

Lake Erie LMSC Annual Meeting
2:10-3:20pm
December 8, 2019
Buggy's Italian Cuisine
Massillon, OH

MINUTES

Meeting called to order at 2:10

Members present: Jay DeFinis, Chuck Beatty, Paul Berman, Brian Berry, Ashley Braniecki, Bob Brauning, John Dailey, Aaron Foreman, Tom Gorman, Jack Harlan, Deane Malakar, Ann Marshfield, Mark Marshfield, Michael Sanchez, Dee Shedlow, Tom Spense, Tom Stebel, Larry Terkel, Cheyenne Toole

- I. Meeting was called to order at 2:10pm
- II. Minutes of 2018 annual meeting submitted. Deane Malakar commented that the 2018 minutes have Kevin Rapien from CSU was a member of steering committee for Brogan. Kevin has moved on from his position at CSU and is no longer a member of the Brogan steering committee. Ann Marshfield moves to approve the minutes. Paul seconds. Minutes approved
- III. Registrar's Report
Marilyn Douglass is not in attendance. She submitted her report to Jay. The LELMSC is down 5 swimmers from 2018. Nationwide we (USMS) have fewer swimmers from 2018. FYI, Michigan is a "regional" club, we are a "local" club. So far, there are 7 clubs registered for 2020 in our LMSC. We are still looking for/hoping that 5 clubs that existed in 2019 register again for 2020.

The registration for USMS has increased to \$60/annually. Our LELMSC is an "early-adopter" of this fee. As a result, we will get more revenue as a result of this fee. Some of the increase will be set aside by National USMS to pay for the hotel accommodation of our delegates to the convention.

- IV. Treasurer's Report (Addendum 2)
Mark Marshfield submits his report. The LELMSC is \$1k in the red for this year (through the month of November). The deficit is a result of Ann & Jay attending a leadership conference this year in AZ. This is an expense that recurs every other year.

Mark calls our attention to Line 4000 on the proposed budget for next year – which estimates our number of members in 2020 and multiplies that by the money from registration fees returning to the LMSC from USMS – to reflect the income we will have.

6300 Line item "Other: Donations and grants", Currently, clubs pay a registration fees of \$40 to join USMS/LMSC for annually. The LMSC board plans to return that fee to each club this year, in light of the increased individual annual registration fee.

Deane wonders why we need to keep over \$18,000 in savings. Mark replies that the Board does authorizes expenditures out of our savings. Last year the LMSC donated \$1650 to CSU to sponsor a locker. As treasurer, Mark doesn't feel we should operate on the "ragged edge" of a

budget. But comments that spending some of these savings requires ideas, and participation. Jay says the Board wants to spend money on education/community service/outreach. The LMSC also spent money to support members who want to become certified as coaches & Adult Learn to Swim instructors.

Annual audit will be required.

V. Chair/State of the LELMSC

Jay reports there is an opportunity to grow our LMSC. Allegheny Mountain, a tiny piece of PA, which includes Pittsburgh and Erie, is non-compliant – and we will likely absorb them in the course of 2020, based on a vote at the USMS national meeting in September. They hold their annual championship meet at Spire. The challenge will be to determine what the Allegheny Mountain swimmers expect from their LMSC – and how can we meet those expectations. We will look to have board representation from that area on the LELMSC board. Tom Spense observes this situation with Allegheny has been brewing for 10-15 years.

Exciting events will be happening within the LMSC region – July 2020 the National Open Water Championship will be held here during the Brogan Open Water Classic and in 2021 Spire will host Summer Nationals.

Our LMSC is well represented at national level: Dan Cox (national board), Ann (fitness committee), Ashley (history & archives), Chuck attended as at-large delegate, Jay chairs Swimming Saves Lives. 2020 is 50th anniversary of USMS.

Congratulations to Ann Marshfield on being elected as Vice Chair of the Great Lakes Zone.

Ann wants to get folks more excited about SmartyPants Fitness Series. This year USMS has seen more social media traffic and registration.

April is ALTS month and Judy has lined up more ALTS events for that month. Lake Erie is the first LMSC to appoint an ALTS coordinator to the board

CSU has a new coach, Hannah Burandt. She is busy with the new team, new swim season, but is eager to find ways to partner with us.

Jay got great feedback in an email – on holidays when it's hard to swim, could the LMSC have an organized workout and pay for pool time.

Chuck notes that on January 1 the Lifestyles Pool in Stowe will host an open workout swim 10-11:30

Jay discusses the idea of the LMSC using some of our funds to drive philanthropy within the community, e.g. donating funds to CSU's locker room reconstruction in 2019.

