



**UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MILWAUKEE
ATHLETIC BOARD MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, September 13th, 8:00-9:45 AM
Pavilion 148**

Attendees: AkkeNeel Talsma, Adam Ahearn, Kathy Litzau, Angelo Stuart, Ari Miller, Kendall Nead, Derek Handley, Kevin Keenan, Cathy Rossi, Jim Cleary, Bo Zhang

- I. Call to order by AkkeNeel Talsma (Asked to call meeting by Sec of the University) at 8:00 AM
- II. Introductions
- III. Welcome from Staff
 - a. Basketball practice facility is close to completion, smaller HVAC and mechanical items still to be completed.
 - b. Fall sports are off to a good start.
- IV. Approved the May 2023 minutes
- V. Election of the 2023-24 Chair, the board selected Nancy Rice for the Fall meetings, a new chair will need to be selected for the spring. Vice-Chair, & Secretary are yet to be determined. AkkeNeel will follow-up with board members to gather interest.
- VI. Orientation – Athletics liaison reviewed committee work
 - a. Steering Committee – Kevin Keenan provided an overview
 - b. Academic Integrity – Clare Faurote
 - c. By-Laws, Governance and Compliance, Student appeals – update given by Kathy Litzau
 - d. Fiscal, Equity, Personnel – Cathy Rossi
- VII. New Business
 - a. Determined placement of Board members on committees.
 - b. Updates from Athletic Department
 - i. Diversity & Inclusion update – Kathy Litzau
 1. NCAA DEI Review – completed and confirmed by Vice Chancellor of DEI Dr. Chia Vang. The final report will be shared with the board.
 2. Community Service – experiential learning component required in the city of Milwaukee. S-As are asked to complete 8-10 hours of community service total.
 3. Horizon League Mental Health Grant – implemented 2 new spaces, recovery and mindfulness rooms, and completed a Resilience workshop with coaches that occurred over the last 5 months. The Laboratory for Sport Psychology & Performance Excellence provided the workshop through the work of grad students. The toolkit provided to coaches will also be shared with board.
 - ii. SAAC – Ari Miller
 1. First meeting last Wednesday, had guest speakers from SHAW, sport psychology, sports nutrition, sports medicine, and academics. Buddy teams were introduced and representatives participated in a lightning/knock out tournament. Student-athletes signed the Unity Pledge and received a student-athlete gift compliments of Educator’s Credit Union.

iii. Horizon League SAAC – Kendall Nead

1. Met in Indy over the summer. SAAC initiatives are:

1. Team Impact
2. Mental Health
 1. Kate Fagan talk on Oct 3rd – League wide
3. Special Olympics
4. Community Service
 1. Video contest NCAA wide
 2. Follow SAAC on social media: MKE_SAAC

iv. OneHL – Angelo Stuart shared that the group will meet once a month to discuss social justice and DEI initiatives in the league. He also serves on our department's Diversity & Inclusion committee.

VIII. Closing announcements

- a. Future meetings will be on Teams, with the final meeting in May in-person.
- b. Staff will reach out regarding tickets to Fall events.
- c. A board gathering at a baseball game was requested.
- d. Jim Cleary shared the November 18th Hall of Fame Induction
- e. Shoutout to Coach Lundy who spoke to Jim's fraternity group.
- f. Recommendation to incorporate recognition of professors by student-athletes at athletic events.

IX. Meeting adjourned at 8:55 AM