

City Swim Project/Buffalo Tide
Executive Board Meeting Minutes
Thursday, January 25, 2024

Attendees: Mike Telesco, Mike Switalski, Kristy Russell, Barrett Erbe, Yvonne Dubois, Dennis Wilson, Jocelyn Guthrie, Nekia Davis, Rich Bleichfeld, Annetta Williams, Charisse Freeman.

Absent: Rick Marable, Jessica Smith, Jean Lalomia.

The Executive Board Meeting of the City Swim Project/Buffalo Tide was called to order at 6:03 PM on Thursday, January 25, 2024 via Zoom conference, Buffalo, New York.

- 1) Call to Order. 6:03 PM.
- 2) Roll Call.
- 3) Approval of July 20, 2023 Minutes.
 - a) Motion to approve July 20, 2023 minutes: Yvonne D. Second: Jocelyn G. Approved.
- 4) Approval of Agenda for January 25, 2024.
 - a) Motion to approve the July 25, 2024 agenda: Rich B. Second: Nekia D. Approved.
- 5) Financial Report. Mike S.
 - a) \$120,000 in the bank.
 - b) Contract with the City of Buffalo still outstanding. \$70,000.
 - c) Grant applications have been submitted, both traditional and new.
 - d) Charisse F and Mike S meet monthly to reconcile our books.
 - e) Our audit is ongoing with John Armstrong.
 - f) Request made by Mike T for our monthly and yearly expenditures. We must develop a regular practice of knowing our approximate expenses and our tentative budgeting procedures as the Board is responsible. Barrett E to facilitate.
- 6) Old Business. Mike S.
 - a) Credit card application to M&T.
 - 1) Currently using two debit cards/accounts: One is the old BCSR card/account, the second is the new, under City Swim Project.
 - 2) Carefully chosen, a credit card can earn money which comes back to the club.
 - 3) Fraud protection is attached to credit cards (not for bank cards). Rates may be better and rewards exist for some cards.
 - 4) Our account was hacked this month. \$300 to Amazon. We are appealing to M&T.
 - 5) Discussion held.
 - 6) Board to have access to the card? Mike S for purchases and Rich B for travel.
 - 7) Policy needs to be in place to log purchases, submit expenses, and prevent misuse. \$2,500+ must be Board authorized.
 - 8) Barrett E, Charisse F, and Mike S to develop policy. Who is authorized for what.
 - 9) Motion: To authorize looking into and getting a credit card by Barrett E, Charisse F, and Mike S. to make the final decision on which card to select. Rich B. Second: Annetta W. Approved.
- 7) New Business. Mike S.
 - a) Updates.
 - 1) Governor Hochul in the State of the State Address proposed that \$100 million be committed for new and existing pools in low income areas.
 - 2) Cazenovia pool roof has collapsed. We have equipment stored there and are trying to gain access to remove. Is there insurance to cover this? Will find out.

- 3) Lifeguards? Mike S to partner with the Wilson Foundation, the City of Buffalo, the Buffalo-Niagara YMCA, and others to address this. First meeting was before Christmas. Ongoing planning.
 - 4) Lackawanna is not in the water. Not enough staff. This needs addressing.
 - 5) Membership registration. Applications= 160. Approved= 100. There have been delays. The academic piece is complicating the process. There are some parental concerns.
Suggestion: Draw up "Talking Points" which give an overview of the grant requirements.
Suggestion: Develop a set of "Talking Points" for Board Members so that they can speak accurately in public about CSP. Go back about seven years for this data. Mike S to organize.
 - 6) 100 are in the water.
 - 7) Conflict of Interest Forms. Please submit.
 - 8) Certifications. Will reach out individually.
 - 9) Background Checks. Cost an issue.
 - 10) CGR/Cullen Foundation. The Cullen Foundation paid CGR (Center for Government Research) to create a data base for us to track demographics, academic outcomes, etc. This agency is out of Rochester, NY. Information to be gleaned from the registration survey, the ISL piece, and report cards. Challenges exist. Report cards are not consistent across our population. However, this information will support much of what we do concerning academic decisions and grant applications. We are looking for free labor for data input and analysis. Looking for an intern. How would this data be collected and stored? Surveys through Survey Monkey, then into CGR. Report cards through CGR. Registration through Team Unify. Nekia D offering to assist. The next call/meeting tentatively scheduled for this coming Monday at 4:15. Mike S will forward the link to Nekia D.
 - 11) Reapplying for the Cullen Foundation.
 - 12) ISL license not funded by Cullen.
 - 13) Facilities. BPS has officially approved the use of school pools by CSP. However, we must go through the administration at each individual school to arrange for use. The challenge will be how to best work with administrators so that all our swimmers will be allowed to use their pools, even when from out of district.
 - 14) Grants? When and who? Mike S to generate a report and submit this to MikeT.
- 9) Adjourn
- a) Motion: To adjourn: Barrett E. Second: Yvonne D. Approved. 6:49 PM.

Next Meeting: March 21, 2024.

Draft minutes respectfully submitted: Jean Lalomia