

Lawrenceville Swimming Association
General Meeting Minutes
September 6th, 2004

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 4pm at 74 Craven Lane. The following board members were in attendance: Kirk LeCompte, Cathy LeCompte, Ellen Buchsbaum, Rita Reven, Ann Lewis, Mary Bostock, Jim Guenther, Cinda Yoskin and Susan Olson. There were enough families represented to have a quorum.

Board Approvals and Other News

The board was introduced to the membership. Thank yous were extended to Erin Mills for the Swim-a-thon, Ken Najjar for the slideshow, and to all the Swim and Dive parents. The Swim-a-thon raised several thousands of dollars, and was considered a success.

The following board members were approved and confirmed: Susan Caputo, Cinda Yoskin, Susan Olson and Jim Guenther.

The following board members were nominated and approved: Mary Bostock, Ann Lewis, Kirk LeCompte and Cathy LeCompte. The terms of Ann, Cathy and Kirk expired with the end of the 2004 season; they have agreed to stay on for at least one more year.

Committee Reports

The following reports were made:

Membership & Communications

LSA had 15 families turn over this season; there are 60 people on the waitlist, including the 20 people who hold Season Guest Passes (SGPs). Anyone getting on the waitlist as of now will probably become an SGP in 2006.

Membership is limited to 150 families due to our own bylaws. 93% of our membership have e-mail access.

Swim & Dive

The 2004 season was great; Cinda reported LSA moved up to Division 1. We did, however, lose every meet, so we are going back down to Division 2.

The board announced that Cinda Yoskin and Susan Caputo will now be responsible for hiring coaches for the swim team; 2 swim coaches have already agreed to return next season.

The youngest category for swim team participants is ages 6 and under; members are encouraged to sign up.

LSA will be hiring a qualified swim instructor for the 3 to 5 year olds to get that age group — and the 7 to 8 year olds — to swim.

The Swim & Dive coaches will receive raises; the notion was mentioned that they will receive a bonus upon WSI certification. Mary Jo Nagy said WSI is not necessary for competitive swimming, and that maybe they should do a clinic. Meredith Lavery said we should not make WSI certification a requirement, and will find out more information on U.S. Swim Team clinics.

The board raised a recent motion to open a special swim team membership for the Willows and for LSA waitlisted members; it will be capped. The Stroke & Turn membership will not be open; it's limited. Mary Jo Nagy said the Willows should pay more than our own members to be on the swim team, and doesn't like opening the pool up to non-members. Cinda talked to PASDA, and the by-laws state the swimmer must be a bonafide member of the club as determined by the by-laws of that specific club. 80% of all PASDA clubs had special swim team memberships. **The membership agreed on opening up the swim team to waitlist members only.** This topic will be looked into further.

Personnel & Payroll

Ann Lewis reported we had 12 full-time guards this season, and that we may cut back staff next year. Most guards have already said they will return next season.

The concept of the board's Hiring Review Committee was introduced to the membership, and explained that the committee would review all hiring decisions and work with Pete.

The board will decide standards for posting jobs for guards and coaches

Finance & Legal

Rita Reven reported we are in very good shape financially, operating on income of over \$115,000; expenses are the same. We had no major expenses this year, so we were able to put money into ping pong and new grills.

Personnel and Payroll remained flat this year; we are projecting spending \$4,400 on improvements, with an end of year balance of \$47,000.

We still have \$120,000 on our mortgage with 10 years left to pay it off.

Insurance: Umbrella insurance became unavailable, we did not continue it, leaving us insured for one million dollars. Mary Jo Nagy raised the notion of PASDA insurance, that we are covered for PASDA's minimum insurance needs, and perhaps should do a group insurance with other clubs to spread the risk around.

Another member mentioned the United States Swimming Masters as an option for insurance — that a member can help get the team registered; Kirk asked the membership to email ideas and suggestions on this option and others to secure more insurance.

LSA now has Directors and Officers Insurance.

Operations & Maintenance

Regarding the facilities, Pete reported an unusual year of no problems because everything worked. The guards logged 5 saves.

LSA had bonding and grounding recertification this spring; we are now totally compliant on that front.

There are no code problems or law changes on the horizon to be concerned about, except for the possibility of needing an automatic defibrillator in the future. Several members suggested we shouldn't wait to purchase one; **a motion was raised and seconded to purchase the defibrillator for the 2005 season and was overwhelmingly approved.** Pete volunteered to look into sharing the cost; the board will look to see if it could benefit our insurance. Lifeguards are already trained on it as well.

We now have a maintenance "bible" to refer to for the benefit of future board members. Pete has also written a guide for staff to follow, with protocols, etc. so they know what to do at all times.

Social & Concessions

Cathy LeCompte reported we had a great season. The last day of school party was very successful, and very well attended. We will have this party again in 2005; there will be no Memorial Day party, however.

The Monsports donated popcorn for movie night, and offered to sponsor movie night; the board agreed to have 4 movie nights and more raft nights next season. Pete asked that members to not bring rolling rafts for safety reasons, and that pole lights must be on while the movie is playing

New Business

- One key issue was raised: The township has asked to use the LSA pool from mid-June through July to offer a swimming break to their Village Park campers during weekdays. We can choose the scenario, including # of kids, whether it's for swim instruction, etc. The township will negotiate with us (specifically, the size of our membership allotment), and will provide counselors and instruction.

Points raised were as follows:

- The township could pick up some of our insurance costs
- They'd have to make the liability insurance go away
- They really want this to happen
- A member asked if the township asked the Manors?
- The kids at this camp are from our own neighborhoods
- The pool is busier between 2 and 5pm on weekdays; between 12 and 1pm are lap swimmers

The membership was supportive if the right scenario was created. A show of hands to form a subcommittee on this matter yielded 10 members; this group will try to nail down a sample scenario to float back to the membership by the fall with a by-mail vote.

- Ken Najjar suggested incentivising the membership to agree to be on the board. Ben Franklin gives each board member a year free following each year of service; it was suggested perhaps board members get 50% off their dues. It was noted that while Ben Franklin does give board members a break, they do not have a mortgage. Members were asked to email incentive suggestions on this topic.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 5:20pm. The next board meeting is set for 5pm Sunday, October 24th. The next general meeting is 10am May 14, 2005.

Respectfully submitted by,
Ellen Buchsbaum
LSA Secretary