

NHRPA Executive Board Meeting  
March 9, 2023  
At Cannon Mountain, Franconia, and via Teams at 10:00 am  
Meeting Minutes

**Executive Board Members Present:** Matt Casparius, President (Teams), David Tovey-President-Elect (at Cannon); Tara Tower, Secretary (Teams); and Craig Fraley, Past President (Cannon).

**At Large Members Present:** Eric Feldbaum (at Cannon), Laura Bryant (Teams), and Justin Chaffee (Teams).

**Members Present via Teams:** Greg Bisson, Krystal Alpers, Wendy Werner, Donna Kuethe, and Krystal Alpers.

**Members present at Cannon:** Steve Bourque, Melissa Shaw, Caroline Thuma, Celeste Chasse', and Ryan Tumminello.

**Staff Present:** Kerry Horne, Executive Director.

- 1) **Meeting called to order:** Matt called the meeting to order at 10:01 am.
- 2) **Secretary's report:** Eric motioned to approve the minutes of the November 10, 2022, meeting as written. Justin seconded. All approved. Eric motioned to approve the minutes of the January 5, 2023, meeting as written. Justin seconded. All approved.
- 3) **Executive Director's Report:**
  - a. **Update on program registrations:** 52 have registered for the Summer Camp Summit & NHRPA Awards, and 8 have registered for the Financial Sustainability Certification Program.
  - b. **Membership update:** Kerry reported that we currently have 73 agency members, 23 associate members, 6 college/ university members, 52 commercial members, 3 entertainers/ performance artists, 4 honorary members, 4 non-profit partnering agencies, 99 professional members, 3 retired members, and 2 student members. Kerry added that our new commercial members are Productive Parks & No-Fault LLC.
  - c. **Cyanobacteria stakeholder outreach survey request:** Kerry received an email requesting our membership to help with a cyanobacteria survey. She asked if anyone had any issues with her sending out this information. Everyone was okay with this information going out to our membership.
  - d. **Newsletter deadline:** Kerry reported that the upcoming newsletter deadline is April 18<sup>th</sup>. She would like to receive wrap up, and pictures from the Summer Camp summit and awards, an article about the upcoming Wink Tapply workshop, an article on information for the upcoming Granite State Track & Field meets, a sneak peek, and registration information for the fall state conference, and all other committee updates and articles.
  - e. **Treasurer's Report:** As Arene could not attend, Kerry presented a financial update. She mentioned that the checking account balance is \$5,911.34, and the savings account balance is \$15,240.43 for a total balance of \$21,151.77. Checks to be deposited this week from Affinipay for \$1,170 will bring the balance to \$22,321.77, and is an increase from our April 2022 balance of \$16,629.78. Kerry reminded everyone that budget forms are due to Arene by Friday, April 14, 2023, so we can vote on the budget at our May meeting.
- 4) **Committee updates or reports:**
  - a. **Awards Update:** Krystal reported that they have received nominations for all of the awards. Kerry will touch base with Primex for the lunch portion, and Krystal will order awards.
  - b. **Wink Tapply:** Krystal and Justin will reach out to get this committee meeting.

- c. **GSTF:** Donna reported that they have been meeting, and they have decided that because their numbers were so low last year, if they don't have at least 500 athletes for this year, they will go to one final state meet on June 17th. The issue with most communities seems to be that they are currently low on staff and volunteers. Kerry asked that they look at the budget and see what adjustments are needed due to this new setup and etc. Donna said that they have raised the per-athlete price to \$8 per person and that she is working on the sponsor packet.
  - d. **State Conference:** Matt reported that they met and are discussing ways to acknowledge that this is the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of NHRPA and that they are looking for ways to elevate this year's conference. They are still finalizing the schedule, and Donna added looking to honor historians, bring back past presidents, and other exciting new ideas. Caroline added as a reminder that UNH has all of the historical documents from NHRPA.
  - e. **Regional Committee Updates:** Wendy reported that the next meeting for the North Central district is at Haverhill Community Center, on March 30<sup>th</sup>, and all are invited. She added that Plymouth had reached out to have an SAU-wide meeting to combine their information into an SAU-wide resource for parents. Laura reported that she has been short-staffed, but hopes to set a meeting for her district soon. David reported that the seacoast district met in early February and talked about summer camp hiring strategies. He added that they would like to have a WINK Tapply workshop for southern departments, and wondered if the board would approve of this idea. All agreed that it could work, but it was recommended to wait until 2024. Kerry added that it's been done, in the past, and suggested possibly a virtual keynote for both sites. Matt reported that they met in January, and pickleball was their biggest discussion. Kerry suggested we celebrate the 75<sup>th</sup> at the year's end with dinner, etc. Donna suggested we kick it off at the awards banquet, have a small celebration at the state conference, and then end with a dinner.
  - f. **Legislative Update** –Donna reported that there is a bill that would require Rubberized play surfacing for pathways leading to all playgrounds installed after January 2024. Eric added that LWCF requires ADA and EDA compliance for all of their playground projects. Donna recommends that if it passes the house, we should make sure that we explain our position, not that we are against accessibility, but that we want to make sure that everyone understands what this would require.
- 5) **Old Business:** Matt asked about the NHRPA apparel and wondered who was discussing this with Collins Sports. Greg said that he will and confirmed what styles we are looking to offer. Donna is going to work on a 75<sup>th</sup> slogan to go on some items, and she'll reach out to Aimee G. to see if she wants to help with the slogan.
- 6) **New Business:**
- a. Kerry mentioned that Exeter Parks & Rec was recognized on NRPA's Facebook page yesterday for their "Senior Resource Guide". David said that it was a team effort that was started by last summer's intern. Kerry mentioned that it would be a great newsletter article.
- 7) **Adjournment:** *Eric motioned to adjourn the meeting at 10:39 am. Justin seconded.*
- 8) ***All approved.***

Respectfully submitted,  
*Tara Tower*