**DRAFT MINUTES, ZOOM MEETING, JUNE 21, 2023**

**TRISATE WHEELCHAIR & AMBULTORY ATHLETICS**

**MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

The meeting was called to order by Caitlin Goerlich, Chair, at 7:15pm

Attendance: Laura Caligiuri, Ryan Chalmers, Jimmy Cuevas, Phil Galli, Caitlin Goerlich, John Guimares, Joan Wheeler, Trisha Yurochko

Excused: Ken Brucato,Darla Clayton, Danny Martin, Pat Redden

**Review/Approval of Minutes (4/26/23):** Caitlin asked if everyone had reviewed the minutes and if there were any changes. A motion was made by Phil Galli and seconded by Jimmy Cuevas to accept the minutes.

**Treasurer’s Report:** Trisha reported that the balance in the checking account was $15,621.21. Trisha also reported that TSWAA paid out $4468.07 for the Tri-State Games. This also included the $2750 for insurance coverage from Move United, Phil’s travel expenses and Paul Kolterjahn’s expenses for tape, paint etc. Nine officials took the stipend. Trisha suggested that a gift card of $100 be purchased and given to Paul to cover his travel expenses. All agreed that that was the right thing to do.

A discussion followed on there being a MOU (Memo of Understanding) between TSWAA and the North Jersey Navigators with regard to providing funds to TSWAA based on a meet fee as well as a per athlete fee. This would apply to the Invitational, Swim Meet and any other meet(s) as well. Insurance was also discussed as where to get it – does USATF offer insurance coverage? Could the Navigators insurance coverage for archery practice be expanded to include the archery competition? Who and how would powerlifting be covered?

**Old Business:** *Tri-State Regional Meet*: There were about 80 registered athletes from NJ, NY, PA, MD, CT and VA. Laura Caligiuri, Ryan Chalmers, Phil and Trisha commented on the meet as John was not at the meeting at the time. Laura brought up a comment that she heard from a parent (team unknown) that at times, especially on Sunday, the intensity of the officials was not appropriate. Laura pointed out to them that the officials are always looking at safety and that the incident the parent was talking about was a safety issue. Ryan and Laura both mentioned that it was difficult at times to hear the announcements – part of that was due to the location of the speakers, the teams, and the dee-jay kept playing music when announcements were going on. Better communication and placement of him for next year was discussed and the idea that we could use his sound system for announcements were great suggestions. Phil commented that the meet started on time and ended on time which was great. We had officials from NY, CT and NJ many of whom were para-certified, but had not had much experience and were very grateful for the opportunity to officiate. Trisha mentioned that she thought it ran well, but it was a bit unusual for the officials to be staying so far from the rest of the athletes etc. Also, that the room for one of the officials was supposed to be cancelled for one night but was cancelled for the entire stay. The hotel worked hard to find another room in the area but there were none available. She also mentioned that the lack of volunteers was an issue, that some gave up because the job was to hard, or they had to leave. As far as the volunteers were concerned the morning was better than the afternoon on Saturday.

*Invitational Track & Field Meet:*  Laura reported that there were 46 registered athletes. She felt that the meet went well, which it did. Phil brought up that some of the athletes use the results for Nationals and that it should really be a Level 2 meet. If a Level 2 meet the results would count and a POP (proof of performance) would not be needed, which some of the athletes at the meet completed for nationals this year. Laura was in agreement to make it a Level 2 meet.

**New Business:**

A – *Move United Membership* – should we renew? The answer, yes as that allows us to apply for grants and purchase insurance if necessary for the meets next year. The fee is $50.

B/C/D/E – Move United/The Hartford Adaptive Equipment Grant: John brought it up to Caitlin as a possible way to fund the powerlifting equipment. The deadline to submit the grant is June 30, 2023. The grant has a couple of amounts $30K, $50K. Along with determining the dollar amount for the equipment, we also have to include the number of unique participants, and area covered. The group is looking at not only powerlifting equipment, which is needed if we want to grow the sport in the region and we really need to meet the requirements for a Level 2 meet, we currently don’t, and eventually grow to a Level 3 meet. The equipment would include but not limited to: 45lb Olympic bar, collars, bench, weights, straps, scale, additional weights to round out our current set. The other equipment which would improve our meets are: 4 Distos (electronic measuring devices) – these would be used in 4 seated field pits, the ambulatory javelin and shotput field pits. A rail system Disto for long jump; 2 javelin gauges and a new weights and measure system. Our current one is about 15 years old.

Caitlin was asked to send out the grant info so that we can all take a look at it and help to input the information. She was going to create a Google Doc and send it out. The board has until Sunday, June 25 to review and complete the document and get it back to Caitlin. She will summarize and “fill in the blanks” on the application and send back to the board members for their final input. The completed grant application is due back to Caitlin by June 27th – 28th so Caitlin can submit by June 30th. If TSWAA is awarded the grant the funds would have to be spent by January 31, 2024.

F – *Additional Board Representation*: Trisha asked, with the resignation of Debbie Armento, did we need to bring another representative on board? Since we recently have been assisting teams/organizations from New York City, Maryland and Boston, along with having no representation from CT that we should reach out to them to see if they want to join the board. Trisha was asked to reach out to Gwena/Gerry from Bennett Blazers and Joan Karpuck from CT. Jimmy was asked to reach out to John Hamre. Achilles was also mentioned as a possible member as well.

There being no further business, Trisha made the motion to adjourn the meeting and Jimmy seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 8:42 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Trisha Yurochko