

City Swim Project/Buffalo Tide
Board Meeting Minutes
Thursday, September 15, 2022

Attendees: Mike Telesco, Mike Switalski, Rich Bleichfeld, Rick Marable, Jocelyn Guthrie, Barrett Erbe, Annetta Williams, Nekia Davis, Yvonne Dubois

Absent: Dennis Wilson, Charisse Freeman, Kristy Michalek, Jessica Smith, Jean Lalomia.

The Executive Board Meeting of the City Swim Project/Buffalo Tide was called to order at 6:06 PM on Thursday, September 15, 2022 via Zoom conference, Buffalo, New York.

- 1) Call to Order. 6:06 PM.
- 2) Roll Call.
- 3) Approval of May 26, 2022 minutes
 - a) Motion to accept the May minutes: Rich M. Second: Barrett E. Approved.
- 4) Approval of September 15, 2022 Agenda
 - a) Motion to approve the agenda: Rich B. Second: Jocelyn G. Approved.
- 5) Financial Report. Mike S.
 - a) \$99,000 in bank. No outstanding bills. Payroll due to be covered. Balance sheet sent to Finance Committee. Income? City of Buffalo contract in hand, but needs some adjustments before signing. (\$70,000) This is a reimbursement. Wilson Foundation 2 year grant soon, similar to past monies. Things are better, but we need to safeguard. Finance Group to continue planning. Additionally, registrations bring in about \$1,000 per month and The United Way grant about \$2,000 per month.
- 6) Committee Reports.
 - a) Programming Report. Mike S.
 - 1) Support Services running since June. Tutoring in place at Wm. Emslie. We have purchased 50 tablets through contract with ISL.
 - 2) 12-15 volunteers total to assist with tutoring. Approximately 5-8 show up in the evening at the Y. Data collection is starting.
 - 3) Cullen Foundation Surveys (3). Families are to complete. One at beginning, one at re-signing, and one at exit.
 - 4) Juneteenth data? Not yet. Sign-in sheets at events to gather information for tracking purposes? QR codes?
 - b) Growth and Infrastructure. Mike S.
 - 1) 2021-2022 Membership Report. Mike S will email a more detailed and accurate membership profile. This will be broken down by age, ethnicity, zip code, household income, etc.
 - 2) Facilities. Swimming venues are extremely difficult. The City of Buffalo is returning to an 8-4 schedule. No more access to Cazenovia on evenings or weekends. Waterfront was used during the summer, but transportation was difficult for our families. City Honors is under discussion and is walking distance for many. The Delaware Y is not available.
 - 3) The Belle Center. This is the only non-school district pool on the Westside. It is in the Westside's interest to get it up and running well. Capital improvements are necessary.
 - 4) Lackawanna. 100+ swimmers in summer. 58 will be renewing. 50% Muslim and 66% male. Need to increase the female Muslim population. Hoping for an additional hour/day or day/week. Waiting for funding.

- 5) Office and Website. Will require our families to touch base with our available resources (caps, suits, etc.).
- 6) 50 in queue are brand new. 491 are in line for renewal. This should clear by the middle of November.
- c) Branding and Marketing. Mike T.
 - 1) No updates. Things are on hold due to financial constraints.
 - 2) Video finalized and online.
- 7) Updates. Mike S.
 - a) USA Swimming Registration Process. New platform for registration developed. Will align essential information for all our membership. Each member will now be personally responsible for registration and costs. Will complicate the process for many. Communication must be careful and clear to guide the steps necessary to accomplish this. Will save us money eventually. Reimbursement important and a process for that to be developed for our families. Passing costs onto our families is not what we want to do for the bulk of these families.
 - b) Staff training will be potentially more expensive as costs will be up front. Training costs will run approximately \$250 each. This component needs more work.
 - c) Board Member APT Expirations. Please keep up with Athlete Protection and Background Check components. Links for these will be sent to our emails.
 - d) Conflict of Interest Forms. Please update.
 - e) Appointment by Governor Hochul. Senator Kennedy recommended Mike S to be on the newly created NYS Commission for Drowning Prevention. The goal: Percentage of the monies (5% of \$5 million) obtained through sports betting to be used for sports participation for underprivileged kids, specifically, water safety education for this population and access to the water for the same.
 - f) Mike S elected General Chairman of the Niagara District for USA Swimming. He will be attending the Board of Directors Meeting in Colorado Springs, CO. At this, the yearly meeting, he will showcase our video as per their invitation. They are impressed with what we are doing.
 - g) Annual Business Meeting. Thursday, October 27, 2022. Will be held at the Wm. Emslie YMCA between 5-8 PM. It will be a "Meet and Greet" with all the families and the Board. Pizza, wings, and candy will be served. There will also be a membership renewal effort at this time. This meeting will take the place of the November, 2022 Board Meeting.
 - h) "Cash App" Fraud. Monies stolen were reimbursed. Cost: \$25 for mandatory stop on account through M&T Bank.
- 8) Old Business. None.
- 9) New Business. None.
- 10) Motion to Adjourn: Barrett E. Second: Rich B. Approved. 7:19 PM.
Next meeting: January 19, 2023.

Draft minutes respectfully submitted: Jean Lalomia