

Cowell Homeowners Association
Walnut Country Swim Team Committee Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, October 17, 2018

Present: C. Louie, T. Washmera, N. Washmera, M. Ulicki, G. Davey, T. Tadiar (Lindquist), K. Kindorff, A. Lohse

1.) Call to Order: 7:09 p.m.

2.) Homeowner's Open Forum:

- 1) Mr. Byrd, father of a swimmer announces that he as well as the other homeowners are here to see if WCST need help as they are hearing rumors that there are problems with Ex-meet director, problems with Board and anything with any Adrian.
 - a. C. Louie expresses that Coach is an employee of CHOA and they handle Coach's position. The swim committee are in need of fundraising positions. We are currently sitting and waiting as recommendations have been made to CHOA and they come back with their input, they come back with a month later.
 - b. CHOA has not approved our CHOA rep and our Committee. Tony Washmera and Kath Kindorff are at meeting but not officially on the Committee at this time.
 - c. C. Louie expresses that the WCST mindset will change going forward to being more fun based on the feedback of the survey.
 - d. This meeting is to get ideas for the upcoming season and get an idea on the direction we want to go in.
 - e. County Meet has been moved up a month due to the school calendar. T. Washmera says that the LYMA lease are not allowed to host a swim meet within 7-days of school starting. LMYA made this decision without consulting other teams. As a result, many teams will not be participating in the County Meet. There has been a movement to form an advisory committee as a result of this change.
 - f. N. Washmera: there has been nothing between Meet Director and CHOA. Mr. Byrd questions if our team is officially separated from CHOA. N. Washmera said that some CHOA members either want our team, while other CHOA members does not want our team.
 - g. T. Washmera answered that being a part of CHOA has been more difficult being one entity. Years ago, merging the two was supposed to be simplified. However, any changes that is believed needs to be done, gets passed through to the swim team. N. Washmera says that they don't understand what it takes to run a swim team. CHOA micromanages how the team is ran based on feedback they get from their attorneys. This presents a challenge to CHOA and makes things more difficult for WCST. Furthermore, the new general manager is very different than the previous general manager. The new general manager has more experience on the business and accounting side. However, not as personable and wishes to micromanage the team adds another element. It has been more challenging to run the team.
 - h. C. Louie brings up that it's challenging that new CHOA reps are changed each time. It's like starting from scratch each time.
 - i. Mr. Spencer Williams, a father of another swimmer, questions if there is anything as homeowners that can be done. N. Washmera expressed that showing up to CHOA meetings and expressing positive remarks about the swim team as there are other residents who attends these meetings. They express negativity toward the team, preschool and tennis.
 - i. Tennis and preschool are a separate entity. CHOA can have an involvement with WCST as we are a sub-entity from CHOA.
 - ii. If we are to try to break off from there can be a catch-22. The feeling is that CHOA wants all the separate entities to be gone. N. Washmera says that there are some members at the CHOA level that would support us. It's a gamble either way.
 - iii. N. Washmera suggests when CHOA does their voting every year, WCST should lobby at the same time – just like 4 years ago.
 - j. Mr. Williams says he as well as those sitting next to him would like to thank all for answering questions. In addition, that they are offering help but just can't be a part of the Committee.
 - i. C. Louie reiterates that WCST homeowners needs to attend the CHOA meetings as swim team will be a topic of conversation. In addition, if there's a Townhall, we need to be there as well. We need to show them that the WCST residents are huge.
 - k. Jackie Byrd, former WCST Treasurer, asks what's the feasibility of breaking off of CHOA. N. Washmera says that financially we can. Jackie recommends that it is all thought out and that we know how to approach the topic when at a CHOA meeting which way we're going (separating or not). N. Washmera says that this is at the infancy stage and that we should attend meetings questioning where's our representative and WCST is not a concern for them. We need to hold CHOA accountable.
 - l. Jackie recommends Spencer put this on Facebook that we don't have an approved committee, we don't have a CHOA rep and they are not approving CHOA recommendations.
 - m. Dana Sielman, mother of swimmer, expresses her concern. She said she received the email that there are problems and then the communication got quiet. There are rumors circulating.
 - n. T. Tadiar expresses that she's in a seat to avoid quorum.
 - o. Jackie said that mistakes that were made 4 years ago is that communication needs to be out there. If it's communicated out, then the rumors will stop. She said if we don't put it out (regardless what CHOA suggests to say or to not), get it out there to slow down rumors.

3.) **Approval of Minutes:** Will not approve minutes at this time.

4.) **CHOA Update – Barry & Donna:**

A. No CHOA update as CHOA is not present at meeting.

5.) **Director Elect:**

A. WCST 2019 outlook

- a. Get more family involvement and make it a more fun event.
- b. G. Davey said that she and K. Kindorff can start planning once they have the meet schedule.