The LMSC is exploring the idea of hosting a clinic, maybe with an associated banquet with a former Olympic swimmer. Jay suggests Nathan Adrian. If anyone has ideas or thoughts about this/would like to work on this endeavor, please email Jay at im4psu82@yahoo.com He concludes, saying "Everyone has ideas – we don't want you to feel isolated. Please feel

connected to this budget and these decisions.”

Congrats to Dee for doing her first newsletter.

VI. Committee Reports

Open Water Swimming/BROGAN 2020 Steering Group Chuck reminds us the Brogan will host the USMS Two Mile Open Water National Championship in 2020. There will be an open water clinic the Friday before the Brogan, hosted by USMS. It will be held at the Lakewood pool. There will be a social before the race on the rooftop at Ernst & Young building. This event will be free to LMSC Board members and the entry fee will be discounted for volunteers. The current plan is to use the Aloft hotel & another as the race hotels. Jay and Kristen Bergman working hard with the hotels. There will be an abundance of volunteer opportunities once we get our permit from Metroparks. The event is tentatively scheduled for 7/17.

ALTS (what is coming up in 2020). Judy is working on events for April (Adult Learn to Swim month).

Top 10 – no news.

Sanctions – no news.

Newsletter – Dee mentions the newsletter is made better by the stories and photographs provided by our members. If you have newsletter stories/ideas/photos to contribute, please contact her at dshedlow@yahoo.com

- VII. Election Chair (Jay DeFinis 2nd term) Mark nominates Jay for his 3rd and final term. Tom Spense seconds. Unanimous.
Membership Coordinator (Ashley Braniecki) – M Douglass not continuing in 2020 Jay appoints her to finish Marilyn’s term (1 year). Affirmative/unanimous vote. Next year we have to change our bylaws to change the “registrar” to “membership coordinator”

The office vice chair is currently open – if anyone is interested in the vice chair position, please reach out to a Board member/contact Jay.

Secretary (Ashley vacating) Mark/Paul nominate Dee Shedlow. Affirmative/unanimous vote.

Board members “At Large”

Mark Marshfield, O*H*I*O Masters, Treasurer

Judi Norton, O*H*I*O Masters, (ALTS Coordinator)

Dee Shedlow, CAQT, (Secretary, Newsletter)

Ann Marshfield, O*H*I*O Masters/Great Lakes Zone vice chair

Paul Berman Shaker Sharks

Members appointed by Jay

Andrea Hahn-Lawson (UC 18)

Christine Shifa O*H*I*O Masters

- VIII. Old Business The LMSC is still looking for someone to create a pool of volunteers, so that when we are contacted by teams/meets looking for timers, etc, we would have a coordinator who could easily get in touch with folks who might be interested and available.

We are also still looking to for ways to engage the 35 & under demographic

- IX. New Business Paul Berman conducted a survey of the unattached swimmers (swimmers who are not members of a team). He sent the survey to 65 swimmers. 16 responded. One response asked to never be contacted again. 15 say they would join a team but practices are at inconvenient times or the nearest practice pool is too far. Some swim with teams occasionally. There's a population of swimmers who feel they aren't good enough to join a team. One person attested this was their experience. Another responder said she didn't know all of the strokes – and this was intimidating.

There was discussion of sending a similar survey to the 35/under swimmers. Tom wants to know why we want to engage 35 & under. Ashley says it grows membership. You want to get them and keep them. There's a large younger contingent at Lakewood and they've improved as swimmers but are not engaged with meets, social, other aspects of the LMSC. Andrew, one of our members who falls into this demographic, observes that his peers are so focused on careers, marriage, kids at this time of life, these are reasons for the reduced engagement. He likes the idea of LMSC/team-driven social events.

Our LMSC has several committee positions, and not all are filled. Currently we have:

Top 10 Diane Spense

Long Distance /Open water Chuck

Safety Chair

Officials Chair: Mark Marshfield

Coaches Chair: Ann Marshfield

Fitness Chair: Ann Marshfield

Jay mentions his desire to have these positions filled – and engaged. We are looking for volunteers who want to enjoy and become engaged

Mark Marshfield is eager to run clinics for folks who are interested in becoming officials after he retires at the end of October.

The new web platform for USMS ready for LELMSC to integrate.

Tom suggests moving the annual meeting to out of the holiday season. Bylaws say we have to have meeting in 3rd or 4th quarter. Consider having it after the pentathlon meet in Stowe or the Avon meet in August.

Jay gives thanks and appreciation who has volunteered, attended & participated.

- X. The meeting adjourns at 3:18pm. Dee motions. Mark seconds.