

Swimming Saves Lives Board of Trustees Meeting

Conference Call

Committee Name:	Swimming Saves Lives Foundation		
Committee Chair:	Jay DeFinis	Vice Chair:	Brandon Franklin
Minutes recorded by:	Brandon Franklin	Meeting Date/time:	August 26, 2020/1 PM EST

MOTIONS PASSED:

1. None.

Number of committee members present: 7 (6 voting)	Absent: 5	Others: 1
Committee members present: Jay DeFinis, Chair; Brandon Franklin, Vice Chair; Maria Elias, Nancy Ridout; Patrick Weiss; Kristina Henry; Peter Guadagni (Ex-officio)		
Committee Members Absent: Patricia Mathison, Leo Letendre, Jeff Moxie, Stan Benson, Bill Brenner (Ex-Officio)		
Others Present: Dawson Hughes		

CALL TO ORDER

- The meeting was called to order at 1:00pm EST by Chair, Jay DeFinis. Jay opened the meeting by thanking everyone for joining the call.

VIRTUAL CHAMPIONSHIP AND AUCTION

- Dawson Hughes gave an overview the Virtual National Championships in terms of participation. As of the meeting date, Dawson stated approximately 1,500 people have signed to participate in the event which was ahead of expectations. The event was extended to August 31 (from August 23) due to interest expressed by those whose pools were closed but would be opening shortly.
- Brandon Franklin stated the auction activity was looking positive and discussed some ideas to market it as the end draws closer. It also was extended to August 31 to align with the Virtual National Championships.

2020/2021 GRANT CYCLE

- Brandon reviewed the 2019 financial results and donation / grant history, noting \$135,374 in contributions were received in 2019. After reducing the amount by 15% for Program Costs and 10% for reserves, the amount available for grants, before utilization of any amounts in reserves, is \$101,531.
- Dawson stated the timing for receipt of grant applications is currently slated for the beginning of next year (Jan/Feb) with an anticipated disbursement date of March (just before Adult Learn to Swim Month). He also stated that, given we do not know what the state of the world will be in 2021, nor do we know how many grant applications we will receive or the quality of each, it likely makes sense to wait until things become more certain before a grant amount is determined and recommended to the USMS Board of Directors for approval.
- Brandon suggested perhaps taking a year off given the current donations are being utilized to support the COVID-19 Club Relief fund. Peter Guadagni stated that many members enjoy volunteering as part of the Adult Learn to Swim month and the grants provided give many of those volunteers an opportunity to participate. It was also stated that the Adult Learn To Swim Committee will be holding a webinar setting forth how to put on a successful learn to swim program. Through that activity, interest will be able to be gauged.

- Dawson also stated the current plan us to hold the Fitness Series events next year.

PARTNERSHIP WITH USA SWIMMING FOUNDATION

- Dawson discussed a potential partnership with the USA Swimming Foundation. He stated there are still a lot of unknowns but would essentially be joint effort to cover all ages of the non-swimmer. USA Swimming could take over the back office items and possibly become the operational staff of the effort. It wouldn't just be a foundation effort, it would also be a joint marketing effort. It is still early stages so a lot could change.
 - The meeting was adjourned at 2:00pm.
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