

**MRPA Aquatics Section Meeting Minutes**  
**Wednesday, January 4<sup>th</sup> at 10:30am**  
**Zoom**

**Housekeeping:**

- Introductions
- Reminder about network forums for questions or issues to pose to MRPA
- Group reservations – Kristen Twitchell, City of Eagan
  - o Information gathered is shared in this google doc about how facilities handle group reservations for year round and summer facilities  
[https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1TTuLve\\_3hzsiCwcZUYnxnVJy\\_RQMtT2W/edit?usp=sharing&ouid=110798242389112045084&rtpof=true&sd=true](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1TTuLve_3hzsiCwcZUYnxnVJy_RQMtT2W/edit?usp=sharing&ouid=110798242389112045084&rtpof=true&sd=true)

**Lifeguard games for summer 2023**

- July 30<sup>th</sup> (outdoor) August 6<sup>th</sup> (indoor)
- Indoor venue – Monticello (pool depth 5 feet), reach out to Eden Prairie about seeing if he wants to be a backup indoor venue. Can be a different day
  - o Friday night we could use the Plymouth pool
- Outdoor venue – Bloomington

**LGIT, recerts, and WSIT**

- On the google doc – make sure it is up to date about classes being offered
- Free to list on ARC if you are not already doing that
- Tip: Faribault doubled up on instructors and closed the pool to certify more people at once and this worked very well for them
- WSIT academy in Minnesota in the beginning of June – register through ARC
- Eagan will offer an LGI recert in May
- Option to get a small group together to do an LGI recert

**2023 Conference Ideas**

- LG/LGI review, supposed to take 6 hours. Offsite institute during pre-conference or day before could be done if we had enough interest
- U of M PhD researcher, Ayanna Rakhu, on history of swimming. *Mother May I Swim*. Ask her to come present
  - o <https://news.cehd.umn.edu/mother-may-i-swim-u-of-m-researcher-ayanna-rakhu-works-to-give-african-american-parents-and-children-the-confidence-to-swim-safely/>
- Red Cross, Starfish ([leslie@sai-intl.org](mailto:leslie@sai-intl.org)), Ellis (Shorview and Edina) – why we should use them
- Red Cross – first aid and in-service training
- Mermaid School
- How to do / get started with a feasibility study
- Red Cross – process of doing audits
  - o Bloomington did one last summer and scheduled it through Cindy

- Katie - how to better serve kids who are underserved
- Teaching LG classes to deaf participants
- Sensory swim time – JJ Williams is going to contact someone at Minnesota Neat about working with our neurodivergent population. Kristen will send JJ another contact.
- Work with universities – How do we build the aquatics profession with our university partners. Encourage students to get WSI and LG class and use that as a way to get into the rec field
- How to create an internship and meet the criteria the Universities are looking for. Maybe even for fields like business or other non-rec students but in order to keep leaders around.

Look for the document for session proposals to send to potential contacts this month to stay on the MRPA timeline

#### **Finding water fitness instructors –**

- North Mankato – partner with a local fitness facility to teach the classes and they provide the lifeguard.
- Shakopee – using other instructors that teach land-based classes and aquatics provides the lifeguard
- Eagan – use other fitness instructors who shadow the water certified instructors. Got a few instructors through lifetime and planned the timing of the classes to fit with their year-round classes

#### **Bulk Order**

- Kevin to set up bulk order with Watermen

#### **Summer leadership structure – Megan, Minnetonka**

- Plymouth – beach coordinator, seasonal 40 hour/week March – August
- Bloomington – aquatic coordinator and assistant coordinator (also at swim beach) at the outdoor pool. Both report to David.
- North Mankato – director, FT staff manager on site, manager on duty (18+), leads (18+)

#### **LG training dates**

- Update your dates in our google doc

#### **Program sample**

- Minnetonka, beach swim lessons starting up again this summer

#### **2023 Updates**

- Chair: Kevin O'Brien

Next meeting will be February 1<sup>st</sup> at 10:30am via Zoom