

Metropolitan LMSC Annual Meeting: November 24th 2024

Metro BOD Attendees

- RC Saint-Amour- President
- Jayne Saint-Amour- Treasurer
- Bob Kolonkowski- Long Distance Chair
- Sharron Snyder- Communications Chair
- Kasia Sawicz- Top Ten
- Steve Shtab

Metro Members Open Forum Attendees

(Some names were illegible on the sign in sheet - possibly spelled wrong)

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|---------------------|----------------------------|---------------------|
| - Nick Lang | - Russell Harty | - David Hirsh |
| - Linda Horiunchi | - Andron Christie | - Eolitte Hirsh |
| - Mark Skandera | - hafern Kalea | - Erin Donohue |
| - Jessica Mcronie | - Audrey Yuan | - Jasmin Bouzaroea |
| - Megan Happ | - Chris Fischer | - Timothy Kou |
| - Arthus Uszynski | - Justin Mon | - Steve Goran |
| - John Schmidt | - Noah Zeigler | - Melanie Hyde |
| - Shawn Huang | - Mathios Althman-Kurosaki | - Erica Lewin |
| - Jasmine Stare | - Ian Mannel | - Katherine Moreles |
| - Ryan Wong | - Marc Gershel | - Alexis Vasquez |
| - Marlon Somarara | - Carl Paradise | - Jordan Mefidor |
| - Yee Chung Phang | - Jason Wong | |
| - Amanda Lee | - Zach Youssef | |
| - Craig Saint-Amour | - Chad Moody | |

Swim Meets

- Bill Ross Memorial swim meet was our most attended/registered yet – which makes us feel like we are finally getting out from our covid hold. Metro completely covers the swim meet fees to offer a free swim opportunity to our community. 100% of the proceeds go to pancreatic cancer research in Dr. Bill Ross's name. We switched up the line-up this year which was helpful - long-distance events were first and then a general warm-up. We also added positive check-in for seeding which made the swim meet go an hour faster and easier! The return of the T-shirt giveaway was a big hit since we had saved money by giving away lesser ticketed items in the past.
- Jim Wu hosted a Metro SCM meet at AGUA in May. Great repeat event! Metro gave out grab bag goodies including - luggage tags, goggles or baseball hats. We also provided a bagel breakfast to all the swimmers. Great meet for NYC folks
- Drew continued to host their swim meet on long Island - switching up the discipline from LCM to SCY. This seemed to resonate with the membership as more people turned out to compete. Metro giveaways included - Metro logoed mugs and energy pick me up snacks. Way to go Drew and Kasia.

Communications

- Sharron Snyder is our official communications chair and did a great job disseminating key information: congratulating swimmers, keeping them updated on meets and happenings, great swims, unfortunately member passings and holiday wishes.
- We are communicating more through our FB page, so people will know of events, meetings, etc., to foster community. We are still using *Constant Contact* for private metro members only usage.

Convention

- RC, Jayne, Bob and Sharron attended this year's convention that was virtual.
- The house voted to have USMS BOD meetings closed. Metro opposed this vote.
- Fees were increased again – Metro opposed this vote
- Please look at USMS page for all committee discussions/minutes, updates and votes on BOD members

Member Feedback

- Reiterated the mission of the LMSC and how we can further help Metro clubs succeed - we all agree our money is not for 1 member or 1 club, it must be used for the good for the majority of our members.
- Constituents voted to keep the board the same for the next 2 years.
- Voted on our annual budget
- Happy to see more meets occurring in the Metro area- but still not enough for what our members want. We want as many as pre-covid time. Bob is currently working on an open water championship next year- 2026.
- Talked ideas for next year- sponsorships and scholarships.
- Asked for volunteers to take additional positions or get more involved.
- Got feedback on giveaways and promotional items and what they liked the most this year.
- Discussion on scholarship money. Talks of clinics.
- Discussed concerns raised about the lack of pool time and closing of swim clubs/workout groups due to rising costs – especially in the city. Lots of members have no places or people that they have traditional swim at or week hurting our retention numbers
- Everyone is not thrilled with the rising costs of USMS since people are either on fixed-income or students coming out of college.
- Question and answer session...