

Underwater Society of America

2024 Board of Governors' Meeting Agenda

5 October 2024
11:30am-12:30pm CST

The Board of Governors' is composed of the voting representative from each active USOA Council or Club, Society Officers, the Elected Directors and Regional Vice Presidents. (USOA By-laws Section 3.2.1)

1. Call to Order (5 minutes) 11:30am CST
 - a. Attendees:
 - b. Establish quorum: present or proxy out of ___ members
2. Approval of Minutes from 2023 Meeting (5 minutes):
3. Approval of Agenda:
4. Reports (20 minutes)
 - a. CMAS – Karen Thullner
 - b. Historian – Charlie Matthews
 - c. Insurance - Wendy Okafuji
 - d. Legislation – Anne Giesecke
 - e. Membership - Close to 800 members
 - f. NOGI – Mike Gower.
 - g. Ocean Pals - Carol Rose
 - i. This is a BTS event. Do we still need a liaison?
 - h. Safety – Position Vacant
 - i. Women's Divers Hall of Fame – Carol Rose
5. Officers' Reports:
 - a. Vice President:
 - b. Secretary:
 - c. Treasurer:
 - d. President:
6. Old Business: (10 Minutes)
 - a. reports Commission meeting held prior to this meeting
 - b. Fundraising
 - i. Most fundraising has been adhoc for a specific event.
 1. USOA needs a short document on terms for needed funds and how the money will be used.
 - a. Scholarships
 - b. Uniforms
7. New Business: (10 Minutes)

Adjournment: ____pm CST

Underwater Society of America

2023 Board of Governors' Meeting Minutes

7 October 2023
11:30am-12:30pm CST

The Board of Governors' is composed of the voting representative from each active USOA Council or Club, Society Officers, the Elected Directors and Regional Vice Presidents. (USOA By-laws Section 3.2.1)

8. Call to Order (5 minutes) 11:30am CST
 - a. Attendees: Karen Thullner, Bill Van Deman, Ray Tucker, Carol Rose, Anne Giesecke, Jenny Mohn, Phil Hickey, Katrina Finley, Megann Largent, Doug Beach, Anatoliy Pak, Diego Rodriguez, Evan Frost, Mike Gower, Scott Turgeon, Cristian Parra, Evan Brown
 - b. Establish quorum: 258 present or proxy out of ___ members
9. Approval of Minutes from 2022 Meeting (5 minutes): Approved.
10. Approval of Agenda: Approved.
11. Reports (20 minutes)
 - a. Artificial Reefs – Position Vacant
 - i. Do we want to continue this?
 - ii. Bill Van Deman has a meeting with a reef monitoring group.
 1. Volunteer and/or financial support.
 - b. North American Catch Records – Phil Lamm
 - i. No new records?
 - ii. Scuba and fresh records
 - iii. This will be moved to Spearfishing and see if this would be a better fit there.
 - iv. Bill Van Deman will follow up with some of the records.
 - c. CMAS – Karen Thullner
 - i. CMAS would USOA to host world championships
 1. Spearfishing
 - a. PanAmericans 2026?
 - b. World Competition 2027?
 2. UWH
 - a. Age Group 2025?
 - b. Zone Qualifiers 2026?
 - d. Historian – Charlie Matthews
 - e. IBSRC – Terry Maas
 - i. World wide organization - Blue water hunters.
 - ii. Terry is not with the organization anymore
 - iii. USOA had been a partner, but less so in the last few years.
 - f. Insurance - Wendy Okafuji
 - i. Wendy and Tom Hauber (LA UWH) have secured a \$2million policy with SAM
 - ii. Insurance renews in July.

- g. Legislation – Anne Giesecke
 - i. The United Nations statement is on a 10 year plan.
 - ii. Congress hasn't been doing much.
 - iii. A California Sanctuary is still in process. It will be the first tribal sponsored sanctuary.
 - h. Membership - Close to 800 members
 - i. NOGI – Mike Gower.
 - i. Nominees will be announced at DEMA.
 - j. Ocean Pals - Carol Rose
 - i. There will be nothing for 2024.
 - k. Safety – Position Vacant
 - i. New documents on website.
 - l. Scuba - Tom Leard
 - i. SCUBA is handled by CMAS USA
 - m. Technical / Shipwrecks – Ray Tucker
 - i. Nothing new
 - n. Women's Divers Hall of Fame – Carol Rose
 - i. WDHOFF gives grants and scholarships (2023 \$68,000)
 - ii. Member supported
 - iii. Nominees are under consideration, usually 6 per year.
12. Officers' Reports:
- a. Vice President:
 - i. Started to take post competition surveys, currently spearfishing worlds
 - b. Secretary:
 - i. Official documents have been uploaded
 - c. Treasurer:
 - i. Financials are posted online.
 - d. President:
 - i. Busy year with teams going to worlds.
 - 1. MM UWH Gold
 - 2. Womens Spearfishing Bronze
13. Old Business: (10 Minutes)
- a. Updated SCR
 - b. Uniforms
14. New Business: (10 Minutes)
- a. Sports Commission meeting held prior to this meeting
 - b. Fundraising
 - i. Sustainable giving
 - ii. Continuous giving - Patreon
 - iii. Most fundraising has been adhoc for a specific event.
 - 1. USOA needs a short document on terms for needed funds and how the money will be used.
 - a. Scholarships
 - b. Uniforms

c. Social Media

15. Visual

- a. New sport
- b. Visual competition
 - i. Still photography
 - ii. Entry fee is a USOA membership is good for one submission
 - iii. Panel of judges
 - iv. Hopefully sponsors for winner
 - v. CMAS rules will apply

Adjournment: 12:28pm CST