

This meeting was held via Zoom.

In attendance: Ken, Lauren, Robin, Tom J., Frank, Dave G., Robin, Anabelle, Rogers, Earl

Ken opened the meeting at 7:34, noting issues with Zoom, which was then discussed.

Dates for General Membership meetings and Board meetings were planned:

Board Meetings:

March 8

May 31

September 13

December 6

General Membership Meetings:

March 15

June 7

September 20(Annual Meeting)

December 13

Lauren will share these dates with Kevin B. for inclusion on the website.

Youth:

It was decided to hold BoD meetings weekly, then bimonthly for the immediate future, to ensure that the Youth Meets will occur, in absence of a full Youth Committee. Meetings can be held via Zoom, email, and phone calls as necessary. Ken asked if the Board would consider asking Paul to continue as Chair, or accept his resignation and move forward. A few voiced that it was best for the Association to move forward and find a replacement. Current committee members are Paul, Alan P., Megan R., and Dave G. Alan has moved to NY State and is unavailable, Megan has health issues and is also unavailable. Tom J., Robin, Alison, and Ken have been ad hoc members. Dave reminded us that Angela G. represented Youth at the National Meeting. After motion and much discussion, The Board voted to accept Paul's resignation.

Robin added that we must inform prospective committee members about the time requirements that are expected, this will ensure that a strong committee is built. Robin said the main focus is getting meets scheduled and organized.

Alison suggested someone is interested who has executive experience but no USATF experience, and many voiced that we needed to reach out to those who have shown interest as part of the process of rebuilding the committee.

Ken feels the Board must take control of Youth until a new committee is formed to get meets scheduled. Reach out to Youth Club coaches, regional diversity is needed. Earl suggested Zoom meetings with coaches, but said most are very busy with their teams and probably won't commit to serving on the committee long term.

Tom said a main responsibility of the Board and Association is staging Youth meets. Start by assigning tasks, find venues, dates, venue requirements, to facilitate the meets.

Robin suggested three methods to produce a Youth meet:

1. Ask Clubs to piggyback onto their existing meets and allow the Club to keep any revenue and/or pay them. Look to large clubs/venues like Nittany or York to put on the meet in June. Kevin Kelly of West Chester organizes meets quickly.
2. Partner with NJ .
3. Pay a professional Meet organizer.

Rogers summarized that the preference would be to reach out to our member clubs like Nittany and York first, then alternatively look to NJ, and last option to pay a professional.

Rogers said Alison's contact should be approached, we need interested parties, and still need leadership on the Committee. Per the Bylaws, Membership must be notified of interested potential committee members, by soliciting Members, and having a Coaches meeting, hopefully a Chair will emerge along with Committee members. Must learn from past mistakes.

Ken said direct communication with all Coaches and the Board is necessary. Earl proposed that Ken try to set up a Zoom meeting with the coaches.

Earl suggested partnering with UAGTCA, piggybacking onto their meet which is all Age Groups and sanctioned by USATF. Their timer works with Athletic.net. Dave agreed with Earl's suggestion for 2023.

Scheduling a Youth meet cannot interfere with the HP meet, all Board members will be needed.

Robin will reach out to Nittany and York to host a meet, Earl said Nittany uses better venues, Alvernia is very spread out, difficult for athletes to get to their events. Robin speaks to Nittany often, she will call them, then include Earl on the second call.

Earl and Rogers said meets are trending away from colleges due to costs and unavailability. Could Germantown Academy be used for a UAGTCA meet? Tom said GA only has a six lane track but it can accommodate throws. The group suggested other possible venues: Malvern Prep, Downingtown, Episcopal, Great Valley, and Coatesville. Each of those would require MAUSATF to organize a meet . Earl said Northeast HS is popular and attractive to Officials because many live in Philadelphia. Many NEHS meets have 250 athletes. Numbers increase when JO is on the East Coast. This year JO is in Eugene, OR, which is expensive to travel to.

Tech Issues/Accreditation:

Paul must be removed from the Youth email address, National has been contacted, with no response. Ken will reach out to Robin Beamon for help.

Lauren will look at the AEC newsletter to attempt to remove some of the tech obstacles, including the ongoing Zoom problems. Ken asked if Teams would be a better platform, do we need to use National's Zoom? Will using Teams violate USATF rules? The Association also needs control of the Membership email database. Robin said to contact Robin Beamon, Lauren will do this.

Earl asked if Lauren can get a Zoom account and share it with Committees? Speak to Alison about Teams, she is very knowledgeable. Zoom is not easily shared, which is a big part of the ongoing issues.

The Accreditation portal is open, Ken and Lauren need to stay on top of this. Establish a timeline for the portal for Grants, Accreditation. The AEC newsletter outlines this process. Tom said we are already behind on the Budget process, all Chairs need to start preparing their budgets. Tom will send out the budgeted and actual 2022 budgets for help in preparation.

Meeting adjourned at 9:21 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by:  
Lauren Siegel  
Secretary, MAUSATF