

Committee Name: History and Archives Committee

Chair: Chris Colburn

Minutes recorded by: Chris Campbell

Session #2

Date of meeting: 8/4/2025

Time of meeting: 8 pm EST

Actions Taken:

1. None

Number of Committee Members Present: 4 Absent: 1

Guests: 10

Present: Chris Colburn (Chair), Chris Campbell, Maryanne Barkley, Crystie McGrail (Ex Officio—USMS Vice President of Local Operations)

Guests: Barb Protzman, Barbara Church, Christina Fox, Kathy Casey, Kathy Gill, Paul Windrath, Sandi Rousseau, Jim Izzi, Marilyn Fink, Skip Thompson

Absent: Ahren Lehnert

Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 8:04 pm EST. Note—this meeting serves as the Committee Meeting associated with the 2025 USMS Annual Meeting, per current USMS practices.

1. The minutes from the June 30, 2025 meeting were previously approved by email. MSA to ratify approval passed unanimously.
2. The primary work of the Committee this year, per direction given by the USMS Executive Committee, with the approval of the entire USMS Board of Directors, is in two parts. The primary objective of this year's Committee work is to draft a position description for a USMS Historian/Archivist. This has been completed, and the position description has been forwarded to USMS President Ed Coates and the Board of Directors. Secondly, this was per a recommendation by a Board Task Force last year, recommending dissolution (sunsetting) of the USMS History and Archives Committee in favor of a dedicated individual position. (Note—A legislative proposal to dissolve the History and Archives Committee for this purpose has been submitted to the Legislation Committee and will be brought before the House of Delegates at the Annual Meeting. This proposal will be discussed at the Legislative Forum.)
 1. Chris Colburn gave a brief description of the proposed position as defined in the document forwarded to USMS President and the Board of Directors. A list of potential candidates/nominees for the position is tentatively due to the Board of Directors by the Board Meeting scheduled at the start of the 2025 Annual Meeting, with the final appointment happening sometime during the selection process for the 2026 Committees. He then solicited potential

- nominees, asking that information be passed to the USMS President at president@usmastersswimming.org or to him directly at archives@usmastersswimming.org.
2. Thus far, four (4) names have been suggested, two of whom were present on the call. These individuals were asked if they would consider accepting the position if offered to them. Their responses were tentative, pending further consideration. One of the other individuals suggested sent word that his personal obligations may not allow him to lead the effort. One other individual will need to be asked. Additionally, one additional individual on the call was asked. The reply was “doubtful, but willing to contribute.”
 3. Chris Campbell described the parameters involved in considering suggestions, also noting that the position would be more of an effort leader or manager.
 4. One of the guests questioned why USMS seeks to sunset the Committee when it appears that another one would be replacing it. Chris Colburn replied that this was the direction given to him as Chair by the President and made no judgmental comments on this.
 1. Chris Colburn noted that the feeling was that the bulk of the work had been completed, and that the remainder was felt to be in scope for a dedicated individual contributor and a revolving group of other individual contributors.
 5. The sentiment of why sunset this Committee was echoed in the comments field by another guest, who noted that the task force recommending sunsetting the Committee had also recommended 2 years to finish the ongoing tasks (i.e., through 2026). This guest further noted that it appeared that the President and the Board had violated policy by not appointing a Committee during the regular window, and then appointing a smaller Committee in March, one without any of the long standing members of prior committees. As this appeared late in the comments field at the end of the meeting, there was no opportunity to discuss it.
 6. Another guest noted that the task of digitizing paper records for relays and Top Ten Times from early events was not quite completed, with several of the involved swimmers still needing to have IDs assigned to them as well. The individual leading this effort and working with National Office Staff has left the position, and there was concern that the task process had stopped. Chris Colburn replied that he has been engaged with the National Office during the summer, working on this task. There will continue to be an individual contributor working with the National Office on this going forward.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:38 pm EST. We look forward to seeing everyone concerned at the Legislative Forum, if not at the Annual Meeting.