

CONNECTICUT SWIMMING, INC.

Board of Directors

Thursday, May 21, 2020

7:30 PM, Zoom Meeting

Vision Statement: Connecticut Swimming...better life through swimming.

Mission Statement: Connecticut Swimming provides opportunities for swimmers to enrich their lives.

MEETING MINUTES

Call to Order/Roll Call: General Chair, Ellen Johnston (EJ) called the meeting to order at 7:35 pm.

Present Board Members: Kristen Finnegan, Todd Gordon, Maddie Haley, David Heller, Ellen Johnston, Susan Lecza, Rick Lewis, Jen Lyman, Joan Lynch, Meghan Lynch, Davide Mendonca, Kathleen Mendonca, Claire Michalik, David Modzelewski, Duffy Mudry, Richard Nolan, Jason Paige, Greg Pinchbeck, Dave Pite, Matt Pohlman, John Scaldini, Kaeley Steinnagel, Mark Wollen

Absent Board Members: Kyle Brown, Dennis Flores

Also Present: Nan Cooper, Nick Cavataro, Spencer Hartman

Announcements – Ellen Johnston

Pools will tentatively be allowed to open June 20th under auspices of day camps, EJ trying to get clarity on what that means. All are waiting to see what transpires in areas that have opened up to see if there is a corresponding spike in the virus after this past weekend. Please continue to educate our legislatures as to the interpretation of the pools opening, and why it's important. Jason Paige reminded all to reach out to your local Boards of Health for interpretation, and to help with planning for indoor and outdoor pool openings, etc.

The CDC posted guidelines of what to do when in pool...basically common sense...wiping down surfaces, staying apart from each other, wearing masks out of the water, etc.

Approval of Agenda/Additions to Agenda

Format of these bi-weekly meetings will be Announcements, New Business followed by Reports of Officers. Old Business should be covered in Reports of Officers section as necessary.

It was requested to add topic of Scholar Athlete to New Business of today's agenda.

Adoption of Minutes from May 7, 2020 Meeting Minutes

MOTION made to adopt the Minutes from the May 7, 2020 meeting.

Passed unanimously.

Old Business

House of Delegates – TBD – Ellen Johnston

No new information at this time.

New Business

Reports of General Chair, Ad-Hoc, and Other Committees

USA Swimming Updates – Ellen Johnston

EJ attended a USA Swimming zoominar where it was discussed that the North Carolina LSC Chair hired a lawyer who had worked on the day camps, and hired a lobbyist to ensure the Attorney General was properly educated. It was suggested that all utilize their resources to reach out to legislatures, to educate them on what CT Swimming is, and the USA Swimming guidelines, etc.

Although it hasn't been publicized, CT Swimming has done a significant amount of work to get word to the Governor and his people.

Jason Paige has published some information on the CSI website, to assist people with who to contact at the State level. Also discussed getting waivers, but recommend having legal advice if you plan to use waivers. Dave Pite said he has drafted some waivers for other groups, and will share some of his templates.

EJ was on a Coalition call yesterday, getting everyone to use the same verbiage, and fully understanding USA Swimming, CSI and all clubs purpose is for LAP swimming, masters swimming...swimming for a purpose and NOT for gathering.

CSI Stimulus Committee Update – Ellen Johnston

Want to be supportive of teams, but most are not asking for anything. Thinking ahead...how can CSI help teams. Some ideas...masks, gloves, portable washing stations, etc. May consider investing in supplies for CSI teams.

Budget Committee Update – Todd Gordon

Nothing new to report. Still waiting final decisions on timing, and reviewing budget making various assumptions.

Interim Nominating Committee Update – David Heller

Postponing HOD meeting and therefore postponing elections. Everyone will stay in current positions until elections can be held.

Had a Nominating Committee meeting on June 3rd, still looking for various positions, and have some possible candidates, sadly Joan Lynch not available for re-nomination. Please reach out to David Heller or anyone on the Nominating Committee if you would like to nominate someone.

Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Ad-Hoc Committee Update – Dennis Flores

No report.

Scholar Athlete – Kaeley Steinnagel, Rick Lewis

Facing issue with many schools going to Pass/Fail grades for final semester. If that is the case, as long as student receives a Pass grade, their GPA will be calculated using all other semesters where grades were assigned. If any questions, please contact CT Swim Office (Nan or Ginger).

Reports of Officers, Committee Chairs, and Coordinators

General Chair Report – Ellen Johnston – nothing additional.

Administrative Vice-Chair – Rick Lewis – nothing additional.

Treasurer – Sue Lecza

Finance Vice-Chair – Todd Gordon – nothing additional to report

Age Group Committee Chair – Dave Modzelewski – nothing additional to report

Senior Committee Chair - Jason Paige – Committee is voting on extending qualification time periods to move back the window to January 2019. Planning to put together loose thoughts of how we may approach meets for the fall.

Technical Planning Committee Chair – Kaeley Steinnagel –

Committee meeting last week. Lots of discussion regarding getting in touch with State Reps. Not going to continue meeting every two weeks, unless warranted. Will schedule meetings which may be canceled if nothing new is on the agenda. Also discussing qualification period extensions to move back the qualification time period window.

Program Development Vice Chair – Jen Lyman –

Suggest to Program Ops that we try to do a virtual bid process coming up, maybe starting in August, through the Admin portal. Once pools are opening, want the fluidity of being able to work quickly. Will have meetings if necessary, only if there is content to discuss.

Program Ops Vice Chair – Mark Wollen – can get special pricing if we want to do Live Streaming. Will need good internet connection. Connects to You-Tube. Might be able to put swimmers names up on the screen. One moving camera, and one fixed camera. Would need direct cable for that...not just wifi.

Officials Committee Chair - Dave Pite – nothing additional to report.

Operational Risk Coordinator – Duffy Mudry – nothing additional to report.

Coach Representatives – Kristen Finnegan – Ronnie Vaughn will be the Junior Coaches Rep. Working on how to do Coach of the Year Awards this year.

Athlete Representatives – Richard Nolan/Claire Michalik/Meghan Lynch

Brainstorming ideas for Instagram. Also trying to figure out how to do elections. Need to have an election for a Junior Rep. Then will also need a lot of Athletes-At-Large who are appointed by the General Chair per the new ByLaws. Athlete Reps would like clarification. Perhaps people who run for Athlete Rep in the election and don't win...they can be the At-Large appointed members. EJ promised to look into this issue.

Safe-Sport Coordinator - Greg Pinchbeck

Will be attending a 6-hour Zoom meeting on Saturday in lieu of the Annual Meeting. Will report back to this group at next meeting. 13 clubs became safe-sport certified clubs within CSI, and at least one more has applied. Probably more in process. Encourage all clubs to become safe-sport certified clubs.

Coach-at-Large – Matt Pohlman

Working on how to implement Coaches Educational Grant for this year. May need to extend the period of time for coaches to be able to earn points to get the grant.

Registration/Membership Coordinator – Kathleen/Davide Mendonca

Nothing new to report.

Zone Team Coordinator – John Scaldini – nothing new to report.

Diversity, Equity & Inclusion – Dennis Flores – no report.

**The next Board Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, June 4th via teleconference at 7:30PM.
Meeting was adjourned at 8:36PM.**

*Respectfully submitted,
Joan Lynch
Secretary*