

Mission Statement: The purpose of the Bitterroot Aquatic Center is to provide the community with a high quality year-round aquatic center that is affordable, accessible and provides excellent opportunities for recreation, fitness, competition, water safety and education.

Monday, March 12, 2018

Bitterroot Aquatic Center Commons Area 6:30 p.m.

Meeting called to order: 6:30 p.m.

Members present: President: Deidra Markette, Loretta Bundy, Vicky Mahon, Rod Pogachar, Carla Albert, Paul Belanger, Fern Schreckengust (manager), Sam Blough (assistant manager), Katie Lewis (BAC Swim Instructor). Lyndi Henson (minutes).

Member absent: Tiffany Jette

Guests: Steve Bergeron, Beki Brandborg, Stephanie Knapp, Marissa Soles, Stacy Lewis, Karen Peterson and Jackie Vandenberg (BST representative).

Open comments: None

Review of February minutes: Rod made a motion to approve the February 2018 minutes as presented, Karla seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Ballard King Update: Fern reported that the representative from Ballard King will be in Hamilton on March 21st and 22nd. Fern requested that as many board member that can possibly meet with the gentleman the better. At this time there is no set agenda, but there may be one later in the week before he arrives. The purpose for this meeting is for the representative to get to know the area, look at the facility and review all the materials that Fern has sent to him in order for him to give as a professional and educational advice with firm numbers and recommendations for the proposed expansion at the Bitterroot Aquatic Center.

Bitterroot Swim Team 2018 Contract: The Bitterroot Swim Team was given a contract for the upcoming 2018 swim season. Jackie Vandenberg was present to represent BST and reported that everything looked good but it will be approved at the upcoming BST board meeting and returned to the BAC board.

Sam Blough and Katie Lewis were present to present a proposal to expand the swim lessons and water education at the BAC. They have looked into two different programs and had a short video on both. The first program is called Infant Swimming Resources. It promotes early swimming lessons and instructions for as early as 6 months old. The other program is called Swim Float Swim which promotes the same idea with a little different approach.

Both Sam and Katie like the Swim Float Swim program better due to the fact it aligns with what the pool promotes in their swim lessons at this time. The hope and goal is to get these young swimmers into the pool and have them stick with lessons and education for many years and provide a base that would help other swimming teams/groups in the future.

The Swim Float Swim program is a 6 week instruction program, every day of the week (5 days) for a 10 minute instruction period and can happen while others are using the pool. The age for this program would start at 1 years of age. Sam and Katie would like to implement this new program before the expansion is started or complete. It would get more families involved in the pool. It is a very intense training program and is offered in Colorado Spring CO. The cost is high but once the instructor is certified, it can be offered to parents of young children. Katie would be the one who would be certified and run the program if the board decides this is the route they want to go down. Katie Lewis would be required to sign a 5 year contract with BAC in order to make this worth the investment.

Fern asked the board members to think about the proposal from Sam and Katie and possibly make a decision at the April board meeting, If it is a program the board would like the BAC to pursue, the training could take place as early as May for Katie to attend and start implementing in June.

Managers' Report: Fern reported that Bryon Schreckendgust would be replacing filters at the plant April 6th or 7th.

Board Comments: Paul expressed some frustration in the past with the board and feels his ideas, experience and opinions have been met with opposition. Paul mentioned that he hopes the future with the board can show both trust and communication between all the board members. Deidra, Karla, Vicky and Rod all thanked him for his input and hope the board can move on as one in the future.

Paul will have some information for the board on how term limits would work if implemented in the bylaws and it will be an agenda item for the April board meeting.

The board may have a special board meeting after the representative for Ballard King comes and does the study of the expansion. Deidra will let people know if that will happen or if it will just be part of the April 9th monthly meeting.

Meeting Adjourned: Karla moved to adjourn the meeting, Rod seconded the motion. Meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Next Meeting: April 9, 2018 in the commons of the BAC

Respectfully submitted: Lyndi Henson