

President Jim Miller called the meeting to order at 8:36 pm EDT. Present were Sally Dillon, Doug Church, Lynn Hazlewood, Nancy Ridout, Patty Powis, and Tracy Grilli. Scott Rabalais was absent. Presidential candidate Rob Copeland joined the call at the invitation of the president. Mel Goldstein joined the call at 9:15 EDT.

1. The next conference call will take place on Thursday, August 25 at 8:30 pm EDT.
2. DECISIONS MADE SINCE THE LAST MEETING:
 - a. The minutes of the June 22 conference call were approved and distributed.
 - b. It was agreed to pursue an exchange of services between USMS and the Worlds Local Organizing Committee (LOC). USMS will provide complementary advertisements in *USMS SWIMMER*. In exchange, USMS will be recognized as a sponsor of the World Championships with all the benefits that implies.

3. OFFICER REPORTS:

President: Jim reported that the past month has included considerable travel including the Pan American Championships in Santo Domingo, as reported previously. He attended the FINA World Championships in Montreal as the team physician for the Open Water team. This gave him an opportunity to attend the USAS meetings prior to the FINA Congress. The coordination of all of the aquatic sports is so critical to our joint success. Included in our discussions were those that pertained to the 11th FINA World Masters Swimming Championships next summer. Jim met with the Executive Directors of the other aquatic disciplines regarding promotion to their athletes as well as ongoing growth of the other disciplines. He also met with Bruce Wigo, the new CEO of the International Swimming Hall of Fame, regarding cooperative efforts between USMS and ISHOF. The overall reception from the other aquatic sports is that of excitement when the topic of revamping our governance system is addressed. They understand that we are headed in the direction of a more conventional corporate model making interaction with other NGBs easier. The streamlining of our committee structure is also what USA Swimming is facing. Thus, Jim is excited about where we are and our timing could not be better.

In Montreal Nancy Ridout was approved by FINA to succeed June Krauser. June's contributions over the years are too numerous to outline here, but once again, Jim asked that we join him in thanking her for her work and dedication.

Vice President: Scott reported that all of his committees have submitted reports and budgets in a timely manner. Championship (Barry Fasbender, chair) reports that 1108 swimmers and 153 teams are entered in LC Nationals. All systems are "GO" for the launch of Rocket Mission Viejo. The Coaches Committee (Bob Bruce, chair) reports that preparations continue for the ASCA clinic, with Karlyn-Pipes Neilsen replacing Mike Collins (whose wife is expecting) on the Masters track. Fitness Committee (Pam Himstreet, chair) reports that voting is underway for the USMS Fitness Award. Finally, the Recognition and Awards Committee (Kathy Casey, chair) is proposing legislation dealing with oversight of competitive awards.

Secretary: Sally reported that she has contacted 6 zone reps and asked for their assistance in getting LMSC delegate info from the LMSCs that have not submitted their lists. About a week later she contacted former delegates for the 11 LMSCs who still had not reported. Both procedures yielded positive results but there are still some LMSCs who have not submitted delegate lists. Sally continues to assist Jim with the At Large Delegate assignments and has sent congratulatory notes and regrets to all who were interested as well as those who nominated them. There are still quite a few people on the waiting list but cancellations occur and the empty slots will be filled as they come up. Keeping track of convention delegates (and changes) has kept her busy of late. She has been working on the various documents that need preparation as well (agendas, forms, etc.).

In looking at the financial statement submitted to us recently by Controller Margaret Bayless, Sally noted that many cost center heads had not submitted expenses this year. She has reminded her committees that expenses incurred so far in 2006 should be submitted to the controller ASAP. This would include the \$110 convention registration fee (note: hotel and airfare reimbursement must be submitted to Michael Heather since those costs come from the Convention Cmte account). Others committee chairs might want to do the same.

All of Sally's committee chairs have submitted their reports and budgets for approval, and she has forwarded them on to Tracy Grilli and Tom Boak, accordingly.

Treasurer's Report: Doug reported that the bills are paid and there have been no surprises. We have increased our reserves and invested additional sums in CD's while maintaining cash to meet anticipated needs. Based upon the quarterly report from our outstanding Controller, Margaret Bayless, it would appear we are on track to have a record year. Revenue is exceeding budget in several categories and, as usual, our expenses are below budget.

There is one pending over-budget request from the EC, which will allow for one additional night of lodging at convention in order to permit the EC to arrive on Monday for meetings, which it has scheduled all day Tuesday. The budget impact of this request will be in the neighborhood of \$1,000.00. The justification for the request is based upon the scheduling demands on the EC. In order to complete the employee review process and meet the other demands of the convention schedule, arriving one day earlier than other convention attendee's has been the practice for a number of years. Several persons have disputed interpretation of the rules and the over-budget request is the result. The EC sets the convention schedule and it has taken the position that pursuant to FOG it can arrive the day before it's first scheduled meeting. Others have taken the view that the convention doesn't begin until the BOD meeting and, thus, the EC can't be reimbursed for the first night of its convention stay. In order to avoid a continuing conflict on this question, the EC has asked for the over-budget approval.

