

1. **Roll Call** - Meeting was called to order after a quorum of members arrived.
2. **Reading and adoption of minutes**
 1. There are no viable minutes from the 2016 annual meeting.
 2. The 2017 meeting was recorded, officers and committee chairs provided reports and Ruth Carter took some notes.
3. **Reports of Board & Committees**

2017 Registrar's report

As of 2/18/2017, Alaska Masters has 317 members: 184 women and 133 men. 18 of those people registered in February. This is about the same as the past 2 years. 34 of these members have chosen to be unattached (Club UC56). This has increased this year. The cause may be with the setup of the registration system. Almost everyone is registering on line.

Workout Groups: We have 11 registered workout groups this year, plus BBSC who chose to be a club rather than a workout group. That is 2 more than last year and up 6 from 2 years ago. We did not lose any. Our registered groups are:

- Baranof Barracudas (BBSC) in Sitka (a club within Alaska)
- Buckner Masters (BMST) in Eagle River,
- Craig Waverunners (CWSC) in Craig,
- Glacier Swim Club (GSC) in Juneau,
- Northern Lights Swim Club Masters (NLM) in Anchorage,
- *NEW* Salty Dawgs Swim Association (SDSA) in Valdez,
- Stingray Swim Team (SST) in Fairbanks
- Swimming with Alaska Masters (SWAM) in Anchorage,
- Top of the World Swimming (TOWS) in Soldotna
- Wasilla Masters Team (WMST) in Wasilla
- Wrangell Island Masters Swimming (WIMS).

We have some active workout groups who chose not to register. We try to make sure everyone is represented at the swim meet who would like to be. Please contact Ken Winterberger or me (Kristi Neptun) to update your group contact and swim information on our website so we can help get the word out about your workout!

Membership numbers: We had 401 overall members in 2016. That is our first time topping 400! In 2015 we finished with 389 members. Other years were 376 members in 2014; 391 in 2013 and 380 in 2012. We've had over 315 members every year since 2009.

Submitted by Kristi Neptun

Records/Top Ten Report for 2016

One report submitted to national (SCY).

No local SCM or LCM meets so no reports submitted.

National

AKMS had 3 LCM top-ten finishes and 18 SCY top-ten finishes

Local (state)

3 LCM records, 26 SCY records, 3 one-hour postal records,

1 3,000 postal record, 1 6,000 postal record

132 new times added to the state top ten

Paula is working to get all of the records up to date and organized so that she can pass along the job. She asked that anyone who swims in in out of state meet or nationally please contact records/Top-10 so that any new records can be incorporated into the Alaska Records/Top-10 DB. Paula requested that folks look at the results and help find any errors. She also thanked folks that already do this.

Submitted by Paula Smith

Treasurer

Looking for new and energetic treasurer.

Current balance - \$10,711 in cash or equivalents with several bills and income outstanding.

There are two outstanding scholarships, totaling \$1000 from 2015 & 2016, along with the 2017 Scholarship of \$500.

Major purchase of computers, Meet Manager and accounting software, and scoreboard networking hardware and software. This is presumed to be, essentially, a one-time expenditure, assuming minor maintenance expenditure.

AKMS meet entries are being priced to cover meet costs, but overrun will still need to be covered by AKMS. A budget is being developed.

Submitted by Stan Steck

Sanctions

Sanctions chair, Melinda Grieg, could not make it to the meeting but said that there were no major sanction issues. The annual SCY championship was held in February 2016. There was no SCM meet in 2016 but we did do some meet training; all attendees were members of SWAM - would like to get more people involved. Kevin Knox is looking into sanctioning the Change Your Latitude OW again. Valdez held a sanctioned dual meet in November - there were swimmers from Fairbanks and Valdez. Fairbanks is looking at holding some meets. They will be hosting a meet with swimmers from the UAF Nanook swim team - they may not be able to sanction this meet due to NCAA rules, but the meet will be recognized (essentially one step down from sanctioning). Fairbanks is also looking at resurrecting the Chena Splash OW swim.

ASIDE: Trying not to subsidize meets. Consider having AKMS provide upfront money for reimbursement if sanctioned event.

2017 Open Water Report

Change Your Latitude marked its 9th year and had a great turnout of 32 swimmers in all categories. We had a record number of 1k participants (the future of our long distance swimmers!) with 14 entries and the youngest at 8 years old. This year we had 3 naked swimmers swimming both the 3k and 6k events. For 2017 we already have 10 registered and 7 of those swimming the 10k course. For 2017 Change Your Latitude is registered as part of the Global Swim Series and swimmers can log and compete against swimmers from around the world. At this time a USMS Sanction is in the works but Kevin needs to get his butt in gear and provide some additional details for the sanction request to be granted. (soon Melinda). Change Your Latitude is still recognized as the Northernmost open ocean race in the US and one of the northernmost races in

the world. Find more information on our Facebook page or at changeyourlatitude.org

Pennock Island swim reportedly is still happening but organizers did not respond back to requests for information. It looks like 5 swimmers participated in 2016 as a relay and contributed fundraising dollars to the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation.

good swimming to everyone! Hope to see you next year!

