

## 2023 Lake Erie LMSC Annual Meeting — November 5, 2023

<b>LMSC Chair:</b>	Ann Marshfield	<b>Vice Chair:</b>	Laura Wright
<b>Minutes recorded by:</b>	Ashley Braniececki	<b>Date/time of meeting:</b>	November 5, 2023; 2:00pm

### Actions Requiring Approval by the Lake Erie LMSC Membership:

1. Motion to spend \$600 for food and soft drinks (no alcohol) for social following the 2024 Lakewood Meet at a venue near the pool.

### Motions Passed:

1. Approve motion to spend \$600 for food and soft drinks (no alcohol) for social following the 2024 Lakewood Meet at a venue near the pool.

### Number of LMSC Members Present: 16

**Lake Erie LMSC Board Members Present:** Nelson Abbey, Chucky Beatty, Paul Berman, Kristen Bergmann, Ashley Braniececki, Jay Definis, Ann Marshfield, Mark Marshfield, Judi Norton, Diane Spence, Laura Wright

**Other Lake Erie Members Present:** Dan Cox, Luise Easton, Duane Grassell, Tom Spence, Molly Tolford

**Lake Erie LMSC Board Members Absent:** Andrea Hahn, Rick Mitchell

### Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 2:09pm.

1. Adoption of the Annual Meeting from 2022. Meeting Minutes noted that Judi was elected Secretary; however, she was only taking the minutes. Accepted by acclamation.
2. Membership Report – Presented by Ashley Braniececki with report distributed in person. 2023 Membership was generally in line with prior year (501 v 508). There were nine registered clubs compared to five in 2022. 2024 Membership open.
3. Vice Chair Report – Laura Wright, Pass.
4. Treasurer Report – Presented by Mark Marshfield with report distributed in person. Expect to be up \$2k by end of the year. Everything essentially within the budget approved last year, though funds may flow through different line items. Judi's USMS Top 10 program made about \$1k (\$90 in October).

Nelson asked about 2024 Forecast. Board will get together to put one together for 2024 with priorities. Next year's national convention is purely virtual so no expenses. This year's convention was \$1,500 for three people, though two delegates are usually sent. The LMSC spent \$1,800 for three people to go to Relay. This will be ironed out at December 9 Meeting. April 7<sup>th</sup> Clinic is "not going to be much money."
5. Coaches Committee Report – Presented by Nelson Abbey – Membership List shows 33 self-identified coaches, likely a very small amount that are actual coaches. The LMSC is planning a Coaches Certification Level 2 in April. Will have a good structure for advertising. Already up on the USMS calendar (no current link). Hannah Burandt (Vikings Masters) needs to confirm certain information before Bill Brennan can provide link. Will work on scholarship options at next board meeting.
6. ALTS Report – Presented by Judi Norton – The LMSC does not have an official ALTS program as there is no delegated pool. Many of the pools around here have their own programs, and do not want masters to encroach on their programs. Discussed instructor certification program via USMS noting it is beneficial to have this knowledge if you are a coach or swimmer so that you can help others.
7. Top 10 Patch Program for USMS – Presented by Judi Norton – Strong revenue source for the LMSC. Patch order form is available on usms.org. Requests are made throughout the year and once they are verified, they are mailed out. Orders tend to increase when each new USMS Top 10 list (SCY, SCM, and LCM) becomes officials.
8. Official / Safety Report – Presented by Mark Marshfield – Nothing new to report for safety. Acknowledged two officials present at meeting. Noted one has to be certified by USMS or another organization to officiate meets. Mark talked about the process of getting certified as an official. Stroke and turns certification is all online and free.
9. Sanctions Report – Presented by Diane Spence – There were five sanctioned events this past year, including the upcoming Hudson meet. It is expected that the Lakewood Meet (January 2024) will be sanctioned shortly. Diane noted that she's been serving as Sanctions Chair for a long time and would like someone to take over the role.
10. Top 10 Report – Presented by Laura Wright – Laura completed her first submission this year. Preliminary LCM Top 10 is out for 2023. It is anticipated that our LMSC will have 16 individual swimmers and two relays.

