
Action Items:

1. MSA to repost the executive director position at Teamwork Online.
 2. MSA to retain the original executive director search committee if the members desire to continue.
 3. MSA to request that the local organizing committee for the World Championships give the Board an estimate of the money needed to meet their obligations and how much they can give to USMS by November 17 as an interim payment.
 4. MSA to grant the local organizing committee a 45-day extension for their final accounting and report.
 5. MSA to hold the midyear Executive Committee/Board of Directors meeting in St. Louis.
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President Rob Copeland called the meeting to order at 8:03 p.m. EST. Also present were Mark Gill, Michael Heather, Julie Heather, Meg Smath, Tom Boak, Jim Miller, Patty Miller, Anna Lea Roof, Betsy Durrant, Jerry Clark, Nadine Day, Jeanne Ensign, Michael Moore, Carolyn Boak, Laura Winslow, June Krauser, Ted Haartz and Nancy Ridout.

Officers reports

Vice President of Community Services

Michael Heather said he has contacted all of his committees to poll them for annual goals and has received responses from two of the four committees. The VVMOST process will begin within the committees as soon as a schedule is set.

Michael also reported that AAF Rose Bowl Aquatics Center has shown interest in possibly hosting a national meet in the future. He has received the bid package and will meet with the facility's executive director and the age-group head coach. He is keeping his fingers crossed.

Vice President of Local Operations

Julie has had lots of responses to her call for participation in the Club Development Task Force. She needs to go over her suggestions for committee members with Rob.

She has also been working with Dixie Zone Representative Debbie Cavanaugh about some issues within the Florida LMSC.

Treasurer

Tom has just distributed the most recent financial updates. He will also talk to Costco about the problems we have been having with the conference calling system.

Secretary

Meg has been keeping busy writing minutes.

Past President

Jim had no report.

Vice President of Member Services

Since convention, Mark has been in contact with most of the committees he is working with to begin goal setting for 2007.

The web administrators are in the process of refining the work plan for web-related activities for the remainder of 2006. The majority of the tasks involve needed website maintenance and upgrades of software. Once these tasks are completed, we will begin working on new projects.

He has started work on a review of USMS's role in the World Championships. The goal of this project is to gain insights as to how USMS can better support future major events. Are there things we could have done better at the recent World Championships and are there things that we did well?

Legal Counsel

Patty had no significant legal issues or problems to report. As the year end approaches, Mel Goldstein has been lining up corporate partner renewals that need contracts. The Executive Director hiring process has involved issues such as benefits, offer specifics and contracting. Trademark queries continue to arise regularly, the latest related to adaptation of the USMS brochure by a local group and ownership of the name of one of the USMS fitness events. Information to support registration of several USMS trademarks for multiple uses was submitted to our outside counsel in August and they are in the process of preparing registration papers.

Executive Director update

The candidate we had offered the job to declined our offer. Laura has been gathering information relating to our search firm options. Teamwork Online has offered to repost our position and on November 17 could include our job in a mass emailing to over 200,000 job-seekers. This would be at no additional cost to us.

Carolyn said that we needed a change in direction by emphasizing that we look for someone with the characteristics of a person creating a start-up company, someone who can be comfortable working in a virtual environment, a free thinker. Anna Lea agreed with that. June agreed also, saying that we need someone who can coordinate our various activities and employees across the country.

Carolyn also suggested that, after reading Leo's report on discussions with the professional search firm, we needed to change some of our search committee members and/or some of the methods of our search committee. Some of the search committee members acknowledged some need for change in their methods. **MSA to retain the original search committee if the members desire to continue.**

Ted and Nancy suggested a candidate, and Laura will approach the candidate.

MSA to repost the position at Teamwork Online. Laura will contact the search firm and ask about the status of résumés they received from Teamwork Online; the search committee will monitor new résumés that come in.

Rob said he would like Laura to continue as chair of the search committee. Jeanne suggested that if we don't have candidates by the midyear meeting, then we need to regroup.

Task force reports

Policy Manual

Betsy reported that she, Meg and Julie have all been busy with other projects, but plan to begin working on the manual again in the next week.

Technology Services

Jim has also been otherwise occupied and unable to work on this project yet, but plans to begin soon.

Club Development

Julie encouraged all members of the BOD to reply to her email request for input.

Online Registration

Mark reported that he has been working on the bid document.

World Championships

Lessons learned

Mark has been working on this and will deliver it by the midyear meeting.

Current financial status

According to the promissory note, the final financial report is due November 17. Michael Moore said that the local organizing committee is still collecting money, and thus cannot give a final report by that time. They are collecting money from Speedo and trying to sell the assets of the corporation, most notably the touchpads. They have received payments from nine hotels and are working on the other seven. They are requesting a 45-day extension. Tom felt any extension of the final financial report would require that some cash be sent to USMS. Julie suggested that the LOC estimate how much cash they will need to pay the remaining bills, and then give the rest to USMS. Mark asked if all the bills are in, and Michael was not sure. Tom said he had learned today that Speedo now has everything it needs to process invoices. **MSA to request that the LOC give us an estimate of the money needed to meet their obligations and how much they can give to USMS by November 17 as an interim payment.** Michael Moore asked that it be noted that he abstained from the vote. Tom asked how we could come to a reasonable resolution. Mark suggested we form a subgroup to investigate. Carolyn suggested that Rob, Tom or Jeff Moxie ask Anne Cribbs about some invoices we have questions about. Michael Moore said instead we should send our questions to him and he will get back to us with the answers. **MSA to grant the LOC a 45-day extension for their final accounting and report.** Michael Moore again asked that it be noted that he abstained from the vote. Michael Heather asked if USMS can assist in the disposition of assets. The LOC will continue to operate until the touchpads are sold. Michael Moore will send the dimensions of the touchpads to the BOD, in case any on the Board know of potential buyers.

Midyear meeting

MSA to hold the midyear meeting in St. Louis. Suggestions about a theme for the meeting should be sent to Julie.

Strategic planning

Rob asked that any interested in working on a draft strategic plan email him.

Committees

All have been established, and a few still need to name vice chairs. The committees' first task will be to establish goals and objectives for 2007.

Liaisons

Rob has sent a form to all liaisons to help them establish goals and objectives for 2007.

Membership

Rob reminded everyone to register as soon after November 1 as possible.

Grievance

An appeal of a decision of the National Board of Review has been filed. Leo Letendre will chair the appeal board. Rob will pick four members from the BOD to sit on the appeal panel.

Streamlines

The next issue of *Streamlines* will come out soon. Rob commended Tracy Grilli and Doug Garcia for doing a great job with this publication.

National publication

Our contract with Douglas Murphy will expire December 31, 2007. A subcommittee will be formed to evaluate the national publication arrangement, with representation from at least Finance and the Executive Committee. Mark will chair this subcommittee and will recruit members. Tom said he would like to be involved. Jeanne is interested in serving, but not as a full-time member of the subcommittee. Input from Mel Goldstein and Lynn Hazlewood would also be helpful.

Nadine asked whether those interested in including club newsletters in the magazine should deal with Douglas Murphy or USMS. Mark said this will be discussed at the next EC meeting.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:22 p.m. Our next meeting will be the midyear meeting, January 12–14, 2007, in St. Louis.

Meg Smath
Secretary, USMS