MRPA Programming & Aquatics Networks Meeting

Friday, May 1, 2020 | Conference call due to the Covid-19 Virus

AGENDA

Meeting was called to order by Meredith

Approval of Minutes: 1st Janelle, 2nd Kiley

Additions to the Agenda: None

| Meredith Lawrence, Mendota Heights | Jacob Andersen, Brooklyn Center |
| Carissa Goebel, Brooklyn Center | Janelle Crossfield, Brooklyn Center |
| Jenny Garvey, Isanti | Liz Amici-Floyd, Ramsey County |
| JJ Williams, Washington County | Katelyn Nadeau, Shakopee |
| Karen Booth, St Paul Public Schools Comm Ed | Jasmine Ellignson, Eden Prairie |
| Diana Buck, Shoreview | Pan Vruwink, Willmar Comm Ed |
| Heidi Weiler, Anoka County | Jen Graham, Fridley |
| Nickie Jenks, Anoka | Dani Licht, Owatonna |
| Gina Robinette, Roseville | Mark Schneider-Shakopee |
| Nick Thompson, Apply Valley | Katie Everett-Vadnais Height |
| Jen Colbeck-Shoreview | Amber Trapp, Youth Enrichment League |
| Tony Portesan, New Hope | Katie Yandell, Plymouth |
| Aaron Thelen, New Hope | Eric Anderson, Owatonna |
| Alyssa Fram, Plymouth | Jessica Benoy, Minnetonka |
| Kristen Twitchell; Eagan | Carrie Anderson-Roseville |
| Sarah Carlton-Stillwater Comm Ed | John Raby, MSS LLC |
| Sandy Bromley, New Ulm | Brad Muchenhirn, Cottage Grove |
| Jeff Krie, Mora | Dan Lauer, Plymouth |
| Katey Radant, Lakeville | Kelsey Coy, Prior Lake |
| Jenna Smith, Bloomington | Becky Sola, Shoreview |
| Josh Thygesen, Red Wing | Tonya Love, Elk River |
| Clarke Comer, Alexandria | Dani Bakken, Owatonna |
| Allie Dart, Three Rivers | Sherry Dvorak, Shakopee |
| Zach Johnson, Chaska | Rachel Dodson, Chaska |
| Tessa Syverson, Chaska | Nalisha Nandkumar, Falcon Heights |
| Jamie Anderson, Bemidji | Lisa Abernathy, St. Louis Park |
| Patty McGrath, Edina | David Benson, Bloomington |
| Cheryl Kormann, New Ulm | Joshua Abraham, Maplewood |
| Lynn Jenc-Alexandria Public Schools | Reid Huttunen, East Grand Forks |
| Natalie Anderson, Elk River | Seth Shanley, Brooklyn Park and Plymouth |
| Renae Zink, Richfield | Doug Gross, Dakota Parks |
| Margo Numedahl, Fridley | Liz Malloy, New Ulm |
| Ali Mayer, Winona | Theresa Faustini-Ellis, Hastings |
| Mark Dragich, East Grand Forks | Bekah Sands, North Mankato |
| Traci Rude-Westonka | Sam Murphy, West St. Paul |
| Andrea Kalligher, Eden Prairie | Matthew Hill, Nisswa |
If you are not listed as attending the meeting, please contact Jacob Andersen at andersen@ci.brooklyn-center.mn.us

*C'mon Man (new monthly topic highlighting the lighter of side of working with the public):*

**Impact of Covid-19**
- Mendota Heights have canceled through July 6th except for golf
- Plymouth has a two week lead time to start program so that will be the deciding factor
- Faribault is closing pools for summer.
- Bloomington family Aquatic center and bush lake is closed for the summer
- Maplewood is postponing or canceled everything through Mid-July. Launching more virtual programs for people to sign up for.
- Washington County- Lake Elmo swim pond closed, natural beaches opening June 15
- St Louis Park Aquatics looking at opening July 1
- New Ulm- Wading pool and splash pads are closed and asking to drain the pool to start new construction of the new Rec Center
- Carver county- Park Restrooms opening May 4th, park programs are canceled.

