

**Athlete Input Council
November 20, 2010 Meeting
Special Olympics Wisconsin Madison Headquarters**

Minutes

Present: Arnett Williams, Ashley Kobel, Patrick Lynch, Adam Domino (Scott), Dallas Kopp, Jake Casper, Hannah Grable (Jan), Carolyn Voelker (Amber/Betty), Gordon Hodge, Martha Hill, Tom Pezzi, Jenn O'Brien, and Jeanne Hrovat

Absent: Mila Holcombe and Peter Chumas

1. Welcome and tour - The AIC took a tour of the new offices and surprised Margaret Pezzi with her 30 years of service plaque.
2. Sharing –
 - a. Adam is going to state for bowling, PJ is going to state for bowling doubles – he also went to Florida and Disney World; Carolyn made state with 2nd place at district and regional and helped her mom with bowling practice; Jake shared he was pleased with the elections and wants to focus on getting schools involved; Hannah helped with bowling and rode in Mickey Mouse's limo in the Disney parade; Arnett is happy to be here in the meeting – he didn't qualify for bowling; Gordon said they finally made it to state in volleyball, but they missed the deadline for bowling – so they hosted a bowling tournament in Union Grove; and Martha shared she was chosen to serve on the LETR national executive council.
3. Old Business
 - a. Approval of last meeting minutes – Gordon motioned, Arnett and Ashley second – unanimous. Meeting minutes approved.
 - b. Thank yous - Peter wasn't present, so Jenn shared that he made many bracelets and they went over very well at IST. FST – Adam will write thank you's for the northern and Jake the southern bowling tournaments.
 - c. Wii demonstrations – Jake reported that he had lunch with Bob – first 12 following points were comments/questions from Bob
 - 1) more Wii's and rooms
 - 2) test equipment before hand
 - 3) change the schedule to run along Healthy Athletes Initiatives (HAI)
 - 4) Check to see if the schedule can be changed – not sure about opening ceremonies on Friday
 - 5) AIC could provide an athlete liaison to the Indoor sports Tournament Games Management Team meeting on Jan 19, 2011
 - 6) Flyer in coaches mailing provided by AIC
 - 7) Stressed an AIC member attend the coaches meeting on Friday to tell them about the Wii program similar to Healthy Athletes announcements
 - 8) Potential of hosting Wii demos at other games
 - 9) What will the AIC do at state conference next year.
 - 10) Have a system for evaluating the Wii program – did they like the demo, would they use it at home, do they have suggestions for other activities, etc
 - 11) How else does the AIC want to work together to communicate their input with Bob? Is someone assigned to get Bob the report and then report back to the AIC?
 - 12) Is there a specific meeting or time of year that the AIC would like Bob to attend. Perhaps a Monday during the workday or form a regular time to meet with the council or once per year.

- 13) Martha clarified that the Wii demo's were very important for many reasons and we need to clarify the purpose. What is the purpose of the Wii demos – promote physical fitness, teach athletes new sports skills (i.e, Wii golf, etc), to teach them how to train at home through Wii's, etc. Tom clarified that there are a lot of details to think about with the Wii's such as the technical issues.
 - a) All athletes should make sure you attend the AIC meeting and Wii demos on the April 8-10, 2011.
 - 14) Everyone agreed there are many details to cover for the Wii demo's and supported the idea of having an athlete serve on the IST Games Management Team (GMT). Jake offered to fill this position. Discussion took place with key points: would it be good for others to get to know Bob, is this task too big for one person, need to define what the role would be.
 - 15) Tabled discussion until afternoon along with AIC relationships with SOWI program directors
- d. Reminder Athletes-As-Coaches workshop Dec. 11, 2010. Some athletes voiced interest, and reminded each other to recruit athletes who are interested.
 - e. Jenn shared an overview of a local Agency ALPs training we conducted in October in Spooner. There were 8 athletes in attendance and they will be helping with tasks that will help the Agency get stronger and grow (i.e., arranging school drop-in practice, helping with the banquet and newsletter). Tom clarified that this is a great message that Agency managers trust the athletes and are looking to them to handle all aspects of running an agency.
4. New Business
 - a. Centralized Accounting – Jeanne gave overview with main message being that all the money raised in Wisconsin will now go into a centralized bank account, but local Agencies will still have control of how the money is spent. If you hear questions at the local level, you can let them know they can call Jeanne or Jenn and we can get answers to their questions.
 - b. Review 2010 Summary of Global Congress Summary Reports – Martha pointed out that page 4 of the report stood out to her as a positive aspect of the report. (This is the summary page of the Global Athlete Congress). Gordon pointed out the issues for consideration on that same page were important to him. Jake added that it is not the same without EKS – Martha said we can continue – PJ supported that we can continue to get better – Tom clarified that the AIC in this room right now are strong leaders.
 - c. ALPs Brochure – distributed the old and new designs and asked for input. Everyone really liked new design. Other suggestions: Add spread the word; change photos to have more AIC members represented and take out duplicate photos; bold the “A L P” on the first fold (see brochure); get ALPs quote from intro to alps Powerpoint.; see grammatical corrections.
 - d. Mission statement – definitions. Worked through process of deciding who gets which ones. In a brief few statements, share what this word means to you in writing (email or letter) to Jeanne by December 5.
 - 1) Year-round - Dallas
 - 2) Training – Carolyn
 - 3) Competition - Hannah
 - 4) Olympic-type - Patrick
 - 5) Children and Adults - Arnett
 - 6) Cognitive Disabilities - Gordon
 - 7) Physical Fitness - Jake
 - 8) Courage - Martha
 - 9) Joy - Ashley
 - 10) Sharing of Gifts – Adam

