

AZLMSC Board Meeting Minutes

These minutes were approved by email vote on May 11, 2024.

April 15, 2024 (via Zoom)

Meeting called to order at 7:02 pm

Board Members Present: Katy James-Chairman, Marianne Rexer-Treasurer, Kathy Gallagher-Secretary, Lindsey Urbatchka-At Large, Barb Sloan-At Large, Jim Rowland-At Large, Gini Baker-At Large, Judy Gillies-Past Chair

Absent: Liz Hobbs-Vice Chair

Others present:

Lisa Zenoff-Harris, Communications Committee Chair

Terry Heggy, Coaches Committee Chair

Marnie Whitley, Open Water Chair

Marcelo Cabral, Webmaster

Claude Wise

Janet Stephens

Nicole Eklund

Danielle Phelps

Steve Landau

Quorum present: Yes

MOTIONS PASSED

1. Leslie Nock voted as 2024 Gruender Award recipient.
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ACTIONS AND FOLLOW-UP

1. Terry to send timeline to Jim so he knows when to be there.
 2. Barb to bring Gruender plaque to Tucson
 3. Katy to send name of potential open water person to Simon and Marnie.
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IMPORTANT DATES:

Relay Dates: October 18-20. September 13 is deadline for LMSC to send attendee names/registration to National office.

1. Convention Dates: September 13-15. August 15 is deadline for LMSC to send delegate names/registration to National office.
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CONTINUING BUSINESS

1. Registrar Report

Katy reported that membership is about where we would expect, about where it was this time last year.

2. AZ LMSC Annual Meeting

The board discussed planning logistics for the annual meeting, which will be held just outside the pool at the conclusion of the meet on Saturday, April 20. Matters discussed included food, drinks, meet timeline, meeting announcements during the meet on Saturday, pics for the website, how to get enough coolers/ice, sound system, # of people registered at meet and # to plan food for (35-50), award certificates, sign in sheet, and agenda. Judy is coordinating with Barb and Jim. Other board members and significant others are prepared to help.

Items for the agenda include awards (to be presented by individual coaches, except Gruender award), presentation of Gruender Award, Jeff Commings talk about USMS, board introductions, upcoming AZLMSC board elections, USMS Annual Convention, and USMS Relay event.

Action item:

Terry to send timeline to Jim so he knows when to be there.

NEW BUSINESS

3. Gruender Award

2024 recipient: Leslie Nock

Katy shared names and nominating summaries for the 3 nominees. She reminded the board about the award's inception and intent, which is to recognize a volunteer who has made a significant contribution to the LMSC, and then tangentially to AZ masters swimming in general. She spoke about how Edie and Dan Gruender started master's swimming in AZ, often hosting events in their backyard!

Nominees this year were:

- a. Sandy Whitmeyer was nominated by Brad Lundblad who highlighted her for officiating of Mesa Masters swim meets and involvement with the YMCA.
- b. Hop Bailey was nominated by Barry Roth for always volunteering to be the admin official and running the Colorado System at all UofA meets and the computers at Ford Masters swim meets. Katy noted the admin official is a tough job. Judy acknowledged his efforts are significant.
- c. Leslie Nock who was nominated by Cynthia Hayes for being a great volunteer coach, swim instructor, and official at Sun City Starrs Masters. She coaches a lot of their practices,

is very active with the swimming community, goes to Nationals, etc. She is a Level 3 certified USMS coach (volunteer) and a volunteer official.

In discussing the nominees, members shared their personal experiences with those they know and have worked with. Everyone agreed that the work of these fabulous volunteers benefits Arizona Masters Swimming and expressed appreciation for the contributions of each of the nominees.

Judy, Katy, and Lindsey have been on the board a long time and reminded members that the award was to recognize contributions specifically to the LMSC overall in the selfless spirit demonstrated by Edie and Dan Gruender, more so than to an individual team.

The board voted Leslie Nock as the recipient for 2024, and orally acknowledged the contributions of the other two nominees.

A couple board members suggested that we might want to notify the nominees who did not win and thank/acknowledge them and express the hope that they continue their work to benefit AZ swimming. It was also suggested that we remind people of the criteria when we announce the award at the annual meeting. These were noted, and do not require official board action.

Action item:

Barb will bring the plaque to the meeting.

4. Open Water Competition Update

The trailer with all of the equipment needed to host an open water competition was stolen from the owners (Simon and Suzanne Percy). That, plus the algae situation in the lakes, makes it hard to run open water competitions this year, and they have decided to end their effort to put on open water competition. They are looking for someone to take over. Katy knows someone who might be interested and will put them in touch with Simon and will let Marnie know who that is as well.

Action item:

Katy to send name of potential open water person to Simon and Marnie.

5. USMS Annual Meeting

Katy reminded members that soon - not this meeting - we will need a selection process to nominate representatives to the USMS annual meeting. USMS will tell us how many delegates we can have. The convention is more about the business and governance of running USMS nationally than the Relay event.

Annual Meeting Dates: September 13-15. August 15 is deadline for LMSC to send delegate names/registration to National office.

Location: Virtual via Zoom

LMSC planning resources:

<https://www.usms.org/volunteer-central/annual-meeting/2024-annual-meeting>

<https://www.usms.org/volunteer-central/annual-meeting/2024-annual-meeting/helping-lmscs-plan>

6. USMS Relay 2024

We can send 3 volunteers. Costs are split 50/50 between AZLMSC and USMS. Theme is community development, e.g. how to get more people involved. Relevant volunteers would be swimmers, clubs, long time volunteers, newbie, and possibly an event director/meet director. From USMS site: “We recommend LMSCs send volunteers interested in growing their local swimming community through social activities, community service, and unique swimming events.”

Katy expressed that it would be nice to involve people who haven’t been involved in LMSC for a while. Maybe we need some qualifications or a process to select good people. We need reasons to send specific people. It is important they bring something back to the LMSC.

Marianne noted that we could ask people to apply, ask them to give us their background, tell us how the opportunity would fit their expertise, and ask them to note how their attendance would benefit the entire LMSC.

Relay Dates: October 18-20. September 13 is deadline for LMSC to send attendee names/registration to National office.

Relay Location: Houston Airport Marriott

LMSC planning page:

<https://www.usms.org/volunteer-central/lmscs/lmsc-leadership-summit/relay-2024/helping-lmscs-plan>

7. USMS National Coaches Clinic

The National Coaches Clinic is at the same time/location as the Relay 2024 event. AZLMSC can support a portion of coaches expenses to attend as we have some funds remaining that had been budgeted for the USMS clinics held in February. We would need a selection/approval process. Terry Heggy (AZ Coaches Committee Chair) will attend, and his expenses are paid by USMS because he is a member of the USMS National Coaches Committee.

It would be hard for a coach to attend the national Coaches Clinic and the Relay event, even though they are both in Houston at the same time. Attendees for both events will be at the same hotel, but the coaches clinic participants will be at the pool for some of the clinic and couldn’t attend Relay sessions which are held at the hotel.

USMS Coaches Clinic page:

<https://www.usms.org/coach-central/national-coaches-clinic>

7. Board elections for Officers (this year)

Jeff will run the election process again.

Marianne (Treasurer) will cycle off the board due to term limits but said she can help train the new Treasurer.

Motion to adjourn

Motion by Judy, second by Lindsey, vote take, all in favor.

Meeting adjourned @ 7:44 pm