Liaison: Doug reported that the Finance Committee (Tom Boak, chair) is preparing for convention and the usual crunch time has arrived for budget submissions and preparation of the information needed to review and submit a budget to the HOD. FOG revisions are also under consideration. The Planning Committee (Betsy Durrant, chair) is winding down the Governance Task Force efforts, which have now been passed on to Legislation for review and preparation of needed legislative changes. Betsy and her committee have expended a substantial effort to bring this project forward.

Endowment Fund: We have two requests for funding which have been circulated to the Endowment Fund Board of Governors and we continue to receive contributions from a variety of sources. Most recently, we received several contributions in memory of Pieter Cath whose contributions to USMS have been significant, as we all know. The Fund balance is growing and a full report through the second quarter of 2005 will be ready for convention.

Zone Chair: Lynn reported that the collection of budgets and annual reports is moving forward with the most complex ones to go.

USMS SWIMMER: The September/October issue is in layout and assignments are being made for the November/December issue. Annual planning for 2006 was held on Friday, July 15 at the Douglas Murphy (DMC) offices in Richmond, VA. There were numerous positive letters to the editor about the July issue. The Kalchev story was a particular favorite. Discussions are in process for advertising in *USMS SWIMMER* for the World Championships (see World Championships discussion below).

EDITORIAL BOARD: The editorial board participated in the preparation for the annual planning and reviewed the results in the July 25 meeting. They are beginning to discuss the web editorial calendar to ensure that they have a continual stream of features, press releases and articles. They would like to develop more original editorial content for the web in the future. Barbara Thomas has been appointed to be the finance representative on the board.

The board discussed the insertion of a workout card into the magazine, which would cost \$3400 per issue if they can get 50% sponsorship. They agreed that in the absence of a scientifically based survey of our member's desires, the extra \$20,400 per year would not be cost effective. A decision will have to be made by the end of August so DMC knows if they want to seek a sponsor for the card. Jim Matysek has contacted Mark Gill about the possibility of substituting a promotional piece for SC nationals in the January issue in place of reproducing the entry form. Jim noted that 80% of our entries are now placed online. The Marketing Committee has plans for attending conferences next year to promote USMS. Doug Garcia (chair) agreed to the board's request to include complementary copies of *USMS SWIMMER* in their packet of giveaway items.

WEB: A rough draft of the online registration specification has been distributed to Anna Lea Roof, George Simon, Leo Letendre, Tracy Grilli, Esther Lyman, and web administrators. After a comment period, the document will be updated and distributed more widely. They hope to have a plan to present to delegates prior to convention. From August 1 through the end of year, world championship work will have priority over all other development projects. The Sports Medicine committee has completed a review of all articles posted on the web site and requested that certain articles be deleted and others updated. That request will be attended to shortly. The web administrators will request that the editorial board discuss and implement a policy for review and maintenance of editorial content on the web.

Past President: Nancy reported that the budgets of the committees to which she is a liaison - Marketing, Registration, and Records & Tabulation - were submitted to the Finance Chair after review and discussions. Regarding the 2006 World Championships, the LOC is in negotiation with a single sponsor for the event for aquatic apparel, as is the custom for all FINA World Championships.

Legal Counsel: Patty reported that the Executive Director Funding Task Force is in the process of sharing drafts for parts of a report. She is pulling together several pieces to put into a draft final report, which should go to the task force in the next couple of days. The report will summarize the findings from the task force's research and make some suggestions for funding.

The Legislation Committee (Rob Copeland, chair) is now considering legislative proposals that are primarily related to governance issues. They have proposals from the Governance Task Force and from others.

The annual reports and budget requests for the Insurance and Legislation Committees have been submitted, but nothing has been received from Safety Education.

4. **USMS SPONSOR PROGRAM:** Mel joined the call at 9:15 pm and the group discussed options for USMS sponsors that would include the creation of a sponsor/*USMS SWIMMER* advertiser package. Mel has already had preliminary discussions with Grant Murphy (DMC). Various ideas were discussed but no consensus was reached. Mel will put together a proposal for the EC to review and the Finance Committee will be consulted as well.
5. **CONVENTION UPDATE**
 - a. Delegate totals: Sally reported that there are 206 total delegates confirmed (105 LMSC so far). All 21 At Large spots are assigned.
 - b. Employee/contractor review procedures: Sally reported that she is waiting on flight details before making the final schedule and that last year's procedures will be followed. All employees will receive a form for evaluating their employer. Each liaison will complete the employee review form and then submit it to the other EC members for further comment by August 10. The completed form will be given to the employee during the review in Greensboro.
 - c. Over-budget proposal for Monday night stay in Greensboro: Doug reported that he has not received a response from the Finance Committee and he will send the request again.
 - d. New officer transition: EC members should be working on transitional information for new officers.
 - e. Election update: Lynn reported that a description of what will happen regarding election procedures at convention will be in the latest Streamlines.

6. *USMS SWIMMER*: Lynn reported on the magazine's annual planning meeting. Doug will review financial and budget considerations and make recommendations.
7. *WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS*: Jim Miller gave a briefing to the EC on sponsor recruitment for the World Championships. The EC discussed Michael Moore's proposal to trade complementary ads in *USMS SWIMMER* for a sponsorship position for USMS. Jim suggested that Doug ask Tom Boak to discuss the details with Michael Moore.

It was MSA to adjourn at 10:40 pm EDT

Respectfully submitted by:
Sally Ann Dillon
USMS Secretary