

# WRRR BOARD MEETING

January 11, 2010

In attendance: Kathy Whitford, Emily Shurilla, DD Meakin, Justin Kershaw, Craig Gates, Gloria Story, Jeff Renston, Jeff Scheid, Mark Shupe, Sally Fahrenholz

The minutes from the December 2009 meeting were approved.

Next Meeting: Monday, February 1, 6:00 pm, at Optiem, 1370 West 6<sup>th</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor.

## WRRR VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR

### SUMMARY

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Karin Trimble was invited to this January 2010 meeting and presented her vision of the volunteer coordinator position. The document she distributed is attached here as Appendix A: Volunteer Coordinator Description. The board was wholeheartedly in favor of her becoming Volunteer Coordinator.

- Central to the coordinator position is the volunteer policy defined by the WRRR board – how many hours of volunteer time from each type of member.
- The WRRR board also needs to consider the scope of the volunteer effort – what initiatives does it include? For example, a boathouse move?
- It's recommended that volunteer signup should use a web-based calendaring system.
- Also needed is a process for enforcement and for assignment of any funds paid in lieu of volunteer hours.
- We need to make it easy and clear for members to volunteer, so communication is key.
- Karin requests a list of groups and a description of their obligations, with leaders' contact numbers.

## WRRR PRESIDENT FOR 2010

### SUMMARY

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Kathy Whitford has summarized the president position duties and responsibilities, in keeping with the requirements set forth in the WRRR Code of Regulations. In general, the focus of the position is communication and running the board meetings. The president does not necessarily have to be an elected board member, but, if not, the president has no voting rights. Discussion of duties and candidates was lengthy and lively.

- Kathy has announced her resignation, but has not yet sent out an email soliciting successor candidates.
- There is a consensus on the board that the president should be an elected board member.
- The deadline for assigning a president is our next board meeting, tentatively scheduled for Monday, February 1, 2010.
- Justin Kershaw will clarify the president role by writing a job description.
- The public relations part of the job may be split off to an appropriate candidate. Kathy will solicit help with this part of the role.

## COACHING

### SUMMARY

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Justin distributed several documents regarding coaching and lively discussion ensued on this topic and the budget ramifications for coaching fees.

- One of the main takeaways from our trip to Three Rivers Rowing on January 9 is that coaching is key, and most clubs have higher membership fees so that more resources can be devoted to coaching.
- We are, in general, about \$200 less per person per year in fees that most other clubs or programs.
- The board agrees that there's a need to restructure coaching so that good coaching is available to all programs.
- The board will be implementing a new fee structure for coaching assessments for specific categories.
- Since both proposed coaching options cost about the same, we will plug the numbers into the budget and decide which option to implement later.
- In general coached rowers fees will be raised, and club rowers (rowers not participating in SRL, FRL, or Masters) can pay for coaching as needed.

- We want to make coaching a priority, with lesson plans and also providing a clearer path for a rower to advance from SRL to competitive levels.

**D.D. Meakin moved: Since coaching is the most integral component of a successful rowing program, we will increase funding for coaching, with coaching assessments to be assigned to various membership and program levels.**

**The motion was seconded by Craig Gates and was passed unanimously.**

## BUDGET

- A draft budget will be available on the WRRRA web site by February 1.
- The budget is discussed by the membership at an open meeting and voted on by the board.
- There are program considerations affecting the budget the need to be addressed by the program committee (SRL options, Rec program)

## COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

- There have been various meetings and discussions with web site development businesses.
- The communication committee (Craig, Sally, and Jeff S) will be meeting with Eric and Sharon Romilly and Eric Murdell to discuss scope and cost for web site work and to address questions about software and functionality WRRRA has already purchased.

## EQUIPMENT

- Strategy for dealing with seats for Kaschpers is ongoing. Craig will talk to Jim Mack about the options available.
- Craig and Justin will confer with Jim Mack on his recommendations for keeping and selling shells.
- We need to remember that we need 6 Eights for SRL.

**The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 PM.**

# APPENDIX A: WRRRA VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR DESCRIPTION

Prepared and presented by Karin Trimble, January 11, 2010

## VISION OF COORDINATOR

- Track, manage, and communicate volunteer needs
- NOT expected to be at every volunteer event

## POLICY & PROCESS

- Policy: TBD by Board
  - How many hours expected by type of member?
  - What is the scope of what we have to get done this season?
    - Is a boathouse move included in that?
- Process: Created by Coordinator
  - Early notification of events – eventually moving to web based calendar signup (long term)
  - “Team leader” volunteer for each event
    - Event can be as small as a maint. day
    - Sign-in sheet managed by team leader & placed in WRRRA mailbox for Coordinator

## BENEFITS OF COMMUNICATION & OWNERSHIP

- SRL members are key
  - Largest portion of the work force
  - Need to feel like they have ownership at the boathouse/part of the team
  - Must have more notice than more involved rowers
- Independent/Masters members probably have more knowledge
  - Use these members more wisely - boat repair, etc.
  - Ask more hours of these members – they use the facilities more
- All rowers
  - Communicate estimated annual costs if we were to pay for maint./lawncare/etc.
  - Have this ready for 2010 membership signup
  - Give option for member to donate set \$ amount instead of volunteering
    - Last year this was presented as almost an ultimatum
      - Change strategy: show we are lucky that our fees aren't as expensive as other BH & what we can do to keep them low

