

Minutes of Long Range Planning Committee Meeting

Thursday, September 21, 1989

The meeting was called to order at 9:05 by Chairman, Barr Clayson. Attendance by the committee members included: Jeanne Bostwick, Ed Danehy, Diane Letendre, Tom Lyndon, Don Mehl, Doug Messineo, Hugh Moore, Andy Schrag, Dore Schwab, David Zanner.

1. The agenda was reviewed by Barr Clayson.

2. USMS GROWTH/TURNOVER/NEW PROGRAMS - Dore Schwab

For some years our turnover rate has exceeded 40%. There was a zero growth rate in 1989. Discussions were held on why people quit, should USMS be concerned with the "fitness swimmer", ideas on how we can keep people interested.

CONCLUSIONS:

Growth is positive for the organization, and we want it to continue. We need to broaden our activities at the local level to attract the fitness swimmer and retain a greater percentage of numbers.

Dore Schwab will coordinate the creation of a list of programs and ideas that clubs can use to help keep all swimmers interested in Master Swimming, targeted for the non-competitor. This list will be distributed to the Coaches Committee who we believe can be most helpful and also to LMSCs. Anyone having a good idea should give it to Dore.

3. MEET PROLIFERATION - Tom Lyndon

Tom polled many committee members and swimmers on this issue. Some of the positive comments included; each meet provides more people an opportunity to compete, different levels of competition, brings in new swimmers, and offers travel scenarios. Some of the negative comments were that if the meet was too small to make a profit, there would not likely be a future bidder. The "feast could lead to famine."

Some of the ideas brought out in discussion were:

It is not our position to tell other countries when they can hold their meets.

We might consider having a high level meet with time standards once every two years to bring in the very elite swimmers.

Many people enjoyed the small North Dakota meet as there was more time to socialize and there was a relaxed atmosphere.

CONCLUSION:

It is not an issue; let the meets fall as they may. Problems would tend to be self correcting. We should continue to have our two national meets each year and urge that scheduling of international meets not conflict with these meets.

4. ELECTION PROCESS -Barr Clayson

Discussions included:

Most members felt the the zone reps serving as a Nominating Committee offered representation from all areas of the country and created a good sized committee.

There was a concern that some delegates didn't know how the process worked and were not kept informed.

There was a concern that the zone reps weren't involved enough in the "nitty gritty" on the national level, therefore two other members should be added either past presidents or chairman of several standing committees.

Should there be more than one person nominated for each office. Concluded:No

Most people felt that the V.P. position should not automatically move up to president. Many people cannot commit that kind of time.

Not everyone is fit for the president position.

CONCLUSION:

The committee concluded that the process in place,with some minor flaws is essentially a good one.

5. FACILITIES- Doug Messineo

Doug discussed with real estate developers the possibility of their offering swimming pools as an amenity. Statistics needed to be gathered on cost, programming, participation numbers etc.

CONCLUSION;

A sub-committee was formed of Doug Messineo (Chairman), Dore Schwab, Jack Gohagen, Ed Danehy, and Jennifer Parks to gather appropriate data and put together a brochure with the help of the Marketing Committee to be made available to developers and community planners. This brochure would support the attractiveness of developing properly sized pool facilities.

6. OTHER BUSINESS

A. National office seems to be functioning well.

B. Self Insurance. This is best handled by the insurance committee.

C. Separation of USMS into Masters and Senior Masters. There doesn't seem to be a need for this.

D. Zone and LMSC boundaries. Hugh Moore will look into this. There are some zones that don't have adequate representation on committees.

E. Discussion of a "Goals Statement" concluded that this should be reviewed at a later date.

7. 1990 PRIORITIES:

A. Continue to examine USMS growth dynamics and programs for the non-competitive swimmer.

B. Training Officials USMS Certification

C. Effectiveness of Long Range Planning committee. Make a Conference call a few times a year to keep in touch with what is going on.

D. List of delegates with special expertise.

Meeting adjourned at 12 noon

Respectfully submitted,

*Diane M. Letendre*

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