f. Review AIC mission from contract and decide if it still fits. Martha also read the mission statement she had written for the AIC and asked if anyone had any thoughts. We also distributed the AIC list with starting dates for terms. As an alert, as your end of term approaches, have in mind someone who might replace you.

- 1) Denny Alldridge/Brenda Holmquest – Board – The AIC feels strongly that there should be a liaison between the board and the AIC. AIC had to decide between they are suggesting whether the AIC suggests members of the AIC as possible board members (5 votes)– or two, board athlete member will automatically serve on the AIC (5 votes).

Tie vote: PJ motioned that the president and vice-president make the final decision. Ashley seconded – unanimous voted

Martha and Gordon made the decision to choose number two. Therefore, the AIC will formally notify the board that we suggest that the athlete board member(s) automatically serve on the AIC. (If there are two board members – perhaps only one liaison needed for AIC).

- 2) Missy Schoenbrodt – Healthy Athletes – AIC member to serve as Healthy Ambassadors.
- 3) Bob Whitehead – Serve on Indoor Sports Tournament (IST) Games Management Team (GMT) to help with the Wii demonstrations.

Halfway through this discussion, we decided we were heading down a difficult path and needed to re-group. Decided that we didn't want an AIC member to serve on each state dept., rather we want to support all the departments. The way to do this would be to invite a department to each AIC meeting and learn how we can support them.

We already have the direction from Bob regarding the Wii Demo's. He has asked for an AIC member to serve on the games management team to help organized the Wii Demo's.

Motion: Adam makes the motion PJ second: Jake serve as the AIC member on the Indoor Sports Tournament (IST) Games Management Team (GMT). Voted – unanimous.

AIC brainstormed on what the purpose of the Wii demos is so Jake can carry it to the GMT.

1. Fitness
2. Learn Sport Skill
3. Learn concentration
4. Learn Coordination
5. Less stress at tournaments
6. social – play with friends old and new
7. coaches learn with athletes
8. interact with other athletes
9. ACI teaches other athletes how to do Wii

Issues

10. Time (schedule) how long/when
11. Marketing – put it in coaches handbook and mailing
12. How many rooms
13. Survey after
14. Location – dorms, competition sites, healthy athletes collaboration (at national games there was a central location with 20 machines and you could go where ever there wasn't a line.) – Option of lower gyms in Kolf.

Statewide Leadership Conference September 24-25, 2011 at the Plaza in Wausau

1. State awards will be part of the conference on Saturday night.
2. Angela Frizzo will be making a decision on what type of conference committee and support she may need.
3. Jenn O'Brien will be making a decision on what type of awards committee and support she may need.

Brainstorm on possible sessions at the state conference

1. Governance
2. Global Messenger (beginning) (4 votes)
3. Athletes As Coaches/Principles of Coaches (1 vote)
4. Healthy Athletes Initiatives/Healthcare education/fitness (5 votes) – learn your body and how to take care of yourselves, make sure you're doing the right things. Healthcare system. Possible speakers – doctor, nutritionist, professional fitness trainer
5. Young Athletes Program – an explanation for everyone (overview) – host a culminating event at the conference (3 votes – want to watch it)
6. more inclusive sessions
7. social relationships – (when social relationships are appropriate)
8. Technology – the web site, keeps changing, e-buddies (DJ) (2 votes)
9. Getting to know your LETR and feeling more comfortable with them. (vote)
10. Learn more about International Global Messenger (IGM) program

2011 Meeting Dates –

Monday, February 21, 2011 5:30 – 7:00 pm- conference call – agenda item determine purpose for asking Angela and Denny attending next meeting;

Friday – Saturday, April 8-9, 2011 Indoor Sports Tournament and Wii demos– Invite Angela Frizzo/Denny Alldridge to attend

Monday, June 20, 2011 5:30 – 7:00 pm Conference Call

Friday, September 23, 2011 1:00 – 4:00 pm (tentative based on conference schedule) Book entire weekend for the conference Sept 23-25, 2011.

Saturday, November 19, 2011 – 10:30am-3:30pm – Madison SOWI office (tentative based on fall sports tournament schedules)

Meeting adjourned.