

**Willamette Rowing Club  
Board of Directors meeting  
November 16, 2014, 0900 am**

FINAL MINUTES

Present: Board members Brad Smith, Jann Byrd, Scott Smith, Jana Schweitzer, Steve Wu, Sam Gray; also Bill Byrd (men's captain) and Sarah Gray (member, representing membership committee)

Absent: Monique Dupre, Cynthia Lund, John Streuer, Phoebe Shen (women's captain).

Note, **to do's and updates since the meeting in RED. Questions in BLUE.**

•**Captains' Reports:** We are in erg'ing season. Brief discussion of upcoming regatta schedule, with note that SDCC will be one weekend earlier than usual (last w/e in March). Women's captain not present, but brief summary of independent women's meeting held Oct 2014 with implementation of a schedule for rowers setting lineups on Sundays on volunteer basis, and ideas about rowers rotating as coxswains.

•**Treasurer's Report:** Please refer to budget (will be sent out electronically ). Summary, the club is in good shape financially, will end the year with approximately \$10,000 in reserves, which is the treasurer's recommendation. The club membership growth has essentially been flat this year. There have been a few unanticipated expenses this year: purchase and mooring costs for second launch, also expenses related to club requalifying for 501 c 7 status with IRS. For 2015, anticipate \$5,000 available to spend on new equipment as needed. An anonymous donor has indicated a high likelihood of donating \$10,000 next year for equipment purchase and naming right for a boat, with no restriction on boat type. Looking forward to 2015, the club will be fine keeping dues at their current levels, including hiring of a second coach for the months of mid April to mid Sept. **Scott will refresh the survey of club membership dues and coaching fees, he will then disseminate the results to members, with mention of the club's philosophy that does are kept low in hope that members will be able to donate when a special request is issued.**

•**Committee Reports:**

•**Entertainment committee-** Jana, Monique, Abby, Jeff. Committee attempted unsuccessfully to find other locales for the annual dinner. Jeff will contact Kell's about hosting the dinner either Jan 24 or 31. **Committee to meet later in the month to discuss fundraising options at the dinner, in an attempt to avoid some hurt feelings last year when members donated personal items that received no bids. Committee will report ideas back to the Board for review and approval prior to adoption of said ideas.**

•**Finance/Governance committee-** Brad, Tiff, Scott- Committee successful in re-obtaining 501 c 7 status. Checkbook balancing is now done by an appointed person, currently Brad. Governance committee is also notified when the Treasurer writes a check for \$1,000 or greater. By-laws have been updated. These will be distributed to the membership well in advance of the annual meeting for review, and the vote on the By-laws to occur at the January annual meeting-requires approval by 2/3 of membership present at annual meeting for adoption. No proxy votes will be allowed. **Phone and e mail votes will be allowed.** WRC house rules have been defined, are on the website, and are disseminated to new members.

•**Training and regatta committee-** Steve, