

WRRRA FEBRUARY 2011 BOARD MEETING

February 7, 2011, 6:30 Hoopples

In attendance: Craig Gates, Sally Fahrenholz, DD Meakin, Gary Clark, Jeff Zabor, Mark Silverstein

This open meeting was attended by approximately 10 WRRRA members and started at 6:30 pm.

JANUARY 2011 MINUTES

MINUTES READ AND APPROVED

- Starting with February, the minutes will be approved through email by board members and then posted to the web site.
- The January 2011 minutes were read in summary.

Gary Clark moved to approve the minutes; D. D. Meakin seconded; the motion unanimously approved.

ELECTION OF DIRECTOR BY BOARD

ERIK MURDELL APPOINTED TO BOARD

- Notice of open board positions was emailed to club members by December 15.
- Erik Murdell, Cara Sieberth, and Zita Varnelis were nominated for the Communications, Outreach and Unity Committee. Cara and Zita have withdrawn, and Erik has agreed to serve as director for this area.

Craig Gates moved to appoint Erik Murdell as board member overseeing Communications, Outreach and Unity. D.D. Meakin seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT, JEFFREY ZABOR

CRF UPDATES

- CRF has agreed to a half-year assessment for rowers in the SRL program. The projected approximate cost of this program is \$330 this year, a reduction of \$115. Growth is anticipated for this program.
- Occupancy permit for Rivergate is pending, as the process for fire suppression system installation is still ongoing. CRF is hopeful it will be done in February, but completion date is unknown to date.
- Gary Clark, as chair of the CRF Operations Committee, asks for input from WRRRA regarding program needs and concerns in the operations area. He specifically wants input regarding SRL and FRL, and he will discuss with Mark Silverstein
- At the Bow Ball on February 5, 2011, CRF announced an additional \$75,000 grant for public access dock expansion.

CLEVELAND MARATHON AND BRITE WINTER FESTIVAL

- WRRRA has been asked to participate in this year's Brite Winter Festival on Feb 19 at Hart Crane Park and also have a station at the Cleveland Marathon, with WRRRA banners for WRRRA along the course for visibility.
- Both events feature a demographic of young professionals and may be appropriate venues to recruit SRL participants.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Committee cover sheets are to be completed by chairs of committee and circulated in advance of next meeting. See membership committee document is a good example.

FINANCE, JEFFREY ZABOR

- Has met several times – RFP for a bookkeeper has been distributed and Jeff Z. will send a notice to WRRRA members.

CORPORATE RECORDS & CORRESPONDENCE

- No report. Awaiting director

ADMINISTRATION AND MEMBERSHIP, GARY CLARK

- Frank Campbell is chairing the membership committee and reports:
 - The committee is soliciting descriptions for programs from chairs for use on Active Net and the website.
 - Inquiries regarding programs have been coming in through email.
 - The committee is setting up an email template for correspondence and a draft of membership concerns for a FAQ to be posted on the website.
 - There's a critical need for access and training on ActiveNet. This is a priority and should be addressed this week.
 - This committee would like to receive all membership and program inquiries to have control in acquiring contact information on interested people.

VOLUNTEERISM, GARY CLARK

- Janet Clark is chair of this committee.
- General discussion of volunteer activities for Rivergate and ideas for volunteer sign up and recognition.
- The committee suggests that volunteer events be posted on the website on the calendar.

COACHING, CRAIG GATES

- The Coaching Committee has identified two candidates with strong interest for the open position.
- Next steps will be to meet and make a decision on the prospects
- The committee would like to have a decision made by Friday, February 18.

EQUIPMENT, CRAIG GATES

- The budget for equipment was circulated to board members this past week.
- Proposed expenditure of \$36K for 3 shells – a Peinert single, a double capable of being converted to a pair, and a straight (uncoxed) 4, true quad. General discussion of price and manufacturers. The recommendation from Craig Gates is to buy the double/pair and quad from Vespoli.
- General discussion on purchase of straight 4 for our club and river.
- The equipment budget needs to be approved before these shells can be acquired.
- General discussion on whether new sculling blades should be purchased. We currently have 9 sets of sculling blades. Cost of pair is approximately \$500-\$600.
- CRF advises that we should make rack space request before ordering the equipment.
- We will defer purchase until we determine the final budget, rack space, and finalize equipment needs in context of updated balance sheet. It is recommended that equipment purchases be finalized by February 15.
- General discussion of equipment needs for sculling. If there's a sculling membership category, there should be equipment.

SAFETY, CRAIG GATES

- No news.

COXING, CRAIG GATES

- Chris Morgan and Patrick Whitaker are working on a proposal.

