

BAM Booster Club Board Meeting Minutes

Virtual Booster Club Board Meeting via Zoom (due to CoVid-19 restrictions)

Date: June 13, 2020

Attendees: Sara Tiffit (who ran the meeting in Rod's absence), April Cheadle, Sheila Andrews, Jessica Dubey, Quynh-Anh Nguyen, and Anne Voegtlen

Present for part of the meeting, to brief us on Parks and Rec's reopening plans, Megan Pleli

Absent: Rod Stevens needed to miss the meeting

Time: 9:00 am – 10:20 am

Summary of Commitments:

Rod

Draft the notice of election for BAM members
Coordinate with Sheila to post it, with link to candidate information and the ballot

Sheila

Coordinate with Sara re drafting a summary about reopening plans, for BAM members
Distribute notice of election, with link to candidate information and the ballot

Anne

Draft minutes, provide an election blurb to Sheila, and coordinate as needed on election
Wait to publish minutes till reopening plan is fine-tuned and final

Sara

Confirm with Rod that he'll draft the notice of election
Coordinate with Sheila re draft summary about pool reopening plans, for BAM members
Send an election blurb to Sheila

Quynh-Anh

Coordinate with her daughter re re-design of tee-shirts

Everyone

Communicate with BAM swimmers, as needed, when a reopening plan is ready

Coach's Report – April Reported on Virtual Workouts Program

April is in week 3 of her Virtual Workouts program and is getting good feedback. She feels that the virtual program is a repeatable module, if the pool closure continues longer than expected. Almost exactly half the BAM team is participating in virtual coaching. April is happy that this is meeting a real need for the team. She's also happy with how the lane-mates part of it is working. There was a lot of strategy in putting the shape of the virtual coaching together. And, as April put it, the program is a chance to do what she loves—coaching and teaching and leading us all back to getting in the water again.

Jessica suggested that April might use the template to supplement limited pool time in any reopening plan

Board Elections

It was reported that Rod and Tom had discussed and resolved how to structure the current election, in light of the open board/officer slot, Tom's interest in running for Vice President/President Elect, and Rod's willingness to continue as President this year.

Rod will remain President. He will fill the now vacant, unexpired term of Vice President/President Elect (odd year election), completing its second year, and holding office as President for this year.

Tom Goodlin will be on the ballot for the Vice President/President Elect (even year election). If elected, he will serve as Vice President this year, and President Elect beginning after the 2021 election.

Sara and Anne will run for election to their current positions as Treasurer and Secretary, respectively.

Tom, Sara and Anne each will provide Sheila with a short blurb about their interest in running for election. Sheila will link these to the actual ballot.

Pool Reopening Plan, Megan Pleli

At approximately 9:30am, Megan Pleli joined us to lay out the current reopening plan and how it will work for swimmers. She was careful to point out that Parks and Rec is coordinating with a variety of agencies, from CDC to the local Health Department, in crafting and carrying out the plan.

Timing: The hope is still for an opening at the beginning of July. In June, they will be refilling, reheating and treating the pools, getting new PPE, testing shields between lanes.

Who Can Come: Both the CDC and the Health Department recommend that certain high risk groups not come back during phase 3. However, at the time of our meeting, Parks and Rec was saying that they would not kick out anyone in good health on the basis of risk categories. (For instance, age alone.)

Available Pool Times: Each BAM member will be allowed to sign up for no more than two 30 minute swim slots per week. Each swim time will come with 10 to 15 minutes before and after, to turn over the swimmers.

Registering for Specific Times: We will use the RecTrac system vs. Team Unify. This will let Parks and Rec also know who is in the facility at any one time. Apparently, there may be some online tutorials about how to use RecTrac. Parks and Rec will develop a handout on how to use it, for BAM members.

Cost: Each swimmer in BAM can sign up for no more than 2 slots per week. BAM as a whole has been allocated 210 slots initially. It will be a pay per use model, based on how Parks and Rec traditionally has charged for swim lessons. April stated that this will keep the costs in the realm of what people said they'd pay to be in the water, based on feedback from an earlier survey. If you have a slot reserved and cannot make it, you are asked to give notice to the pool. There's no charge if they can fill the slot.

Crafted Programs: BAM and BISC programs may look slightly different. For instance, BISC swimmers may have more swimmers per time slot, because they are willing to do tethered swimming. Lap swimmers will have allocated slots also.

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Flux: Once the pool reopens, Megan and others will try to keep all slots full. If BAM swimmers don't fill the available slots, they will be made available to others. So it's important that BAM swimmers participate, to fill out the allocations we've been given. Allocation numbers may change; and each swimmer will need to sign up each week for slots.

Getting Into the Pool: Each swimmer will suit up at home, and bring limited personal items. Each will arrive and park 10 to 15 minutes ahead of the reserved swim time. There will be health screens and temperature checks near the entrance, outside. The first couple parking spots near front stairs may be tented. Screening may be under the front canopy. When a group's time is called, pool staff will prop open doors and allow people to enter. There will be NO locker room usage, NO showers except possibly for deck showers. Toilets will be available if needed. Entry will be at the front canopy.

How It Will Look in the Pool: Facemasks are required inside the building, until getting into the pool. One swimmer per lane. There may be plexiglass barriers between lanes at the shallow end wall of Ray.

Getting Out of the Pool: Again, we'll have a short time to put on warm-ups and go. We'll exit by Nakata pool side doors near the diving boards. There won't be time to chat with April on deck, and there won't be steam room access or hot tub access, initially.

Waivers: There will be new waivers related to Covid-19 required from all.

Equipment: There will be no shared equipment at this initial stage. Each of us will bring our own. We discussed with April the prospect that she might curate the BAM Booster provided gear and loan it out for awhile to individuals who might need that. She's willing to do that if needed, but also said that she sees the next phase of swimming as not using a lot of equipment.

Megan asked that the board assist Parks and Rec in making this plan work, especially because she knows how much we enjoy seeing each other in normal times. And this model will be short on that social time that's traditionally been so much a part of BAM swimming.

Megan and Sara both stressed that the board needs to be careful about when and how we communicate with the team. We want to be clear. And we want to be supportive of the reopening plan.

A subgroup of the board (Sara and Sheila) will start crafting messaging for sharing with the team when Parks and Rec feels that it has a final plan.

Megan and April also mentioned that we are lucky on Bainbridge for how our pools are funded, by a metropolitan park district. Some pools across the country are looking at staying completely shut until 2022.

T-shirts

We talked about this political moment and how it affects and limits the possible messaging on any BAM tee-shirts. And we talked about making the front graphics on the shirts small enough to look good on women of any proportions. Quynh-Anh will coordinate with her daughter, Celia, about two alternative new slogans:

Water Is Essential (the quote that came on our BAM sunflowers, from the BAM angels); or
Just Add Water.

Next Meeting: July 18, 2020 at 9 am