**Athlete Input Council**

**January 13, 2020 – Conference Call MINUTES**

**6:00 – 7:00 pm**

**Present**: Danny Cox, Tom Pezzi, Steve Woodard, Christine Cherne, Jonathon Baker, Lora Behr, Cole Cleworth, Eresi Yarney, Steve Woodard, Missy Baldwin, Tyler Wiginton, and Marquis Garner.

**Absent**: Edward Kastern, Lucas Smith, David Thompson, Jake Casper, Matt Martino, Zechariah Tietz, Zachary Reetz and Deb Moore-Gruenloh

1. Welcome and sharing. Please update us on the progress you have made on your work plan since our November meeting.
2. Cole Cleworth – coaching snowshoeing, polar plunge committee, raising money polar plunge. (I’ve raised $1,500 so far). Polar Plunge Ambassador (PPA)
3. Danny Cox – playing basketball right now, raising money and putting a team together for the Polar Plunge. Attended Global Messenger on Dec 7.
4. Lora Behr – I’m helping coach basketball skills for first time.
5. Jonathon Baker – Drinking less pop than normal. January 31, I’ll be going to Highland High School to speak in front of 90 people about Unified Champion Schools.
6. Steve Woodard – Started playing basketball and helping out with rhythmic gymnastics – pretty cool. Had to do some homework for that. January 25 will help train the Health Messenger class.
7. Eresi Yarney – Marquis and I stopped at Kwik Trip on the way home from our November meeting and thanked Kwik Trip staff for supporting Special Olympics.
8. Marquis Garner – I would like to be on a Polar Plunge Team. Supposed to do a radio interview with Tommy. Attended the December Board meeting, interview with Heart of Canal Street check presentation from Potawatomi
9. Missy Baldwin – lots of changes in basketball for Reg 2. Basketball invitational Jan 25. Lost six pounds over holiday weekend.
10. Tyler Wigington – I’ll be helping with Jan 25 Athlete Health Messenger.
11. Christine Cherne - .  I just started basketball with my team.  Work is going well for me.  I can't believe I have been there 3 months already.  They are keeping me very busy.  Jan 26th we have a basketball tournament.  North Suburban is running the concession stand.  I will be helping out with that plus playing basketball.
12. Erin Muehlenkemp, Director of Unified Programs
13. Thanked athlete leaders for their work and leadership
14. Erin gave overview of her role and the Unified Programs department. Jenna Lang who oversees Young athletes and spoke at our last meeting. Bianca Jaeger helps recruit new Unified Schools and Tim Bergen who works with the Madison school district.
15. We are on our 12th year of the Unified Champion School grant. Last year we went from 60 to 120 schools. This year goal is to reach 50 new schools and 30 new Young Athlete sites.
16. One focus is the Youth Activation Committee (YAC) – they will have four in person meetings. Erin has been working with local community workstations in Madison. Switching it up to see what other community spaces have. They also have a call each month.
17. YAC will be at all SOWI overnight games: Winter Games, Indoor Sports Tournament, Summer Games, and Outdoor Sports Tournament.
18. Youth Summit moving from fall to spring. All schools invited to bring their teachers and leaders, on March 21, 2020 in Madison. Two areas: students in one room and teachers in another. Would love to have an athlete speaker talk about their story. If you would like to attend or speak, please let Erin know.
19. Develop meaningful relationships and opportunities - how can use UCS to lead this organization?
20. How can YAC and AIC come together - what do you want to work together on?
21. Marquis - fund raiser. Selling SOWI merchandise from business-to-business. Steve – asked if he meant taking the SOWI hoodies, etc. and selling them at Kwik Trip. Marquis said his Dad’s co-workers are always asking for merchandise. Erin responded that if you look at SOWI website, there is a shop button that sells SOWI inclusion materials. Erin will send link so AIC can look at apparel if you do sell in person.
22. Missy – chimed in about the fundraiser idea. Erin said she would relay idea of selling more things at games.
23. Marquis – looking on line for different fund raising ideas and would like to talk more about this.
24. How do you feel about unified activities/sports in your area? Are there any of those activities in your Agency and if not would you like it.
25. Cole – not aware of any at this time. I would like to see some, but not sure at this time. Maybe movie night.
26. Danny – In Cadott, they have a UCS program for their students but not for when you graduate. Would be great if would expand so people outside school could join. Basketball, bowling, movie night, swimming somewhere.
27. Lora – Yes, we have bowling, swimming and wind walkers (indoor walking program) that community members can participate with SOWI athletes.
28. Jonathon – not one in Cuba City, but wouldn’t mind if there was one. Badminton, beanbags and tug of war.
29. Steve – I know someone is working on this in Portage – the assistant manager for silver Lake. Have her speak with the Athletic Director of Portage and talk to the Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association (WIAA) to get unified softball and maybe other sports.
30. Eresi – we don’t have one in Region 8, but I wish we did. Basketball, gymnastic, volleyball and flag football.
31. Marquis – don’t offer unified sports, but would like to see it. Basketball. I’ve been talking with Team Milwaukee and wish we had a tennis team. Improv and theater. Refereeing some of the games.
32. Tyler – no one in my agency does it, maybe for sports, but outside of sports, they’re not. I would like to work more on the Fit Five. Tyler is giving a talk at a Madison SOWI basketball practice to teach others about Fit Five and good health.
33. Missy – don’t have one in our area. We do offer tennis in area two and would be glad to play with Marquis. Would be nice to have unified movies. Ice golfing tournaments for fun.
34. Tom – corn hole league. Erin has meeting at Carthage College and want to do bags.
35. Christine Cherne – we do not offer unified sports in our agency right now.
36. Homework – How do you want the YAC to help with IST reunion? Do you want to talk the Youth Summit?
37. Erin will email the AIC about the Youth Summit.
38. Next meeting Saturday, March 14, 2020 in Madison