

OWSA Annual Membership Meeting Minutes 2009

The Ohio Wheelchair Sports Association Annual membership meeting was held Sept. 22, 2009, 6:30 PM at Franklin Park Adventure Center. Attendees: Bruce Schreiber, Marcia Schreiber, Daniel Barker, Shannon Allen, Ty Payne, Jerry Jones, Michelle Morrison, Tammy Harbaugh, Teri Fournier, Colleen Priest, Brett Harbage, John Tepper. Sandwiches, chips and drinks were provided.

Meeting notes were recorded by Colleen Priest.

The current Officers of OWSA were introduced. Bruce Schreiber, Chairman of the Board, Becky Carter, Treasurer, Allen Anderson, Vice President. The offices of President and Secretary are currently vacant.

No minutes were recorded at the 2008 meeting.

Everyone in attendance introduced themselves and discussed their involvement with OWSA.

Financial Report:

Teri Fournier gave the financial report she had received from Becky Carter, the report was current but not to the end of the year. OWSA currently has \$14,627.70. It was noted that it is now time to request budgets for the teams and events and they should be submitted as soon as possible.

Membership:

Teri Fournier reported there are currently 42 members and she anticipates 50 for this year. She noted that there has been a problem this past year with getting team member's forms and fees to Buckeye PVA. Teri announced that she will be resigning as membership chairman 15 days after this meeting.

Ohio Wheelchair Games:

Bruce Schreiber reported that although there were some issues with the 2009 Games, WSUSA noticed improvements and encouraged us in providing a venue for the Games. He also discussed that WSUSA sees 3 tiers of events: Social, Local and Super Meet. The Ohio Games are considered in the Super Meet tier. The WSUSA conference will be held in October in Chicago. OWSA can attend as RSO delegates. Bruce will be attending.

Blaze Sports:

Teri Fournier reported that they have a lot going on and still expect sponsorship from OWSA. Mary Beth Moore of Columbus Recreation and Parks runs the Blaze Sports program. They had 28 volunteers for the OWSA softball team, as well as several rugby team members for a fundraiser at Red, White and Boom. Current junior activities are a fitness program and Power Soccer. She also reported that stimulus funding was received for 3 day camps for the Southeast Ohio area.

OWSA Sports Committee: There is currently no committee assembled therefore, no activity was reported.

Fundraising:

Rugby continues to raise funds for their team via festivals, golf outings etc; however, no fundraising activity as an organization was reported.

Rugby Team Report:

Brett Harbage reported that the rugby team had a good year with 10 guys on the team. 2 team members will be dropping out but possibly will have 3 new players. They attended tournaments in Indianapolis and Pittsburgh and hosted 2 tournaments: Columbus Collision with 8 teams attending and the Heartland Regional tournament. The top 5 teams from the Heartland regional went to Saginaw for the Sectional tournament. They had several fundraising events including pay to play with PT students from Ohio University, as well as a Pay to Play in Columbus, volunteering at Red, White and Boom, a golf outing on July 18 with 25 teams and the Millersport Sweet Corn Festival. Their practices will be starting up in October on Sundays from 10 – 2 at Franklin Park.

Swimming:

Ty Payne reported that there was no activity

Tennis:

Teri Fournier reported that there was no activity

Basketball:

Michelle Morrison reported that they are currently starting practice with 6 players and will try to have a team in Division 3.

Softball:

Tammy Harbaugh reported that they had a Home tournament with new teams from Philadelphia and Chicago attending. The Philadelphia team was very appreciative of the tournament and facilities. They had fundraising with the Kroger card and Red White and Boom.

Hand cycling:

Teri Fournier reported that there was no activity. She receives calls from people interested, but need availability of bikes. OWSA currently does not own any hand-cycles.

The Rugby and Basketball reports are posted on the OWSA website.

OWSA Website:

Michelle Morrison reported that it receives 1082 visitors per month. No donations to OWSA were made through the website.

Bruce Schreiber discussed the goals and future of OWSA:

He stated that the organization is at a crossroads and needs to grow to become a viable organization. Members are needed from throughout the state. If an event or team is sponsored by PVA that those members must pay dues to PVA, However, if an event is sponsored by OWSA those participants do not pay membership or dues to OWSA. If OWSA ceases to exist then teams won't be able to exist. They would need to obtain their own 501c3 status which can be difficult. OWSA is in need of a recognizable face to represent the organization as well as a permanent physical location. He also stated that enough of a budget is needed to run the organization, with an

executive director and a 'brick & mortar' location. He also stated that teams should be established in other areas of the state.

Board/Trustee positions:

3 current trustees are no longer interested or able to remain on the board: Rick Morrison – former President, Becky Carter – Treasurer and Allen Anderson – Vice President

Jerry Jones' term as trustee is up for re-election but he is interested in continuing on the board. David Pohlable's term is also up for re-election. He is also interested in continuing on the board and being the chairman of fundraising for OWSA.

Teri Fournier is interested in being on the board and was nominated.

Bruce has been in contact with Heather Adair (an OWG volunteer) and Mark Jones (OWG photographer) about their potential interest in becoming a trustee. He will be contacting Alex (from Mobility Store) (OWG Bowling coordinator) and Carlos Cervantes (past OWG Slalom coordinator with Dr. Ersing).

Further discussion took place concerning the organization and the lack of communication among the board and membership. It was stated that the calendar needs to be kept up to date for all meetings, tournaments, events, and administrative functions that need to be done. All meeting, events and deadlines should be given to Michelle Morrison to be posted on the 3-month calendar on the web site.

Election of board members:

Ty Payne made a motion that Jerry Jones, Teri Fournier and David Pohlable be elected to the board for the next 3 year term. Marcia Schreiber seconded the motion. All present voted for all three to be elected as trustees on the board.

Election of Officers:

Potential officers were discussed. Bruce asked Brett Harbage if he would be interested in being President or Vice-President of OWSA. He replied that he would think about it but is very limited on time. Teri Fournier and Colleen Priest discussed that they would be interested in sharing the Secretary and Treasurer positions. Marcia Schreiber nominated Daniel Barker for President. The possibility of online voting through the web site was discussed so that all members could vote. Michelle Morrison was going to check into it. If that was not possible, the election would take place at the next OWSA Full board meeting.

Marcia Schreiber stated that OWSA should get more involvement with the Veterans and they could represent the organization. She would be willing to meet with some of the veterans' organizations and facilities.

Bruce stated that the next Wheelchair Games meeting is October 13th and the next OWSA full board meeting is October 14th. Both begin at 6:30 pm and will be held at the Upper Arlington Senior Center.

Bruce noted that he is actively looking for a 'brick and mortar' location for OWSA and all to think of any 501c3 organizations that may be willing to loan a facility to use.

The meeting was adjourned at 8pm.