

# MRPA Aquatics Section Meeting

December meeting was held at the City of St Louis Park. Minutes taken by Jen Berg.

There were 15 members present: Kristen Hette, Jen Berg, Travis Karlen, Beth Witt, Patrice Athinson, Steve Skinner, Diana Buck, Jenny Garvey, Krista Petrie, Jason Eisold, Nate Rosa, Michelle Snider, Sara Heyer, Jeff McKay, and Lori Meyers

1. MPRA Conference
  - a. 7 sections for aquatics
  - b. Sections need to be finalized by the first part of January
2. Water Advisory Committee – No update
3. Coast Guard approved Life Jackets
  - a. They are now approving swim wear that floats
  - b. Different beaches allow different things
    - i. Some don't allow fins or snorkels, others allow anything as long as its not a big mattress
4. Dog Swimming
  - a. Austin, MN does it 2 days after they close the pool
  - b. Northfield, MN charges \$5 a dog and \$2.50 for each additional dog
  - c. All chemicals need to be out of pool
  - d. No people swimming with dogs
  - e. PH is a concern with dogs
  - f. Sign a release form
  - g. Lifeguards are there
  - h. You could have a local vet come
  - i. South St Paul had wanted to do it but the state said no
5. Work Agreements for seasonal staff
  - a. Can't have people sign a contract in Minnesota
  - b. Apple Valley has people commit to working half the shifts for the summer, if not, then the person goes on the on call list
  - c. Shakopee and Bloomington schedule the whole summer in the beginning
6. In-services
  - a. Shakopee tapes all in-services and creates a DVD for employees who couldn't attend, with a quiz at the end.
  - b. Minutes taken and sent to staff
7. BCA doing background checks for employees that work with kids is now a state law. – update
  - a. BCA is slow, under staffed, and they only go back to the previous two counties the person has lived in.
  - b. Owatonna uses a private firm that costs \$23/BCA \$15
  - c. Owatonna is passing a local ordinance to get around the BCA law
8. Staffing – How to send people home when not needed
  - a. Schedule in shifts
  - b. Call or text to let people know they don't have to come in
  - c. Do a drawing to see who goes home first

- d. Put it on the schedule so they know
- 9. Call Steve Klemm or Aaron Hunter about knowing how many guards you need to have on
- 10. Floating play things in the pool
  - a. Summer, 7 to 8 years before replace
  - b. Year round, 4 to 5 years before replace
- 11. Tubes – deflate at the end of summer or not?
  - a. Most said yes, with a pretty good reflate percentage
  - b. Could have kids deflate at the end
- 12. **\*\* Shakopee has slide mats for sale \*\***
- 13. Sara Heyer was nominated as our sections meritorious service award recipient for 2009
- 14. Meeting Schedule: All meetings at 10am
  - a. January 21<sup>st</sup>, Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board
  - b. February 18<sup>th</sup>, in Anoka
  - c. March 25<sup>th</sup>, in Apple Valley
  - d. April, no meeting
  - e. May 13<sup>th</sup>, in Owatonna
  - f. Summer canoe meeting, not scheduled yet