

President Rob Copeland called the meeting to order at 8:03 p.m. EDT. Also present were Mark Gill, Meg Smath, Jim Miller, Patty Miller, Leo Letendre, Mike Heather and Julie Heather. Jeff Moxie joined the call at approximately 8:20 p.m.

Officer reports

VP National Operations

Leo submitted the following written report:

Rules Committee: The committee addressed the issue of acceptable swimwear at meets. The committee issued an interpretation that USMS follows FINA's acceptance of swimwear.

Open Water and Long Distance Committee: This committee also discussed the issue of acceptable swimwear and expressed a desire to not add to the rules governing acceptable swimwear.

Finance Committee: Finance accepted the overbudget request for the rule book publication.

Championship Committee: The committee has been working with Austin to ensure the success of Short Course Nationals.

Officials Committee: The Officials Committee has started running LMSC workshops via teleconference.

Legislation Committee: No report.

Rob added that he has talked to Floswimming.com about live streaming of Short Course Nationals. We will have to ask competitors to sign a release during the check-in procedure. Also, there is a concern about obtaining timers for the meet. Leo will talk to Championship liaison Carolyn Boak about the potential problem.

VP Local Operations

Julie submitted the following written report:

Zone Committee: had a conference call on April 13. Several LMSCs in the Breadbasket Zone are struggling, and we will be targeting several of them with convention grants. The next call is scheduled for June 1.

Elections: I have received only two nomination packets to date for the at-large director positions. I expect more will arrive at the deadline. The Zone Committee will be qualifying candidates via email unless there are issues that we feel would benefit from a conference call.

Records and Tabulation: has a conference call scheduled for April 20. Ed Tsuzuki is already working on his budget for next year, is going over goals and objectives, proposed rules changes and much more.

LMSC Task Force: I would like to thank Betsy Durrant for her attempts to keep the task force moving during my absence. However, she received only one reply to her inquiries. At this point, I have recommended to Rob that we reformulate the task force, keeping those who responded and adding in additional participants who are willing to

commit to the six to eight hours necessary to finish the strategic plan before convention.

History and Archives: Barbara Dunbar is moving forward on the ID problems. Several missing National Championship results have been located and sent to Jim Matysek for adding to the USMS website.

End-to-End Event Management Task Force: Anna Lea Roof has been quite busy with job hunting, but will be participating in the Local Operations Division conference call.

Local Operations Division: a conference call is scheduled for April 27 for all chairs and vice chairs in the division, and Anna Lea to represent the End-to-End Event Management Task Force, which touches many of the committees in the division.

VP Community Services

Mike submitted the following written report:

The recently renamed and retasked National Headquarters Search Task Force will have its first conference call Sunday, April 20, to focus on priorities and discuss the meaning of having a headquarters for USMS. A mission statement will be written to ensure the validity of the work proposed.

Community Services Division: having a conference call on Sunday, April 27; all parties have been advised to ready their budget request hats.

Sports Medicine and Science Committee: having a conference call on Sunday, April 20.

Fitness Education Committee: no report.

Coaches Committee: no report.

VP Member Services

Mark submitted the following written report:

Since the last meeting of the EC, the International, Marketing and Publications Management Committees have met. Communications has a meeting this coming Sunday.

International Committee: This committee is making progress on defining what it is that it needs to accomplish this year and recruiting committee members to carry out the tasks. Many of the committee's efforts are related to communicating opportunities to our members for international travel that involve swimming.

Marketing Committee: During our last committee meeting it was noted that materials that we have available for clubs to use are not on our website. The committee also had a discussion about the level at which we want our marketing to take place—at the national or local level. We also discussed the diversity that exists among LSMCs and clubs and how this makes marketing difficult.

Publications Management Committee: In response to the letter sent by Pacific Chairman Michael Moore to the Board of Directors regarding his missing March/April issue of *SWIMMER*, I contacted Heather Hagadorn, chair of the Publications Management Committee, and Bill Volckening,

our editor. Since the last meeting we have received the following update from Douglas Murphy Communications. The printer held the magazines that went to Pacific when all others were mailed. The Pacific magazines were held due to missing inserts. Through no fault of Pacific Masters, UPS delivered one of the three boxes of inserts late. Rather than send the magazine without the Pacific insert, they held that part of the shipment. Once the inserts arrived, the magazines were mailed.

Regarding the May/June issue of the magazine, we anticipate this will ship on Monday, April 21. The scheduled ship date was Friday, April 18, so we are three days late.

Triathlon Liaison: Jerry Clark and I met last week and reviewed the MOGs (missions, objectives, goals) he has been working on. Good progress has been made and these will be ready to distribute to the Board soon.

Mark will compile a list of items to be discussed with Douglas Murphy Communications regarding our ongoing business relationship. Jim and Patty, who are already in Richmond, Va., volunteered to meet with Grant Murphy in person to discuss the items.

Status of suits newly approved by FINA

Conflicting information has been coming out about some of the new high-performance competition suits. FINA rules state that such suits must be available to all competitors in a meet, which would seem to indicate the suit should not be allowed in USMS competition. However, the suits are apparently being allowed at the FINA Masters World Championships, currently taking place in Perth, rendering this interpretation moot. Leo and Rob will work with the Rules, Championship and Open Water and Long Distance Committees to make sure our message is consistent that the suits are legal for USMS competition.

Budgets

Rob asked the vice presidents to remind their committee chairs that budgeting information will soon be distributed. The committees will need to submit their budgets in a timely manner, and also ensure that expenditures are consistent with their MOGs.

Online registration

Leo reported that registration this year is running about five weeks ahead of last year, and surmised that this is related to the availability of online registration. We are still in discussions with our vendor about setting up a test environment. They have offered two options, and Leo and Mark have made a recommendation on their preferred option. They are waiting for feedback from Webmaster/IT Director Jim Matysek before making a final decision.

Leo also reported that the registrars have not yet come to consensus on whether the next upgrade should be to add club registration or one-event registration.

Recognition

The Executive Committee would like to congratulate Jim Wheeler on being selected by the International Swimming Hall of Fame to receive the 2008 Paragon Award in the category of Aquatic Safety.

Task force reports

Branding

Patty and Meg reported that the RFP for a branding consultant has been drafted, and the task force is commenting on it. Chair Lynn Hazlewood has also drafted a cover letter to the EC. Both should be forwarded to the EC in the next week or so. The task force's next conference call will be April 21.

Club Development

The task force has forwarded a proposal to the EC to create the temporary position of club development director. They feel the need for this position is urgent, since we do not currently have an executive director to manage club development. We will discuss this issue further at our next meeting and invite Jeanne Ensign, chair of the task force, to join the meeting.

Executive Director

The EC went into executive session to discuss issues relating to the search for our next executive director.

Next EC meeting and adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 10:18 p.m. EDT. Our next meeting will be 8:00 p.m. EDT, April 28, 2008.

Meg Smath
Secretary