



STAR Swimming Board of Directors Meeting

ECC Flickinger Center

February 28, 2024

5:30pm ECC Flickinger Center Boardroom

Mission: STAR builds champions in and out of the water, foster youth dreams in a safe and supportive environment, and develops dedication and excellence in their lives.

Core Values: Accountability, Respect, Resilience, Passion, and fun

Vision: A Western New York Club with a National Presence

Meeting Start 5:34 PM

Stephanie made a motion to call the meeting to order. Karen seconded. All approved.

Roll Call:

1. Caitlin Herbert

Present

2. Stephanie Markowski

Present

3. Karen Coen

Present

4. Jeffrey Errington

Present

5. Natasha Fatta

Present

6. Shana Stegner

Present

7. Mark Moldenhauer

Present

8. Laurin Derick

Not Present

9. Fernando Medellin

Present

10. Open Seat

N/A

11. Steve Mullens

Not Present

12. Melanie Sandquist

Present

Minutes Approval

- January Minutes Approval

Caitlin made a motion to approve. Natasha seconded.

All approved.

Head Coach/CEO Report

- Please review TJ's report that was shared with board members on 02/26 /24.
- Any questions or concerns will be addressed at the start of the meeting.
 - Met with Steve M to discuss facility and pool improvements updates. Discussion was had. TJ will request a list of already addressed improvements.
 - Met with the meet directors to organize and discuss Speedos Sectionals meet. Additional preparations have been secured for Speedo Sectionals.
 - Met with Buffalo Sports Commission (Greg G) and the upcoming

- meet/financials.
- TJ continues to meet with interested families. There is currently 1 swimmer on trial.
- An update on current membership was provided.
- An update on the STAR Winter Challenge outcome was provided.

Co-Presidents

- Updates on Team Dinner Scheduled for 03/05/2024
 - 7pm dinner
 - Approximately 70 swimmers are signed up (all invited)
 - Food will be ordered from Ilio DiPaolo's
 - Small goody bags are being prepared for qualified swimmers
- Updates on Apparel Order with anticipated date of arrival
 - Anticipated arrival the week of 3/4/24
- Updates on Cap Order with Anticipated Date of Arrival
 - Went back with the original vendor
 - Cost will be \$35 for two personalized caps (sold in pairs)
 - \$15 per non-personalized cap
- Melanie Sandquist offered to be new member liaison for Northtowns location along with Janelle Cordle
 - Discussion was had regarding how to notify new swimmers who their connection person will be and how to get in contact with them
- Ideas for Volunteer Involvement
 - TJ: incentivize / recruitment from other teams
 - Discussion regarding pros and cons to requesting parent volunteers from other teams at STAR hosted meets
 - Discussion on how to increase participation from STAR parents
- Open Board Seat Recruitment
 - Review options with entire board: 3 candidates
 - Interest was generated from the email sent out to membership
 - Discussion on the interested parties
 - Any other suggestions/interested parties
- Distributed Adworks Apparel Quality Corrections
 - All items were distributed to families
- Received proceeds check from Adworks and deposited: 73 units sold @ \$5 profit/unit
- Any Social Media Updates
 - Boys varsity season updates
 - Upcoming: boys traveling to states post
 - Upcoming: Champs (Open and Age Group) post
- Brainstorm: Spring Team Fundraiser

- Discussion was had on the following ideas: Swim-A-Thon, Meat Raffle, Sprint Triathlon
- Promotional Items: Additional Merch opportunities at meets: sales to non-Star families
 - Not addressed
- **Re-Visit:** 2024 Calendar year sponsorship from businesses (instead of short course/long course season - may be more appealing to businesses);
 - Jason created materials for us to share with potential sponsors - review.
 - Caitlin shared, materials, changes, and ideas were discussed
 - Shift from short/long course sponsorship mindset to annual sponsorships as many businesses do not fully understand the difference between short and long courses. Still promote bronze, silver, gold sponsorship opportunities for large local businesses on an annual basis.
 - Incentives for advertising: Meet Banner, Social Media Posts, T-Shirts, Score Board, Livestream
- **Re-Visit:** Cost of annual sponsorship to interested sponsors
 - Possible options discussed
- January: s/h/b Insurance Policy Review
- February: s/b Mission and Visions Statement Review
 - Mission and Vision were read and reviewed
- Long Course Calendar - dates of meets STAR is hosting; dates of meets STAR will attend
 - Natalie Lewis Long Course Spring Invite 5/17-5/19
 - STAR Long Course Kick-Off Meet (prelims/finals) 5/31-6/2
 - STAR Buffalo Niagara Sports Commision Summer Invitational 6/28-6/30
 - STAR Niagara Long Course Championships 7/18-7/21
 - Possible: TTSC End of Summer 8/5-8/6
- Date for March Meeting (next meeting will be in April)
 - 4/10/24
- Additional Items for Discussion
 - n/a

Treasurer's Report

- Financial Report
- Any updates from Bookkeeper Nicole

Stephanie made a motion to conclude the meeting. **Shana** seconded the

motion. All Approved.

Meeting Concluded 7 34 PM

Executive Session:

Swimmer/Parent Forum (30 minutes max) – Please complete the Request to Speak form prior to the meeting to assist the Board in allocating time to members who wish to speak. The forms will be available at the meeting. Each speaker will be allotted at least 2 minutes but no more than 5 minutes.