

Committee Name:	Board of Directors	Session #:	1
Committee Chair:	Patty Miller	Date/time of meeting:	9/25/2016 10:00am EDT
Minutes recorded by:	Chris Colburn		

Actions Taken:

1. Approved: to amend “However, a transgender...” in Item 5 of the USMS Transgender Policy to read “However, the transgender...”
2. Approved: the revised USMS Transgender Policy as amended

Number of committee members present: 22	Absent: 6	Other Delegates: 18
<p>Committee members present (list all, including chair and vice chair): Patty Miller - President; Ed Tsuzuki - VP of Administration; Chris McGiffin - VP of Programs; Chris Stevenson - VP of Local Operations; Frank (Skip) Thompson -VP of Community Services; Chris Colburn – Secretary; Ralph Davis – Treasurer; Maria Elias-Williams - Legal Counsel; At-Large Directors: Dave Diehl (Colonies); Rob Copeland (Dixie/Past President); Dan Cox (Great Lakes); Sarah Welch (Northwest); Leianne Crittenden (Oceana); and Laura Winslow (Southwest); Dawson Hughes – CEO; Dave Coddington (USA Swimming Liaison to USMS); Past Presidents: Nadine Day, Jeff Moxie, Tom Boak, Jim Miller and Nancy Ridout.</p> <p>Not present: Tom Moore (Breadbasket) and Ed Coates (South Central); Past Presidents: Ted Haartz, Mike Laux and Dan Gruender. Mel Goldstein is recused from the Board due to his contractor position with USMS.</p> <p>Guests: Nikki Merson, Hugh Moore, Kathy Casey, Lucy Johnson, Walt Reid, Natalie Taylor, Sterling Webb, Susan Kuhlman, Elaine Howley, Jeff Perout, Marianne Groenings, Holly Neumann, Bill Brenner, Brandon Ramirez, Onshalee Promchitmart, Kyle Deery, Paige Buehler, and Tracy Grilli.</p>		

Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 9:59am EDT.

1. Agenda review and conflict of interest declarations (Patty): Patty welcomed everyone to the meeting. There were no conflicts.
2. Patty welcomed our new Board members, and wished Rob Copeland a happy birthday.
3. Patty also welcomed our guests, including Onshalee Promchitmart and Brandon Ramirez from college clubs.
 - a. Onshalee was surprised by the shared power of the House of Delegates (HOD).
 - b. Brendan was surprised by the meticulous wording of the legislation and rules.
 - c. Both noted lots of similarity between the processes we undertake as a House.
 - d. They felt very comfortable: “there was a huge family feel.”
 - e. Ed asked what the makeup of club members are in the college club group (fitness vs. competitive vs. social). Onshalee and Brandon provided an overview of their own club programs and the overall organization. The clubs were happy that in the current model being developed, they still have control of how they run their own individual clubs.
4. Patty led a review of the Convention with respect to what we intended to accomplish.
 - a. Ed mentioned that we should have an individual assigned to lead the HOD through the documents (reports, budget, etc.) being discussed by projecting a laptop that is retrieving and displaying the documents on a screen. Tracy said that she could appoint someone to help with that. Chris Colburn asked if this would be a task for an Ad-Hoc Convention Committee.
 - b. There were some suggestions related to how minutes and documents were presented. Chris Colburn suggested to Jim Matysek some ideas about the sort order of the minutes files that might be helpful to the House as they search for relevant documents during the HOD sessions.
 - c. The overviews of the rules and budget proposals were helpful, but we want to be able to provide more overviews of what’s going on, and a running tally of what has happened and how it affects the discussion (e.g. the bottom line of the budget).
 - d. Chris McGiffin supports having a rationale for the House for line items so they have details to review to educate the House about the various budget items. Anyone proposing an amendment should be required to provide a rationale for the amendment so others understand the purpose. Others agreed to recommend the advance preparation of the rationales so those who have not read the budget in advance will be able to follow along and not ask extraneous questions. An example of this was the discussion of the fee for One-Event memberships.