**Summer Programs**
- Hiring and Training of staff
  - Really lack of applicants. People might be waiting to see what happens with facilities and camps opening
- Decision Dates
  - Three Rivers- Waiting to see the guidelines to wait to make a decision on camps
  - Bloomington- Canceled all youth and adaptive programs for the summer
  - Ramsey County- Shooting for Memorial Day but waiting to see.
  - Brooklyn Park- Looking at July 6th for their altered programming. Trying to force the council hand in making a decision.
  - Plymouth- Reschedules some events into the fall but canceled through May. Won’t make any decisions on programs after the next couple of weeks and the governor’s updates
- Necessary Modifications
  - Shoreview- lowering the number of the kids per class and then having the parents in the water for the lower levels
  - No changes the time frame of the swim lessons
  - John Raby, MSS LLC.- possible CDC guidelines for pools coming on in the coming weeks
  - Eden Prairie- June camp lessons are canceled and possibly July will run camps
- Budget Implications
  - Brooklyn Center- asked to reduced expenses
  - Nate Rosa- Intern is not an intern but actual positions within the City. Check with the instructor because they could possibly be reducing their hours required.
• How to social distance
  o Three Rivers- Brainstorming- Changing from youth programming to family programming. They would have their equipment and are given instructions and require. Requiring kids to use hula-hoop to maintain a safe distance
  o South St. Paul- Just groups of nine and the one staff member and it doesn’t change for the summer. Each group has their own bucket of toys or equipment.
  o Rosewood- measuring out the pool deck to use during their reservation with no deck furniture out.
  o Eden Prairie- Gridding out the beach like they had for a sand castle contest
  o Three Rivers- Testing kids before they come to camp but might be unrealistic
  o Shoreview- there is still an expectation for kids to social distance. There are many options to do that in the various spaces used. Possibly refund the current program and then roll out a brand new program with strict guidelines.
  o Maplewood- Masks are going to be worn for any staff and encourage participants to wear them as well. Providing masks for full time staff as right now.
  o Mendota Heights- provided masks to everyone working right now.
• St Paul Public Schools- are doing gymnastics classes through zoom and teaching the parents about the spotting and age appropriate activities. Regular instructors are doing the classes. And are looking at the
• Surveys- possibly have MRPA create a folder to have various surveys in the Facebook MRPA Connect site.

**Virtual Programming**
• What are you doing currently?
  o New Ulm- doing Facebook events all week. Providing app for learning aquatic safety.
  o Brooklyn Center- Survey with what residents would like, but in the mean time doing a soft rollout of what they can do
  o Maplewood- starting to have the instructional classes on Zoom this week, summer event challenges are rolling out this week for people to sign up for.
  o St. Paul Community Ed- doing a lot of instructional classes via zoom or video
• Platform being used
  o Facebook
  o Zoom
  o YouTube
• Future virtual programming idea
  o Washington County- haven’t really done much for virtual programming but have a lot of information on their website
  o Owatonna- Drive in Movies- working with the FM Radio station to broadcast the sounds, putting out Esports, and various other items
• Ways to utilize social media
• Other Questions
  o How long do you need to train before starting programs?
    ▪ Mendota Heights- Can talk to staff and having them work anything?
    ▪ Roseville- trying to determine how long it takes to reopen
    ▪ Washington County- given some soft dates to open some facilities and trying to get a two week window
- Shoreview- still doing virtual training with staff, still paying them, and working with certifying body for the
  - Pipestone- Pete
    - What lifeguards are coming back and are you going to be able to staff?
      - Roseville- will have not a lot of people in the pool so will not need a lot
      - Eden Prairie- has lost a lot but might be open less hours due to lack of staff.
      - St. Louis Park- will not need as many staff because they will not be needing all of the people so will not need to hire that many people
      - Anoka- already have staff hired and trying to keep them busy with other duties in the city and what are people having them do.
        - A lot have not started seasonals but a lot of full-time staff have been transferred to maintenance position where seasonals most of
  - Natural beaching are going to be open and guarded- Washington
    - Eden prairie- still planning on opening them and guarding them in mid-June
    - Dakota County- hasn’t made a decision but opening will be delayed. Will be restricting access until it open.
  - Prioritizing essential worker for camps
    - Some are still allowing camps to come into the parks that are providing that service.

**Brainstorm other ideas to bring value**

**Announcements**
- There is going to be Programming Network meeting during this summer to discuss the topics that everyone is facing. If you have any topics, please send them to Meredith or Jacob

**MRPA Updates**
- Deb Weinreis
  - Zoom calls for athletic and camps and playgrounds and meeting notes will be posted shortly.

**Board Updates**
- Chris Esser, S. St. Paul- Board President
  - Board Changes
    - Sarah McKay has resigned as the board secretary
    - West Metro Vacancy- Chris Fleck is new board secretary
    - Annie Olson took West Metro position
    - MRPA magazine is out and in your office if you have been in.
    - State Conference is still being discussed and possibly going to be a virtual conference.
    - NRPA conference is going to be a virtual conference.
    - MRPA Budget-
      - Having a special meeting to discuss budget and options
    - Virtual education
• Looking at possibly virtual education for members
  - Working on a new professional mentorship program
• Nate Rosa- Aquatic Network Liaison
  o Red Cross has extended the certification for May and June
  o NRPA Aquatics page- has a lot of reopening plans available

Next Meeting- To be determined for June and Summer Months (Virtual Meeting)

Adjourned