required on all power boats. Jeanne Ensign encouraged Board members to maintain a positive attitude toward Open Water events, with special emphasis on reviewing and following safety guidelines.

Noting that USMS has authorized each LMSC to determine how much of the insurance surcharge it will pass through to an event host, the Board considered several options. A \$10-per-swimmer assessment to meet hosts was discussed, but Board consensus was that \$10 would be excessive and might discourage Open Water entries if meet hosts elected to pass the entire charge through to swimmers via entry fee increases.

Lisa Dahl moved to add a \$5-per-swimmer insurance surcharge to the \$1.75-per-swimmer fee that PNA already charges each sanctioned Open Water host. Jan Kavadas and other Board members questioned incorporating the insurance surcharge into PNA Standing Policies (which establish the \$1.75-per-swimmer fee). Lisa withdrew her original motion and made a new motion, which was approved unanimously. **MSA: To**

impose a \$5-per-swimmer surcharge on each Open Water Meet Host in 2013 to offset the LMSC portion of the USMS Open Water insurance charge.

III Sprint Set: (Committee & Coordinator Reports)

A. Meets. At the request of Jan Kavadas, it was **MSA: To recognize the swimming events of the Northwest Senior Games, June 8, 2013, at Helene Madison Pool in Seattle.**

B. Open Water/ Long Distance. Sally Dillon reported that she, Sarah Welch and Sue Dills had broken the One-Hour Postal Swim relay record (65+ Age Group) by 390 yards, with a total of 11,475 yards; and that PSM had 46 and Blue Wave Aquatics had 9 Postal Swim entrants.

C. Nominating. Sally Dillon reported the Nominating Committee's recommended candidates for Officer and At-Large Director positions: President, Lisa Dahl; Vice President, Mike Grimm; Treasurer, Jeanne Ensign; Secretary, Sally Dillon; At-Large Directors, Herb Cook and Kathy Casey. No nominating petitions were received, and no other names were placed in nomination at the meeting. **MSA: To present the Nominating Committee's recommended slate of candidates to the PNA membership for election.**

IV Warmdown: (Next Meetings)

April 6, 2013: Mini-Retreat (9:00AM—1:00PM), Sally Dillon's (Issaquah)
Retreat Planning Committee: Sally Dillon, Mike Grimm, Rich Siebert

May 21, 2013: 6:45—9:00PM, Jan Kavadas's, Edmonds

The Meeting was adjourned at 8:40 PM.