- e. Rob thinks that the Board needs to look at Convention expenses for the LMSC where the convention is held. Rob said the local LMSC spent about \$10,000 on Convention. While an LMSC like Georgia has the money, not all LMSCs do. We want to look at the burden we place on an LMSC that happens to have the convention in its locality, perhaps multiple times in a short span, as opposed to other LMSCs who never have that situation. Tracy noted that USMS is actually paying for the hospitality room food, as well as for the room.
1. Patty commented on the SSL crowdfunding goggles initiative during Convention. In addition to the donations made through the crowdfunding site, several attendees made generous donations directly through Susan Kuhlman.
2. Transgender Policy Review: Patty gave an overview of the task force and the points in the proposed policy that had raised concern by the Board. This policy was referred to committees by the previous Board for more information and clarification. Persons representing the Transgender Task Force amended the revised policy to remove the surgery requirement for male to female transitions, adding that requests by persons who want times to count despite not having had surgery will be handled on a case-by-case basis. MS to accept the revised USMS Transgender Policy. Nadine had a question about the wording of Section 5. Kathy Casey spoke to the policy and the rationale. **MSA to amend “However, a transgender...” in Item 5 to read “However, the transgender...” MSA to approve the revised USMS Transgender Policy as amended.**
3. LMSC Leadership Summit: Paige Buehler indicated that she would chair a task force on the 2017 LMSC Leadership Summit. Please email Patty names for those who might be good for this task force. Leianne asked how many should be on the task force, and Patty indicated that there should be an optimal amount to get work done but not be too large.
4. Restatement of USMS Membership Card Policy: The policy already allows the National Office to print cards for those LMSCs that do not print cards for their members at a cost to the LMSC. Discussion surrounded the need to print membership cards; the requirement for LMSCs to print cards; and logistics surrounding the cases where LMSCs are delinquent in printing cards.
5. Changes to Financial Operating Guidelines (FOG): Laura Winslow provided an overview of the items the Board requested the Finance Committee to review in the revised FOG. There is one item to be revised, and Laura expects the Finance Committee to bring revisions to the Board no later than the Winter Board Meeting.
6. USA Swimming Update (Dave Coddington): The USA Swimming Board of Directors has undertaken a study of national Board governance, following up from last year’s study on Zone and LSC governance. An outside vendor has been selected, and will report by the April USA Swimming Board Meeting. In the meantime, the local study is suspended so the results of the two efforts can be combined. There was some legislation passed that changes the titles of the staff and board members. For example, Chuck Wielgus is now President and CEO. The former President is now Chair of the Board, and the former Vice Presidents are now Vice Chairs. The titles were shifted to reflect that day-to-day operations are handled by staff. There were elections this year. The only contested election was Treasurer, and Bob Vincent was elected, effective yesterday. There were new coach and non-coach directors elected for those who term-limited out of their positions. There were some great statistics provided to reflect the USA’s swimming performance in Rio. Dave attributed the overwhelming performance to the outstanding preparation that Frank Busch and his staff undertook at training camp. Dave spoke to the camaraderie, excitement, and outstanding logistics that all came together. Jim Miller thanked Dave for his contributions to Masters Swimming and excellent work as USA Swimming Liaison to USMS.
7. Winter Board Meeting: We typically hold the meeting in February at a relatively central location. Ralph suggested having the meeting in Phoenix. Tentative dates are February 11-12. Kyle indicated that the College Club Summit would likely be in that time frame as well.
8. New Business:
 - a. Chris McGiffin: For officials applying for positions on deck at Worlds, Brian Albright is bringing forth an estimated budget for an overbudget request to support two USMS officials. The applications will come in to the National Office and will be forwarded to Chris and Brian. The process may be similar for 2018 Pan Ams.
 - b. Ralph: Membership registration for 2017 will open on November 1, and will provide a check box to receive a digital copy of the magazine.
 - c. Dave Diehl suggested that Board members make a contribution to the Swimming Saves Lives Foundation from their Convention expenses.
 - d. Chris Colburn asked a question about the recording of meetings for more accurate transcription of the minutes. The sense of the Board was that there are myriad legal and liability issues surrounding recording of the minutes. Chris wants to look into the possibility of having a mechanism in place to facilitate the recording of Board meetings and calls in a legal and protected way by the end of his term next year. Further conversation included the governance issues and the issues surrounding open meetings.

- e. Rob Copeland: US Aquatic Sports recognized Jim Miller's efforts to assist with the issues in the synchronized swimming venue at the Rio Olympic Games. Jim recognized the work of Myrtha Pools' engineers in solving the problem under pressure on short notice.
9. The next Board call will be at 8:30pm EDT on Monday, October 17, 2016. The next EC Meeting will be Monday, October 3 at 7:30pm EDT.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:39am EDT.

Respectfully Submitted,

Chris Colburn, Secretary