

Lake Champlain Waves Board

Meeting Minutes

Memorial Hall Conference Room

August 1, 2018

Board members present: George Barnett, Jill Silver, Jessika Perras, Michael McCormick, Sarah Sorensen, Deirdre Schaefer (participated by phone)

Board member absent: Mike Briscoe

Parents in attendance: Stacey Fuller, Shannon McMeekin-Hagadorn, Alex Insley, Jessica Mitchell- Briehl, Katie Coupal, Kristi Hathaway, Rich Hathaway

The meeting was called to order at 5:35 pm.

June meeting minutes

The first order of business was the approval of the June meeting minutes. Mike M. made a motion to approve the June minutes, Jessika seconded the motion, and all other board members in attendance affirmed their approval.

Treasurer's Report

Jessika reported that a donation of \$100 was made to the Waves by Lake Champlain Pools, in appreciation for the Waves swimmers demonstrating the use of one of their pools. She further reported that online payroll is going well. She distributed and reviewed a Profit & Loss report for July and for January –July, as well as a Balance Sheet dated August 1; all are appended. Mike M. moved to approve the reports, Jill seconded the motion, and the remaining board members affirmed the motion.

Registrar's Report

Deirdre informed us that everyone is up-to-date on requirements except for Mike Briscoe, who needs to renew his certification. Deirdre was prepared to discuss the main season swim meet schedule, but Jill relayed that Head Coach Ruff reports that the Adirondack Swimming site is not yet set up for the season. Therefore, we will revisit discussion of main season swim meets at such time as the meet information is posted. Deirdre inquired as to whether the Waves would be participating in any meets at the Upper Valley Aquatic Center in Vermont this year. Mike M. suggested that Kara knows the UVAC contact; Deirdre may reach out to Kara regarding this.

Deirdre requested that the notification for preseason include the need to present a birth certificate or United States passport at signup in order to meet the proof of age requirement.

Old Business

George stated that he has spoken with Karen Waterbury, and that the Waves will swim the preseason at Memorial Hall. George will work with Karen and Head Coach Ruff to finalize the start date.

Shannon inquired as to whether Head Coach Ruff has looked at what to do with developmental swimmers. George responded that we need more coaches in order to implement a developmental program. HC Ruff is currently checking on who will be available for coaching. George added that we may go back to utilizing the Gold/Silver/Bronze categorization.

George informed us that he has USA Swimming information to post at the area schools. Jill added that she has flyers to distribute to schools to aid in the swimmer recruitment effort. Rich Hathaway suggested having an open house type of event.

George explained how sponsorships work and that he will undertake soliciting sponsors; Alex Insley suggested that Lake Champlain Pools might be a potential sponsor.

George shared his concern about the length of time it is taking to solidify our pool contracts for the coming year. That led to a discussion regarding the decision to swim at two pool locations, Chazy and AuSable, for the main season. George said he feels that having as many pool options as possible is best. One idea he has is perhaps having three squads swimming at three different pools, then swimming all together at one pool location on the fourth night. Katie Coupal felt that this would complicate carpool arrangements for families with swimmers at different pools.

Jessica Mitchell-Briehl stated that she would prefer that the Waves remain based in Plattsburgh; if given the choice between the two pool drive or having to pay \$300 more, she would have chosen to pay more.

Jill made a motion to conduct a survey to get information from parents about how they feel about the pool venue decision. George stated that he already addressed this issue by requesting parental input via e mail prior to the pool vote. For the benefit of those in attendance who may not have been aware, he explained the history of the effort to find a new venue for the Waves. A lengthy discussion ensued, wherein parents and board members discussed carpooling, whether swimmers would be permitted to swim only two days per week (no), coaching, utilizing a better form of team communication such as TeamSnap or the TeamFeed that we already have within our TeamUnify software, the challenges of change in general, and the fact that parents and board members have appealed to Billy Jones and Betty Little to dissuade SUNY Plattsburgh from eventually closing Memorial Hall pool (thus far to no avail). The notes regarding this discussion are appended; one comment has been redacted as it must to be addressed in an executive session.

Alex Insley expressed his feeling of discouragement and asked that the board not give up on the idea of utilizing the Stafford Middle School pool as the Waves' practice pool in the future. He asked that we please keep an open mind in regard to future options. He shared with us that due to a medical concern, his child will be unable to participate in practices held at pools not in proximity to rapid medical intervention. He added that he would like the board to consider a satellite program, perhaps at the Wellness Center, with Amy Bonn as a coach, for families that are unwilling or unable to travel to the more distant pools.

New Business

George explained how sponsorships work and that he will undertake soliciting sponsors; Alex Insley suggested that Lake Champlain Pools might be a potential sponsor.

Deirdre volunteered to contact Jill from The Deep End and set up a visit so our swimmers can be fitted for suits and equipment, once the main season schedule is determined.

Jessika spoke with her Loreman's contact recently; he will work with us again and is willing to bring in examples of products for parents to see prior to ordering.

George reiterated that he is always open to ideas, and added that we will have a new parent orientation in the fall.

Mike M. moved to adjourn the meeting. Jill seconded the motion, and all other board members in attendance affirmed the motion.

The next meeting will be September 12th, 2018 at 5:30 PM in the Memorial Hall conference room