



**Potomac Valley Swimming
Inclusion/Diversity Committee Meeting
Website: www.pvswim.org/diversity.html
Takoma Park, Washington DC
Saturday, April 16, 2011**

Agenda

I. Welcome

a. In Attendance

Cynthia Hodges	Winslow Woodland	Douglas Carrington	Rob Green Jr.
Peter Gribbin	Sharon Bartholomew	Roger McCoy	Rhonda Waller
Crosby Treadwell	Sebastian Bendana	Joanne Stahling	Manga Dalizu

II. Updates to Diversity Budget

The Committee was presented with the updated 2010-2011 Diversity Budget as it was discussed from the December Committee meeting. A portion of the budget has been allocated towards the creation of the PVS Travel Team, and other items discussed from the December meeting. The committee has approved to continue supporting current programs onto the next fiscal year.

III. Past Events

a. PVS Diversity Website – www.pvswim.org/diversity.html (ongoing)

In December the Diversity Committee Voted to have a PVS Diversity Page created.

All committee members agreed that the PVS Diversity Committee needed a link on the PVS website with links to other diversity sites and USA swimming. The page has been created and has been frequently been updated with information from the national and local levels.

i. Group on Diversity in Aquatics – PVS Diversity Committee

There is also a group created on Diversity in Aquatics for the sharing of information and practices of the group.

b. Black History Swim Meet (February)

Rob Green updated the group on the Black History Meet. The meet had just under 1000 participants at the meet. He will submit to the competition committee the date of the meet for next year. DCPR has been reviewing the past meet and will look improvements for next year.

c. USA Swimming National Diversity Select Camp (March Application Deadline)

PVS will be sending two athletes to the National Diversity Select Camp. Congratulations to Mr. Andrew Gibson of the Rockville Montgomery Swim Club, coach Jim Williams and Mr. Rory Lewis Jr. of the Sea Devil Swim Team, Coach Rory Lewis Sr for being selected to the 2011 USA Swimming National Diversity Swim Camp to be held at the Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs, CO. Rory and Andrew are two of 32 athletes from under-represented populations invited to participate in a three-day camp program which includes pool training, motivational and education sessions and team-building activities. Selection is based on times swum at USA Swimming-sanctioned events and the camp is conducted each spring. Be sure to congratulate both swimmer and coach on this accomplishment.

IV. Events/Happenings scheduled for the remainder of 2010-2011 Fiscal Year (now -Aug)

a. Nadar Por Vida (year-long)

It was encouraged that committee members would continue to support the non-profit organization. Practices are held on Saturday evenings at Providence Recreation Center. They will continue through May. www.nadarporvida.org

b. 2nd Annual Water Safety Day – Deanwood Community Center, D.C

The 2nd Annual Water Safety Day is scheduled for May 21st. The Water Safety Day program will feature fun-filled water and non-water activities for both the experienced and non-experienced swimmer. We have a number of local aquatic groups coming in to display their teams and share their tips about water safety. A committee member suggested to try and get donations from local swim shops for goggles for the participants as well as other items. The committee chair will find out more about how to get these donations. Please check the flyers on the PVS Website for more details about the event. www.pvswim.org/diversity.html All PVS groups are welcome to participate. Please contact Miriam if you would like to have your team volunteer

c. PVS House of Delegates Meeting – River Falls, MD (May 23rd @ 6:00pm)

(From Flash) The annual House of Delegates meeting is set for Monday May 23 at River Falls. Dinner will be served at 6:00 and the meeting will start at 6:45 pm. Again it is strongly encouraged that at least one representative from each club attend. The list of delegates is now posted on the PVS website, if you need to make a change to your club's representative please let me know as soon as possible.

