

MRPA Aquatic Network Meeting Notes

3/3/2021

MRPA will not be recording virtual network meetings.

Aquatic Network needs a co-chair. Any takers?

Going forward, do we want to stay with virtual meetings or move toward hybrid meetings? Tabled until Fall. MRPA is working on virtual meeting options going forward.

Should we add trainings to the meetings in future? LGI instructor review, other offerings to make it worthwhile to travel, etc?

Recruiting Efforts:

Dakota County is offering a virtual teen job fair next week.

School District

<https://www.co.dakota.mn.us/libraries/Programs/Teens/Pages/job-skills.aspx>

Using College Virtual Job Fairs including the one at UW River Falls.

St. Louis Park using school liaison officers to identify kids who would benefit from summer employment as lifeguards. Job Fair Skills trainings for these kids as well. Local Bank will help the new kids with bank accounts and related services.

Brooklyn Center has enacted a City wide minimum wage of 16.16 an hour. Lifeguards higher at 17.81 an hour. Up from 14.00 an hour.

Reach out to Mom's groups for Lifeguard candidates.

Adding to the Google dock: how do you incentivize staff to join your team and a vendor list.

Should we have a corporate partner sponsor the Aquatic Network?

Stay away from the Lifeguard signs are be needed, even if less so during the Pandemic.

Guards are practicing blowing whistles through their masks at Eden Prairie.

Vaccines

A variety of local governments are working to get Lifeguards vaccinated, but the State continues not to classify them as providing breaths. Katie has some ideas on what to emphasize in this argument.

Additional child care workers not already prioritized are in 1b vaccinations schedule. Some offices say this should cover Lifeguards, Camp Staff and other childcare workers.

Google Drive

Aquatic Google Drive files will now be housed in the MRPA Website for access.

The April Aquatic Network will be invited to join the Programming Network meeting April 16, 10 am.

Abby's Hope has approached Plymouth on doing drowning prevention activities. Other agencies have partnered with them in the past. Contact:

Alison Petri

Alison@abbyshope.org 763-331-1899

Additional Discussion on Outdoor Facilities

Staff shortages are the defining issue for outdoor beaches especially, but universal for all operations.

Health screenings or signage are likely as people approach the beach.

Brooklyn Park would like to recruit guards in Fall coming off the outdoor summer season from Northern Metro outdoor pools.

USA swimming is using a standard of 4 to 8 kids per lane in 50 meter pools.

<https://www.usaswimming.org/docs/default-source/coronavirus-resources---updated/facilityreopeningv3.pdf>

The next standard for facility capacity is likely to be based on Fire Code, not bather load calculations. How many exits will impact your fire code capacity.

Will outdoor pools have their own guidance soon? The group is working on preparing to advise the State and react to upcoming changes now. We will meet again March 15, 10 am. Steve will send the invite.

Is there any way to separate staff from the capacity?

Restaurant guidance is still the standard for food service.