11. Awards Report – Presented by Jay Definis – National Awards – Discussed award types and recent recipients. Discussed belief that Awards Chair should be changed to “Volunteer Engagement.” Jay also mentioned his desire for an LMSC involvement award, possibly part of business plan. Jay would like to continue highlighting stories in the newsletter and invited members to send in stories of interest.
12. Open Water / Newsletter – Presented by Chuck Beatty – Chuck is working with MetroParks on Brogan Open Water Swim. Permits will not be awarded until December, but possible 2024 dates are June 29, July 27, or Aug 3. Articles for next newsletter are requested by mid-December. Chuck is organizing a New Year’s Day swim at Stow, as has been held in past. Judi added she will be holding a Noon Year’s Eve workout on December 31<sup>st</sup> at Lakewood.
13. Chair’s Report – Presented by Ann Marshfield - Ann noted that the LMSC met both its 2023 goals (continue to improve communication and swim opportunities, host more swim clinics). Discussed addition of Viking Masters team and the club’s willingness to hold a Masters meet in early 2024.

Duane Grassell asked if VM meeting could be a Zone Championship – Ann asked to table

Ann discussed a rule change recommended by the LMSC, which was approved at the 2023 National Convention. She also highlighted Louise Easton as being honored as a five-star senior athlete and recognized Chuck Beatty who won the national Coaches Award.

Old Business – None

#### Elections

- Nomination for Chair, 2-year term: Ann Marshfield
- Nomination for Secretary, 2- year term: Rick Mitchell
- No additional nominations made from membership
- All approved by unanimous voice vote.

#### New Business

- December 9 – Business Plan and Budget meeting to be held by Board Members. USMS has requested that the LMSC create a Business Plan and that the Business Plan align with national objectives.
- Events for 2024
  - April 6, 2024 – USMS Level 2 Coach Certification held in Cleveland.
  - Considering State Championship Meet with Ohio LMSC
    - Judi recommended not changing our current meet schedule and naming convention, with any State Championship Meet to be in addition to our standard lineup.
- Ann doesn’t consider this an annual meeting due to low turnout and would like to offer our Annual Meeting at the first Sunday practice in September at Avon’s Outdoor Aquatic Facility. Idea is that everyone will swim for free and that the meeting could be held at the pavilion next to the pool.
- Fairport Harbor – Triathletes approached Ann to do an open water event on the eastside of Cleveland at Fairport Harbor, which is part of the Lake County Metro Parks.

Jay Definis thanked the LMSC for their donation to the USA Swimming Foundation, related to the clinic held in August 2023 at the Westlake Rec Center, and for all those who supported the event. Jay communicated his desire to hold the event again and wanted to gauge interest by membership. Jay suggested holding the event around the same time as the annual meeting. Also noted Westlake Rec Center’s interest in holding the event again, but also brought up holding event at an inner-city venue. Jay noted he is co-chair of the Golden Goggles Silent Auction, going live soon. Jay also wants to refresh bylaws. Ann says she would not vote on that today, would look at all of this in the business plan on December 9<sup>th</sup>.

Mark Marshfield made a motion to spend \$400 for a food and soft drinks (no alcohol) at a post-meet social following the Lakewood Meet in 2024, at venue near the meet. Ann seconded the motion. Ashley recommended motion to be increased to up to \$600, and Kristen recommended putting the information in the meet info, with meet participants able to check a box if they plan to attend when they register. The motion was revised to reflect the increased dollar amount and was unanimously approved.

Duane Grassell – Brought up desire to hold a Zone Championship, as was held in 1990’s. Ann agreed to take idea to those LMSCs in the Great Lakes Zone. The Zone is not currently funded. Dan Cox, a formed Zone Chair, discussed past funding methods.

Round of applause for Brian and the staff at Garret’s Mill.

## Tasks for the Upcoming Year

1. December 9<sup>th</sup> – Strategy Meeting with 2024 forecast and annual priorities. Such items to be discussed (as noted in the meeting) include Coaches Certification scholarships, Awards v. Volunteer Engagement name change, Involvement Award, Bylaw revisit, Annual Meeting date/event, State/Zone Championship, Clinics.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:12