In addition to your club's representative, please ask an athlete to attend as well. Please submit the names of your athlete delegate to me no later than May 18.

d. National Black Heritage Meet in Cary, NC (May 27-29)

We currently have 80 athletes signed up for the travel team down to the 9th National Black Heritage Meet in Cary, NC through DC Wave. On Saturday, April 16th there was a parents meeting and swim clinic for the participants. Mr. Douglas Carrington formerly head coach of FAMU Swim and Dive team lead the clinic with coaches Rob Green and Crosby Treadwell. Dr. Rhonda Waller conducted the parents meeting and shared information with participants. Thank you to all who attended and DC Wave for coordinating the entries and parents meeting.

Our next practice is Saturday, May 14th from 11-1:30pm @ Takoma Park Recreation Center in DC.

e. Eastern Zone Diversity Select Camp (June 16-19)

i. Creation of a selection committee for Eastern Zone Diversity Select Camp participants will be May 14th after the NC team practice by the committee.

Applications and selection criteria are available on the PVS and Diversity in Aquatics websites. www.pvswim.org/diversity.html. The due date for the athlete and coaches application is **May 9th**. All are encouraged to apply. PVS will cover up to \$300.00 for the lodging and travel expenses for each of the athletes and coaches attending the camp. It is encouraged that PVS submit athletes and coaches to participate. Applicants will be selected by the PVS Diversity Committee on **May 14th** and candidates will be notified shortly afterward.

V. Future Items (2011-2012)

a. DCPR Summer Recreation League

DC has selected 6 recreation pools to start a summer league swim team. The 6 pools include Banneker, Deanwood, Takoma, Barry Farms, Douglas and others. The goal is to target local communities to introduce the sport of swimming as well as be a feeder into the DC Wave Swim program. DCPR hopes to grow the program and compete against other recreation center programs throughout Virginia, DC and Maryland. Coach Rob Green will give the committee

more information about the league as it becomes available. The league is free and should be starting June 20 and run through the rest of the year.

b. Central Chesapeake Swimming Diversity Seminar (October)

John Mason's team seminar can be potentially be used with other events for teams and PVS events. As more information becomes available, it will be shared with the group.

c. College Knowledge Event (CKE): PVS Diversity Committee agreed that this was a significant event that should continue with a proposed date **October 29th**. This date was selected as it does not have any major impacts to the swimming schedule for both USA and NCAA Swimming as well as being the date before college coaches are recruiting and swimmers visiting colleges for the summer. It was also suggested that the committee get in touch with local minority athletes from the surrounding schools have them participate in the event so that participants can support them in their local college swimming meets. Rob Green will look for a place at Howard University in which we can conduct the clinic or on another college campus if Howard is not available.

d. Travel Team Assistance: Creation of an official Travel Team. A great opportunity for PVS swimmers to continue to experience unity in the LSC. Coaches should be selected and supported as any other PVS zone team. This includes funding for travel, and coaches.

i. April – We will do another swim clinic and will attempt to get the clinic sanctioned by the LSC under Catch the Spirit.

e. Water Safety Day – conduct another water safety day a weekend before the memorial day holiday.

f. 2012 Eastern Zone Diversity Camp- The committee has requested a bid to host the 2012 Diversity Zone Select Camp. As more information becomes available it will be shared with the group.

g. Check the Box campaign- the PVS Diversity Committee would like to start a campaign at the local level for families and registrars to “check the box”. It was suggested by committee member to have a blurb next to the ethnicity box explaining the benefits to checking the box. By having the box checked, it would give the committee the information on the increase of athletes in the area as well as information to the efforts being conducted. One of the goals of the Diversity Committee will be to educate the population on providing this important information.

VI. What's Next

a. Next Meeting mid/late Aug and location

i. We will work on developing a vision and mission statement for the PVS Diversity Committee.

If there are an addition questions or comments, please email Miriam Lynch at miriamslynch@yahoo.com or 703-409-9962 (cell).

If you have not already done so, sign up for the listserv pvsminoritycoaches@yahoogroups.com by emailing Miriam Lynch to stay informed of current events and happenings in USA Swimming and PVS.

Also check out our new webpage on PVS www.pvswim.org/diversity.html