B. Swimmer Registration and Recruitment

- a. We need to bring registration up and need to recruitment in the neighborhood.
- b. K. Kindorff offers her daughter Sarah and her friends to walk the neighborhoods to put fliers on doorsteps. The flier will mention making friends and all the fun to be had by being on the team.
- c. T. Washmera suggests that we have an insert placed in the Signal.
- d. G. Davey mentions we should put something up at the grocery store
- e. 4/8/2018 is the first day of Swim Season
- f. Registration window in years past has opened around February 9th.
- g. A. Lohse is assuming that we have pressures from CHOA, financial pressures and pressures to establish jobs for those registered. A. Lohse says if we open too late, then it can send a signal that we might not have a team – people may then look in to other teams. N. Washmera recommends that we should do it around other teams. A. Lohse says January would be too early.
- h. G. Davey says she agrees with A. Lohse that an ice cream social would help to let others know that registration will open soon for WCST. T. Washmera says that it has always been a recruiting tool.
- i. Chili cook-off is January 27, 2019. This will be used as our kick-off to swim team. G. Davey suggests that having the ice cream social a few weeks later – March 2nd. As a result, that can also be a swim suit fitting and the time to bring in final paperwork for registration.
- j. May 18th will be time trials.
- k. Motion to open online registration on February 4, 2019 (G. Davey/T. Washmera) Motion carried.
- l. Spring Clinic will begin tentatively around March 4th as that's 4 weeks before Spring Break.
- m. T. Washmera asks what else can be done to reach out to homeowners as all efforts are not producing results.
 - i. G. Davey asks if it's a percentage of residents or eligible residents. T. Washmera mentions that demographics cannot be asked to residents. N. Washmera said there are certain things that can be asked. T. Washmera said that we need to not count on CHOA and need to figure things out. N. Washmera says we need to be seen as actively recruiting is all CHOA is asking for. CHOA just wants to see data from a subcommittee that would work through some of this information.
- n. T. Tadiar says that based on the state of the team, we need to hold a family information team to stop rumors and concerns. There are parents' voices and she recommend that we hold a social gathering such as hot chocolate and coffee. By holding this, it will allow us to retain the current team and then we can focus on recruiting.
- o. A. Lohse summarizes that 1) we need to stop the rumors and not work against us 2) having the existing members of the team networking.
- p. G. Davey says we need to get something out soon like Cookies and Cocoa.
 - i. Sunday, December 2, 2018 from 4pm-5:30pm is proposed date for WCST swim families.

6.) **Head Coach Update – Coach Adrian**

A. Assistant Coach

- a. A. Lohse does not know what will happen next year. Coach Katie will be at Round Hill and it is unclear where Coach Marisa and Coach Jacob will be at that point in time. He doesn't feel it matters right now as the assistant coaches of last year are not in a place to answer.
- b. N. Washmera says in terms of budget, we need to eliminate one of the assistant coaches – can only have 2 assistant coaches. In addition, she asks A. Lohse if he will be working at Clayton Valley Charter High School next summer as that can impact when the assistant coaches start. It's also that it's difficult to hire college students as assistant coaches as they will miss half the swim season now that the season is starting earlier. A. Lohse can suggest that we need to put together a contingency plan. C. Louie asks how do we find someone. A. Lohse says that we need to find someone that is in between school and that posts can be put on Craigslist, Pacific Swimming, SwimSwam.com and various sites.
- c. Hannah Williams expressed she would be interested when she comes back from college. She was a swimmer coach for the last 5 years.
- d. A. Lohse also recommends to check the DVC swim team and Water Polo team.
 - i. T. Tadiar questions what is the target date to get someone and who does the interview

1. C. Louie says it was January but the sooner the better. A. Lohse said there was no formal interview but there should be a process in place with former Board members. C. Louie steps in that he will take care this or whatever is needed.
- e. A. Lohse says that perhaps we should look in to Coaches of other teams of Coaches who may want to leave their current teams as they have capped out in their current positions.
- f. N. Washmerma asks again if A. Lohse will work at Clayton again next year as it affects how many Coaches are needed for WCST. A. Lohse confirms that he will most likely be at Clayton Valley. He also says that he will find out the schedule around mid-January. The season is February-May approximately with meets being Thursday/Saturday format. He also doesn't know the pool schedule as he shares Cowell Pool with Concord High School.

7.) Treasurer Updates:

- A. 2019 Budget
 - a. 2019 budget was approved by CHOA. The 2018 is awaiting completion.
- B. Introduction of the fundraising fee, registration fee, work fee deposit
 - a. Last year fees were changed to cover CHOA costs. N. Washmerma says she would like to keep this same format. Fees from CHOA in 2019 are not changing provided that we have similar registration numbers. Work deposit fees (\$100 check that is only cashed if they miss their job requirement) seemed to work. The \$100 Fundraising fee per swimmer was the recently approved to be passed through. These can be covered by sponsorship or through lap-a-thon in the form of a check. This is per swimmer as the funds have been raised by the same members of the WCST Committee. N. Washmerma mentions that it was approved in July (M. Ulicki reads the section from 7/10/2018 minutes). A. Lohse says per swimmer sounds confusing if others fees are per family. Also, other teams have per family as their fees.
 - b. A. Lohse suggests that we call this a lap-a-thon deposit, not a fundraising fee. This is a big fundraising activity that is done as a team. If people cannot attend the lap-a-thon, they will be told that their check will be deposited. Alternatively, if someone brings a corporate sponsor, then they can reduce their deposit amount. For example, a family check for \$400 for four swimmers. If they bring in a sponsor or some of the funds are raised during lap-a-thon, then a new check for a remaining amount can be written and the original check will be returned.
 - i. T. Washmerma says that this will get more involvement.
 - ii. Motion to change \$100 fundraising fee to a lap-a-thon deposit check equal to \$100 per swimmer in each family. (N. Washmerma/G. Davey) Motion carried.
- C. Reimbursement and request for each process – moved to November meeting.
- D. Banking authorizations – N. Washmerma and C. Louie will discuss at a later date.

Motion to Adjourn – Barry & Donna: It was moved and seconded (T. Washmerma/G. Davey) to adjourn the regular meeting at 8:57p.m. Motion carried.

Next WCST Committee meeting is: 11/15/2018

COMMITTEE CERTIFICATION

I, _____ **Secretary**
 (Committee Member's Name) (Office Held)

of the Walnut Country Swim Team do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the Minutes of the Walnut Country Swim Team Committee Meeting held on October 17, 2018 as approved by the attending Committee Members.

Signature:
 Date: