

**Western Zone Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Committee**  
**Represent. Advocate. Inspire. Serve. Educate -- RAISE**

**Meeting Minutes**  
**January 6, 2025**  
**7:00 – 8:00 PM (Pacific Time)**

**Call-in Info:**

**Monday, January 6, 2024, at 7:00 PM Pacific time** (8:00 MT)

[https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85112577922?pwd=zZ6HGQEgMKVzFWsqkOGmy6jCdMil9u.](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85112577922?pwd=zZ6HGQEgMKVzFWsqkOGmy6jCdMil9u.1)

1 Meeting ID: 851 1257 7922

Passcode: 222485

1. Call to Order: 7:00 PM PT by Kent Yoshiwara
2. Attendance: Ellie Wang, Emily Altier, Keiichiro Yoshida, Leslie Juarez Michel, Lissa Parker, Porter Olstad, Rachel Rivera, Trisha Nickel, Virgil Chancy, Verónica Hernández, Kent Yoshiwara
3. Review minutes: December 2, 2024
4. Brief review of mission statement – RAISE – Represent; Advocate; Inspire; Serve; and Educate.
  - Martin Luther King Jr Day January 20 – what dreams do we have for DEI in the Western Zone and our LSC? Share during the LSC round robin.
5. Unfinished Business:
  - **GOAL: LSC Outreach criteria posted on each LSC website in the WZ** ○  
Outreach membership definition from the rulebook: a reduced-fee category of athlete membership for under-represented and/or economically disadvantaged swimmers. Kent update.
  - All WZ LSCs have outreach information posted on their websites. The information needs to be listed so it is easy to find – preferably under the registration and DEI tabs– not just in the policy and procedure manual or under forms. What can we do to encourage LSCs to promote the outreach information?
  - Need clearer way for people to find information about financial assistance = Outreach
  - Creating uniform information that each LSC can post on their website
- LSC Round Robin: Share your top goal or wish for DEI in your LSC for 2025
  - AK – (Jackie Savina)
  - AZ – (Laurel Hill and Porter Olstad) - Goal to increase Outreach membership
  - CA – (Kristeen Garcia and Virgil Chancy/ Tiara/ Taylor) - DEI Camp hopefully held in Feb, possibly a joint camp with CC or joining a Multicultural meet in CC
  - CC – (Kacy Ota)
  - CO – (Emily Altier/ Alec/ Diego/ Leala/ Ryan/ Riley) - DEI Camp working on details, trying to get long course water to host the camp in April, new partnership with Champ Sports giving scholarships for student athletes
  - HI – (Joyce Follis)

- IE – (Shelley Sobek)
- MT – (Susan Huckleby)
- NM – (Rachel Rivera) - had a meeting yesterday, camp in April with Lily King, using funding to send about 6 Outreach registered athletes to it, planning a DEI Camp in Sept
- OR – (Lissa Parker) - Camp postponed to the spring, moving it to the southern part of the state, asking for coach recommendations to fill the camp
- PC - (Kent Yoshiwara /Veronica Hernandez) - awarded 2 grants, 1 to a team that is extremely remote for them to hold meets, and another to a team hosting clinics to transition kids from lessons to the team. PASA is bringing Leland out to the Bay Area to have DEI Conversations in late Feb or early March. ASCA was asked what efforts they were making for DEI and they are looking at hosting a round table talk at the World Clinic. Meeting with ASCA on Thursday this week.
- PN – (Barbara Weist /Ellie Wang) - working to set up more regular meetings
- SI – (Maria Davila/ Simran Jayasinghe)
- SN – (Leslie Juarez-Michel/ Alex Ongaco) - website has been updated so Outreach info can be found in several places. Working to set up the first official full committee meeting.
- SR – (Trisha Nickel/ Nicole Dumitrascu, athlete) - HOD meeting coming up and starting plans for a camp
- UT – (Heather Hale)
- WY – (Jan Crompton)
- WZ Directors – (Mike Dilli/ Scott Shea)
- WZ Athlete Reps (Simran Jayasinghe/ Lara Robertson)
- Guests

• Report from the National DDEI Committee: Emily Altier; Virgil Chauncy - No new updates

• Report from National Disability sub-committee and/or WZ Disability Chair - Working to share more information with LSC's

#### New Business:

- Current balance in the WZ DEI account (prior to receiving any of the 20 cent fee monies): \$ 38,604.56.
- 20 Cent Fundraising update: Billing has been sent to each LSC. Payments were due December 1. The total amount billed is \$17,985.40. Payment has been received from all but 4 or 5 LSCs. Reminders were sent out to the LSC who were late. One check was lost in the mail and will be re-sent.  
- Members present requested to know if their LSC has paid so they can follow up on with their Treasurer if needed.
- New LSC DEI Chairs – send new chair names and contact information to Susan.  
Also send names and contact information for new LSC general chairs, treasurers, and office managers.
- Future multicultural meet: During the round robin discussion in November, the group talked about hosting a multicultural meet in the future or attending a meet. Could we bring a WZ all-star team to the 2026 Central Zone multicultural meet? Virgil will talk with Pam Lowenthal about it. Could we host a meet in the Western Zone? Possibly an African American cultural meet in the Oakland, CA, area. It

could be a two-day meet with day one as a summit/camp and day two as the swim meet. Ollie is a possible contact. Kent and Virgil will check on this possibility. After the Utah WZ DEI camp we talked about hosting a multicultural meet. Let's begin discussing holding a multicultural meet in the Western Zone. We will discuss this more beginning in February.

- Future WZ DEI Camp and Summit: Would Central California (Kacy Ota) and Sierra Nevada (Alex Ongaco) be interested in hosting the next WZ DEI camp and summit in 2026 or 2027? We will discuss this more beginning in February.
- Update on suits from Speedo: Speedo no longer has any suits for the athletes who attend the 2024 camp, but they are sending a package of stuff to be distributed to the athletes.

Next meeting: Monday February 3, 2025, 7:00 PM Pacific Time (8:00 Mountain). The meeting link will be the new zoom link below.

[https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85112577922?pwd=zZ6HGQEgMKVzFWsqkOGmy6jCdMil9u.](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85112577922?pwd=zZ6HGQEgMKVzFWsqkOGmy6jCdMil9u.1)

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Adjournment: 7:45 PM Pacific Time