**Athlete Input Council**

**May 13, 2019 – Conference Call MINUTES**

**6:00 – 7:00 pm**

**Present**: Missy Baldwin, Edward Kastern, Zachary Reetz, Luke Smith, Jon Baker, David Thompson, Jake Casper, Steve Woodard, Eresi Yarney, Marquis Garner, Tom Pezzi and Jeanne Hrovat. Guest: Liz Menzer Director of Unified Programs.

**Absent**: Cole Cleworth, Danny Cox, Christiana Coakley, Lora Behr, Zechariah Tietz, and Deb Moore-Gruenloh

1. Welcome and plans for Summer Games Reunion.
2. The planning committee met before the AIC meeting and came up with a plan for the following stations at the Reunion. Guests can arrive anytime between 5-7pm and mingle from station to station in no particular order.
3. Registration – get lanyard – Steve
4. Pick up dinner – Missy and Rhonda
5. Report Activity on laptops and get stickers for lanyard- Zachary
6. Games (ladder toss, corn hole, spike ball) – Jonathon
7. Government Relations/Advocacy – Lisa Hassenstab, SOWI Dir of Government Relations
8. Interviews – logo backdrop set up and athletes can respond to “why is athlete leadership important?” – Tommy Jaime, SOWI Director of Strategic Communications
9. Photos for sharing and thank you’s – use logo backdrop to stage some thank you photos and for random photos – Alyse Peters, SOWI Special Event Director Region 6,
10. Flash Mob/Dance – Teach all athletes Cupid Shuffle for when entering dance – Sarah Burch, SOWI Unified Champion Schools Director
11. Screen with photo montage of all 165 athlete leader photos scrolling.
12. The following people will be competing at Summer Games: Edward (wheelchair 100m, 200m and shot put), Luke (100m, 4X100m relay and shot put), David (shot put and turbo jav), Marquis (100m, 4X100m relay, turbo jav).
13. The following people are on the SG reunion planning team and will be at Quandt by Friday at 3:00 pm: Missy (and Rhonda), Zachary, Jon, Steve and Jeanne.
14. The following people will help with set up (arrive 3:30pm) and tend a station at the reunion: Edward, Luke (maybe), David, Jake (arrive after BOD meeting), Eresi, Marquis (arrive after BOD meeting) and Tom. Not sure - Tyler
15. The following people were not on the call to confirm: Cole, Danny, Christiana, Lora, Zechariah and Deb.
16. Theme for the dance was selected out of eight suggestions – Beach Party
17. Liz Menzer, Director of Unified Programs spoke about the Unified Champion School (UCS) program and how the Athlete Input Council (AIC) and Youth Activation Committee (YAC) could work together.
18. Overview of UCS and YAC
19. Very cool program that some of you know about – Unified Champion School program. Making sure every kid at a school feels welcome and included in schools
20. This year we have doubled the number of schools
21. Three parts of this program
22. Whole school engagement – can look like R-word or kindness activity
23. Youth leadership – led by the youth
24. Unified sports – students with and without ID compete together. Just getting started in SOWI
25. Working hard to let people know about this program, so we can get more involved.
26. Component that is a little like the AIC – called Youth Activation Committee (YAC). Made up of athletes and partners who get together around the state. They plan the leadership summit, they help with the dances, been to USA and state games. (May have met the advisory Jahlieh Henderson from Columbus)
27. Brainstorm – **what are ways that the AIC and YAC could work together?**
28. Jake – what about doing a retreat back at Fort McCoy like we did before? I’d like to do that again. What I liked about that was getting together with YAC and talking about SOWI.
29. Marquis – panel at UW Milwaukee where I got to explain to mainstream students about my disability and how I learn with autism. Liz – would it be cool to have students without ID paired with a partner – would it be powerful and helpful? Marquis said yes.
30. Liz – should YAC kids become Global Messengers with you? Marquis – we can share our views and we can hear theirs.
31. Liz – YAC is passionate about getting more UCS schools in Wisconsin. They want to talk to more students about why inclusion is important.
32. Liz – another idea – have the AIC and YAC plan a dance together at IST. Marquis – excellent.
33. Edward – having some YAC members come to our schools – Edward or other AIC would talk, then the students could talk – very powerful – could do assemblies.
34. Marquis –is this HS or college? Liz - Primarily YAC is HS kids – with and without ID. Between ages 14-21. Marquis always wondered what it would be like to stay on campus and attend class – attend with a college student for a day and see what it looks like to be them. Liz – SO College – we have 8 colleges right now and trying to grow that as well.
35. Edward – I graduated from UW Oshkosh and Marquis’ idea would give more athletes the confidence to go to college.
36. David – I was treated differently and I was almost scared to go to school. If we’re talking about HS or college – everyone on this call has been treated differently. Now that UCS is all together – people have more understanding. Important to get the whole school involved and start from the top down (if principal involved – whole school is involved.)
37. Tom – what we’re lacking - getting into communities to tell them what is going on. Simple presentation before the school board. David and Liz totally agreed. Some of the community organizations that haven’t been provided resources – not because of meanness – Liz, some sort of speaker opportunity with members of the YAC – would you be available to go with them? Have to practice and develop talking points. Marquis, Missy, Edward, David all saying yes to this idea.
38. Liz, every fall at the start of the school year the YAC host a leadership summit. Hoping with enough advanced notice that is something we could do together with the AIC. Usually a Friday night with workshops on a Saturday. Would some of you be willing to help plan? David, Marquis, volunteered.
39. Liz – because Jahlieh is from Columbus, many YAC members from Columbus, but would like to spread it out across the state to participate. Maybe a few months of the year, the YAC joins these AIC calls. Several commented they like that idea. Some opportunities to meet face-to-face and on the phone (skype).
40. Jake – what about getting the Madison and Oregon schools involved? Liz said we are working on that. Jake and David could tag team.
41. Edward – asked about Oshkosh – Liz asked if you have a connection with a school in the community, let us know. Edward has a connection with – Superintendent for Oshkosh school – district.
42. Liz – Polar Plunge Ambassador (PPA) training. YAC are good plungers. Columbus has raised lots of money and SOWI gives some of money back to the school to create a great environment for all learners. Hoping that YAC and AIC members would go together to help other schools create plunge teams. .
43. David – when you say businesses, what are you referring to? Liz – corporate sponsors to donate and have teams.
44. Marquis – my dad has a connection is in the car business – KIA business.
45. Luke – is 16 years old and goes to Lincoln high school in Manitowoc. Liz will follow up with Luke.
46. Missy – went to Edgewood College Cutting Edge program. I was in Edgewood for 2 years. Liz, would love to get a SO college going at Edgewater.
47. Eresi – you could go back to my HS in Grafton – Liz – Tim and Sarah on our team to help.
48. Zachary – start with Special Education dept. at a school
49. Marquis – people with autism have trouble getting involved with social activities - help with this.
50. Next meeting for Summer Games Reunion –Friday, June 7 at Quandt Gym UWSP
51. Adjourn 7:05 pm

Please put following dates on your calendar

July 15, Conference call (3rd Monday due to July 4) and November 16, Meeting