

Homer Lane - Candidate for Treasurer



The Election Committee has deemed that Homer Lane is a member in good standing of USMS. The candidate has indicated he is planning to attend the HOD Meeting for this election year and, if elected, is planning to attend all HOD Meetings during his tenure in office.

The candidate was nominated and recommended by *Ralph Davis* and received a letter of recommendation from *Tom Boak* in accordance with our Election Operating Guidelines.

The candidate provided the following responses on the Candidate Questionnaire/Consent-to-Run Form:

Section Two: Candidate Qualifications

I am a member in good standing of USMS in this election year: Yes No

I am planning to attend the HOD Meeting for this election year: Yes No

I am planning to attend all HOD Meetings during my tenure in office: Yes No

I have attended 1 or more HOD Meeting in the past five years? Yes No

Please list the USMS National HOD Meetings you have attended, including the dates of attendance:

I have attended National HOD meetings in 2002,2003,2004,2006,2007,2008,2009,2011,2012,2013,2015,2016, and 2017.

Section Three: Questions

Why are you interested in this position and why do you believe you would be a good candidate?

I am interested in this position because I have had been involved interacting with individuals in this role at USMS for almost two decades and with my recent retirement, finally have the time to dedicate myself to this leadership position. I feel I am a good candidate for this position as I have extensive and diverse experience in executive management roles at two non-profits including; strategic planning, asset & liability management, risk management, management information systems, treasury functions, and in budgeting & forecasting. I also have served on three non-profit boards and was a former commercial and investment banker with over two decades of experience.

What do you consider to be the major issues facing USMS now and in the future? As a person holding an elected position within USMS, how would you address these issues?

Clearly one of the major issues is attracting new members while retaining existing members as we go through a transition to newer generations of members. I believe key to this is providing sufficient financial transparency to make it obvious to members the value proposition USMS provides. I think the College Club Program is clearly a source of potential new members that needs to be mined in an effective fashion. Other ideas already underway may also make sense but it will require a new level of evaluation considering other metrics of success beyond just the financial impact. This may require application of more intricate cost allocation practices to factor in indirect costs to each program USMS explores. My experience in dealing with indirect cost allocations on federal grants should help in this potential effort.

Another major issue is the effective governance of the Swimming Saves Lives initiative. This recent initiative could also help with our efforts to expand our membership if effectively administered, utilizing those purpose restricted funds USMS has accumulated over the past decade.

Finally, I believe USMS has evolved to a point where it is imperative that the Board and their committees need to step back from their hands-on management inclinations to more of an oversight role of the management that has been put in place at the National Office. Having seen this first hand on the board at two membership organizations, I feel confident that I can be helpful in encouraging this essential shift in the culture of the USMS.

I look forward to the opportunity to help in these efforts.

Please list USMS committees on which you have served. Include the dates you were on the committees and the names of the committee chairs under whom you served:

Finance Committee from 2003 thru 2019 serving under Tom Boak, Ralph Davis, and Jeanne Ensign. I also served as the chair for this committee from 2010 thru 2012.

Investment Committee from 2011 thru 2019 serving under Dave Burgio, Ralph Davis, and Phil Dodson.

Please list any other experience that relates to your qualifications for the position.

I have served as the Chief Financial Officer at two federally funded independent research institutes (the Marine Biological Laboratory and the Benaroya Research Institute), and recently retired as the executive Director of the later institution. Before that I had a career in commercial banking, with experience in treasury and financial operations. I have also served on the board of a membership organization (Association of Independent Research Institutes) for ten years serving as the vice president from 2011 thru 2015.

Please list any other information you would like included.

I have been involved as a member and competitor in USMS and its predecessor AAU Masters since 1975.

Please write a short summary statement that will be posted on the display board with your photograph at the HOD Meeting

As USMS moves towards its 50th anniversary, please rely on me to provide the oversight and leadership to position the organization for its next half century of success.

Ralph Davis

Erin Sullivan
Chair of the Election Committee
Elections@usmastersswimming.org

Dear Erin,

I am writing to recommend and nominate Homer Lane for the position of Treasurer of United States Masters Swimming. Homer is uniquely qualified for this position because of his varied experiences as a Senior Vice President Banker, and Chief Financial Officer spanning over 35 years. Since 2012, he severed as Executive Director of an \$84 million asset nonprofit with the responsibility of managing all resources through strategic planning, budgeting, financial planning, investment selection, cash & risk management, and intellectual property control. Homer's experience on three non-profit boards complements the responsibilities of this position's requirements.

During his successful career Homer has been involved as a member and competitor in USMS and its predecessor AAU Masters since 1975. Homer has been the Treasurer (1998-2004) and President (2002-2006) of the New England Masters Swim Club. He has server on the Finance Committee from 2003 to the present and was Chair from 2010 to 2012. He has been a member of the Investment Committee since its formation in 2009 and assisted in drafting the USMS Investment Policy.

Homer will add value to the USMS Board and will bring a fresh perspective to the major challenges of the organization. I don't know anyone more qualified to server as the USMS Treasurer.

Homer recent retirement will provide him time to dedicate himself to this leadership position.

I am very pleased to recommend Homer for the USMS Treasurer.

Ralph Davis

USMS Treasurer

Thomas D. Boak Jr.

March 13, 2019

To: Erin Sullivan
Chair of the USMS Election Committee

Re: Recommendation for Homer Lane
Position of USMS Treasurer

I have known Homer Lane for almost twenty years. During that time, he has served continuously on the USMS Finance Committee (2003-2019). During his tenure on the Committee, he served as Chair from 2010 to 2012. He came to the Committee with a great deal of expertise, having served as CFO for two research institutes and has also had experience in commercial banking.

So, all of that is great. But the job of Treasurer requires much more than financial expertise. USMS already has a highly qualified CFO who is responsible for the day to day operation of the organization. Because the Treasurer is a member of the Executive Committee and also serves on the Board of Directors, it is important that he/she not get bogged down in these details, but rather is more focused on larger financial issues and policies. He listens, he focuses, he talks when he has something to contribute. He also has management expertise in the working world. My perspective about Homer is that he is ideally suited for this role.

USMS has been very fortunate to have highly qualified people in the role of Treasurer, going back to Doug Church. Homer is the right person to continue this tradition. I highly recommend him for this position.

Yours truly,

Thomas D. Boak Jr.

Treasurer, United States Aquatic Sports

Director, United States Masters Swimming

USMS Past President

USMS Past Treasurer

Past Chair of the Finance Committee