SUMMER AND FALL ROWING LEAGUES AND SPRING, SUMMER, FALL RECREATIONAL ROWING PROGRAM, MARK SILVERSTEIN

- The Last committee meeting occurred on Jan 2.
- Discussion of spring rowing proposal. The purpose is to give as many people as possible 8 extra weeks of rowing. Program is proposed to run from March 21 -- May 9. M/W or T/TH. 12 rowers on each team. Wolford and Silverstein would coach spring rowing, with two shells out at once.
- Mark Silverstein asks for board approval with finalization of info for web site.
- General discussion of fees deferred to budget discussion. Need to come up with a price for the program that fits in. Board agrees that it's a program the club should have.
- Fees and schedule for SRL were also discussed – SRL participants pay \$115 assessment for this one season. The calendar for SRL has been made, and the program will end before Labor Day.

- Want to get SRL shirts out before 1st regatta, start early with sponsors, get shirts early. Will reach out to corporate sponsors.
- Fall rowing will be 7 weeks – up to ending of Daylight Savings Time.
- The Rec Rowing program will be offered participation in some regattas.

GENERAL SWEEPS ROWING, D.D. MEAKIN

- First meeting Saturday Feb 19.

MASTERS ROWING, D.D. MEAKIN

- This committee met Jan 2 and then will meet Feb 16 and is working on mission statement and evaluation of coaching candidates.

SCULLING PROGRAM, D.D. MEAKIN

- Meeting Saturday, Feb 12 – brainstorming on Learn to Scull and a true coached sculling program.
- Certified scullers are helping to define the program.
- This committee will also be working with the safety committee.

REGATTA COMMITTEE, D.D. MEAKIN

- This committee is working on operational responsibilities and parameters.

COMMITTEES FOR OUTREACH & INNOVATION; UNITY & SOCIAL; FUNDRAISING

- No reports as yet as these committees need a board member to oversee.

COMMUNICATION COMMITTEE

- Committee for maintenance of Web Site: Sally Fahrenholz, Jim Ridge, and Zita Varnelis.
- This committee needs program information

OLD BUSINESS

MISSION STATEMENT WORKSHOP

- The Board will meet Feb 12 at Loop Coffee house in Tremont at 11 am to review and update the club's mission statement.

ELITE AND PRE ELITE PROGRAM

- More detail needed for this program. There will be an open discussion at the March board meeting.

MARLENE ROYAL TRAINING PROGRAM

- This program has been simplified to fit the group participating. Quite a bit of background information on the program has been made available.

BUDGET DISCUSSION

REVIEW OF PROGRAM FEES

- The Code of Regulations specifies that there's a base dues amount to cover the cost of insurance and administration. This cost should be split equally among all the members who are rowing.
- Rack fees are charged to programs – a per boat cost.
- The CRF assessment fee is \$115 for SRL and \$230 for others. SRL will be treated like a scholastic program, with season assessments. If someone rows in addition to SRL, they will pay \$115 for another seasonal assessment. Seasonal assessments are capped at \$230.
- The CRF assessment fee gives the participant access to Rivergate.
- \$130 WRRRA general fee is for equipment and club administration.
- Estimates of program participants were shown on the budget draft matrix.

- General discussion of fees for SRL and FRL and assessments. Concern that club will not raise as much in fees with new structure.
- Novice SRL fees are designed to reduce sticker shock.
- Discussion of base fees for Rec rowing – in seasons, or by year? It was budgeted for summer and fall. Spring is an extra season. That was not anticipated when budgeting was done.
- Coached sculling – when would this be scheduled? Separate days from other masters programs, probably.
- Question: Should masters rowers pay into the general sculling, since they will be sculling during practices.
- The board agreed on proposed program fee matrix, but decision is still needed on how apportion Rec rowing fees into seasons
- A draft budget will be put on the web site, as provided by the code of regulations.

Mark Silverstein moved to approve the draft budget, with decisions specific to Rec fees and spring Rec program to be addressed separately. D. D. Meakin seconded the motion. General discussion: General and coached sculling fees need to be corrected on the matrix handout. The motion was unanimously approved.

- Rec rowing fees will be addressed with the finance committee and a proposal will be circulated to the board.

NEW BUSINESS

OPEN AT-LARGE CRF POSITION

- WRRR member is needed for an At-Large position on the CRF Board. The Board recommends Kathy Whitford as a candidate for election at Feb 17 meeting.

Craig Gates move to adjourn the meeting, with D.D. Meakin seconding. The meeting was adjourned at 8:43.

The next WRRR Board Meeting will be on Monday, March 7.