Submitted by Kevin Knox

There was an announcement that Kristina Biceroglu, Head Coach of F.A.S.T Masters Swim Team in Fairbanks, Alaska is looking into starting the Chena Splash open water event - she's looking for information and ideas. There was a clarification of the concept of naked swimmers.

Awards and Recognition

Based on participation on national Awards and Recognition committee Ruth suggests that AKMS submit applications for some of the national awards. She has looked at the recipients of several of these national awards and is convinced that we have many competitive individuals/workout groups. She requested input from ALL of our members.

Spent about \$500 over the last 2 years on awards and recognition - we should be set for a couple of years

Submitted by Ruth Carter

Coaches

List of self identified coaches in AKMS is being contacted so that folks know that AKMS is available to help. Paula Smith just received certification as a ALTS and Coach Certification instructor and the idea of offering more (and regular) Coach Certification, Certified ALTS Instructor, and, Stroke Clinics like those conducted in AK last September is being examined/planned.

Submitted by Matt Williams

Social Committee

This is a new and informal committee organized to help foster the social aspect of AKMS. Our first effort will be a post-SCY party at Olive Garden (at Tikahtnu Commons) right after the Annual Meeting - if you have any ideas please contact Becky Buckner. BTW, the party was a success with over 40 partygoers!

Submitted by Becky Buckner

4. Unfinished Business

2017 Scholarship announcement

2017 Alaska Masters Swimming Memorial Scholarship Results

Jed Dean of Palmer is the 2017 Alaska Masters Swimming Memorial Scholarship recipient. There were five applicants this year, Jed from Palmer, two candidates from Anchorage, and two candidates from Ketchikan. The Committee gave Jed their highest marks with the top score of 26 points (out of a possible 29). The competition was close. The average total score for the 5 candidates was 23.8 with a standard deviation of 2.4

Jed will be graduating from Colony High School in May where he holds a 3.1 GPA. His transcript includes a broad range of classes, from arts to sciences. Based on his transcript and essay it is apparent that he has a knack and passion for Spanish, competing (and winning) in World Language Declamation regional and state competitions. This alone is an accomplishment, but his interest in earth and planetary sciences is exemplified by his participation in science fairs and his 2nd place finish, representing Alaska, at the Intel International Science and Engineering Competition in Phoenix last May. He has been selected to present at the 2017 Alaska Marine Science Symposium. His presentation is titled "A Longitudinal Study of Fluctuating Radiation Levels in Prince William Sound Alaska: A Conclusion to a Four-Year Study"

Jed has been involved in swimming since he was 4 years-old. He has been a competitive age-group swimmer for the last 8 years and a varsity member of the Colony HS Swim team for the last four years. This last year he took on the role of team captain. His coach said that he struggled with the job of being captain of the team but, "At about the midpoint of the season he acknowledged he needed

to step-up and finished the season being a leader! It was a pleasure to see this young man mature and take responsibility for this important role.” This is a testament to the determination and outlook that Jed has.

In his essay, Jed intimated that swimming sort of comes naturally because his whole family is involved in the sport. Swimming has meant a lot to him, making him very comfortable in and on the water. It has lead him to a strong interest in marine science. And it has taught him mental and physical endurance, commitment, and the ability to multi-task.

Jed will be attending the University of Alaska Fairbanks and studying mechanical engineering.

The Scholarship Committee and Alaska Masters Swimming would like to congratulate Jed and wish him the best of success in his educational future and his involvement in giving back to the swimming community.

The 2017 Scholarship Committee:

Brenda Avery, Golden View Middle School, Guidance

Germaine Thomas, East High School, Science

Joleen White, Hanshew Middle School, Physical Education

Ken Winterberger, Chairperson

Jed was presented his award by Chair Ken Winterberger and encouraged to look up the Fairbanks WO Group.

5. Elections

Elections were postponed - is available here:

http://www.akmswim.org/pdfs/2017_AKMS_Board&Committees.pdf. A link will be sent out to our membership regarding the need for new officers of the Board of Directors and Committee Chairs. This needs a **LOT** of discussion and action very quickly.

A brief discussion of board and committee needs followed. The need for a meet committee was raised. The meet committee is NOT a standing committee, but there is a REAL demand for such a committee to be organized. Communications and the idea of using MailChimp as our official method of communicating with our members was discussed.

6. New Business

1. Budget
 1. A budget is being worked on
 1. Looking at scholarships - do we want to continue this or do something different. The idea of reaching out to an HS swim team in need and running their meets.
 2. Looking at raising our fee - it currently sits at \$6 per year
7. Resolutions and Orders - none
8. Adjournment