



## **MEETING MINUTES ST. LOUIS AREA MASTERS 2008**

The St. Louis Area Masters Swimming Board met at 12:15 PM on Sunday, December 14, 2008 at Shakespeare's Pizza in Columbia, MO following the Mizzou SCM masters meet.

Board Members present:

Mary Pohlman  
Cathy Kohn  
Bill Cannon  
Lori Payne  
Teresa McDowell  
John Pohlman, guest  
Shirley Maine, guest  
Tom Maine, guest  
Paul Morris, guest

The Minutes of the November 2, 2008 SLAM Board Meeting which were emailed to the Board were approved.

There was no Treasurer's report given since Dan Sullivan was not present. He gave a lengthy report at the last meeting. Mary reported that Dan was working on the budget for 2009.

Mary listed the Slate of Officers that would be voted on at the General Membership meeting that will be held during our spring meet in March. They are:  
President: Cathy Kohn  
Vice President: Teresa McDowell  
Treasurer: Dan Sullivan  
Secretary: Unknown

Mary reported that those interested in swimming at the YMCA Nationals in Fort Lauderdale, FL April 16 – 19 should join a YMCA 90 days prior to the meet. She and John are joining the Belleville East YMCA. The Belleville YMCA is in our LMSC and Dale Anderson hosted a meet for us last year. There are other YMCA alternatives, but it is good to support a YMCA in our area.

Lori Payne announced that Mel Goldstein would be in St. Louis January 8 & 9 to promote adult swimming at the local YMCAs. The YMCAs want to set up some Master Swimming programs throughout the area with a coach on deck. Lori, Teresa and Cathy expressed an interest in going to the meetings with Mel.

Bill Cannon announced that there will be a Winter Show Me Games held in Springfield, MO February 28 and March 1. This event is for all ages.

Mary announced that the St. Louis Senior Games would be held May 21 – 25, 2009. The swimming events would be held at the Chesterfield JCCA. Since this event will be held at a different pool than in the past, the pool will have to be measured to get a sanction. Bill will talk to the officials of the games to let them know the importance of getting a sanction for the swimming events.

Mary announced that Carbondale was hosting the Southern Illinois Senior Games June 5 & 6, 2009 at the University pool.

The Clayton Shaw Park Masters are hosting the long distance meet on February 8, 2009 at the Ladue pool.

Lori Payne has been contacting local pools to try to set up a date for our annual spring meet. Mary suggested that she check with local community colleges about using their pool for the meet. If Lori could not find an available pool in St. Louis, Mary volunteered to see if we could use the University Pool in Carbondale. Mary is going to check out dates with the university.

Lori Payne is trying to work with other officials around Ozark to look for a pool to host the Ozark Championships. She would like to use the Mizzou pool if she could work out a date where the university pool is available.

Mary announced that the 2009 Long Course Nationals will be held in Indianapolis, IN August 6 – 10, 2009. She would like to have good participation from SLAM members for the meet. Lori is looking into getting matching tshirts, parkas, caps and other swim equipment for those who plan to swim at Nationals to promote team spirit. Mary suggested that SLAM pay for relay fees and caps for those SLAM members who swim on relays. Mary also suggested that we get a new team banner.

Mary announced that USMS will raise its membership fee to \$42 in 2010. Right now, SLAM receives \$5 per member from the registration fee. Mary said that it is very important for SLAM to make every meet self sufficient to avoid having to raise our fees. We need to promote our meets more to get better participation.

Mary said that having a coached practice is very important to get more people to join the Master Swimming Program. **Cathy made a motion for SLAM to**

**support members who want to become coaches, including monetary support.** Bill seconded the motion. The motion was passed.

Mary announced that SLAM and Ozark are no longer using Constant Contact so we no longer have to pay the monthly charge. Hap Gentry has taken over Constant Contact. Hap will send out any emails for SLAM and Ozark members through Club Assistant since registrars have the password.

Mary has opened up a yahoo account. The account is capable of making yahoo groups to send out email. **Mary made a motion for Board Members to communicate through the yahoo group.** The motion was seconded and passed. The program is capable of sending out the email to your main email account.

Lori announced that anyone who wants a USMS planner needs to order one by tomorrow. Lori asked if we needed to buy any USMS rule books. Mary decided that since most of the Committee Members of USMS and all of the clubs receive one for free, that we had enough free copies.

Mary said that the SLAM stop watches need to be checked to see if they are working properly. We also need more batteries.

Cathy announced that SLAM would have a social at the Westport Funny Bone. She will announce a date.

Lori Payne is looking into the prospect of having a swim clinic in February or March. Since Karlyn Pipes-Neilsen has already been to St. Louis three times in the past couple of years, Lori was going to talk with Rowdy Gaines about getting someone else to do a clinic.

There was a discussion about how to avoid the timing system problems that we have had in the past at our local meets. Cathy thought the solution might be to pay the meet director to set up the meet and make sure that a qualified person was running the timing system. Mary reminded us that payment is no guarantee that it is done right. The facility can be the problem. It would be best to pay the facility to run the meet and they would have someone from their staff to run the timing system.

Tom Maine said that his only complaint from the Mizzou meet this weekend was the whistle. It was not very loud and was not used properly. Mary said that she would write Anna Lea and remind her to have an officials meeting before the meet to go over rules with the officials and starters.

Bill thanked Mary for her diligence and hard work as president of SLAM. The Board agreed.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Teresa McDowell, secretary