



Wednesday, October 7, 2020 – Eastern Zone DEI Conference Call Minutes

Nadine called the meeting to order 9:06pm

Tristan Formon confirmed he will be taking the minutes moving forward
 Attendance Role call Alpha by LSC’s & any guests joining the call
 Reference guidelines, contact list, requirements & a welcome to new chair:
 Puranjot Kaur – Maine Swimming

Attended	Absent
Janice Orsburn - Maryland	Rebecca Rice – Allegheny Mtn.
Rossi Madonnado - Adirondack	Dennis Flores - Connecticut
Puranjot Kaur - Maine	Malica Policard – New England
Lamar DeCasseres - Metropolitan	Kelsey Cashman - Athlete
Carlton Taylor – Mid-Atlantic	Sarah Nelson – Athlete
Deuel Stephens – New Jersey	Noah Wilson - Athlete
Mike Switalski - Niagara	
Rob Green – Potomac Valley	
Peter Maloney – Virginia	
Tristan Formon – At-Large Mem.	
Tim Husson – EZ Co-Director	
Mary Turner – EZ Budget Chair	
Dana Holder – Advisory Mem.	
Nikia Brown - At-Large Mem.	
Mary-Ellen Tynan – Maine Office Guest	
Paul Stocket – Advisory Mem.	
G. Nadine J.-Jesionek - Chair	
Nicholas Poulos – Athlete Guest	

**UPDATE ON LSC’S & ZONE CHALLENGE TO HAVE DE&I CHAIRS
 BECOME A NOMINATED VOTING MEMBER OF THEIR LSC BOARDS**

Lamar DeCasseres gave an update as to the status of the EZ, with now 10/12 LSCs on board. The EZ is leading the way. SC (Stanley) and NC (Trish) both worked hard were added for the SZ last week. Nadine – “We want to win!”

NATIONAL COMMITTEE UPDATES

Business Meeting held on September 18th.

Nadine provided the announcement of the two new “teams”: TEAM BLACK and the DEI COUNCIL hoping that groups will be working with the National committee to help move the needle forward in building a more inclusive sport. Another announcement was the goals of moving forward to work with the USA Swimming Foundation to continue building programs across the nation like the Parks and Recs Programs in Chicago, LA, Indy etc., increasing the opportunity for coach education. Mike Switalski outlined that a sub-groups like Clubs who are building relationships with urban Parks & Recs, Boys & Girls Club organizations are included in this consideration. They are looking to offer a series of grants over three years. Long term goal to have a similar level of support from the foundation as the Learn to Swim component.

EZ DIVERSITY ATHLETE OPPORTUNITY/CAMP/SUMMIT

Nadine provided a detailed outline of the new USA Swimming Regional Camps and the potential for the EZ to continue to offer the EZ DEI Camp with the coaches track also. Historically, the EZ did run this camp prior to USA Swimming coming onboard to support financially.

Nadine called for a show of hands to support the concept of moving forward with having an EZ Select Camp on alternate years as we did previously. It received unanimous support from the LSC DEI Chairs for a camp that services athletes and coaches alike.

Concept would be that there would be two co-host LSCs as the Zone moves forward. Hence this would not such a heavy lift on one DEI Chair/LSC. An idea was mentioned of previous thought of splitting the EZ DE&I Chairs Committee in two and having one half host and then the other half host.

Prior total cost (NI Swimming in 2017) was \$36,601.35 with funding of \$40,200.00 between USA Swimming, EZ Swimming and LSCs, cost to athletes/Chairs/Coaches was \$238.00 per person. Swag bags were previously provided by USA Swimming. Total for (PVS in 2019) was 29,196.00, cost to athletes/chairs/Coaches was 250.00 per person.

Concept of combining all EZ DEI budget line items from a two-year cycle into the camp, \$10,000.00 and \$5,000.00 for a total of \$15,000.00 to ensure we are supporting the potential athletes not specifically meeting the cut times required by Regional Camps.

Ongoing discussion around the need for a 50m pool versus 25y pool. Discussions continued into potential facilities and schools within the EZ. Goal to try to do a HBCU.

Plan to look to 2022. The EZ DEI Committee can review the USA Swimming Regional Camps and determine where the EZ can supplement the DEI effort. 2022 will also put LSCs and DEI chairs in a better position to plan financially from a budgetary perspective.

Nadine sought volunteers to assist in identifying schools with housing, facilities that accommodate the camp (Some suggestions were: Bouy State; Stevenson Univ.; Berkley A C). Carlton Taylor volunteered to put together a listing of HBCUs with pools. Mike Switalski suggested Carlton reach out to Shawn Anderson at USA Swimming.

WRAP UP

Nadine spoke about several LSCs having discussions surrounding the ongoing dynamics across the nation. Nadine encouraged the LSC DEI Chairs to start the conversation by providing education to their respective boards.

Meeting Adjourned at 10:08pm

APPROVED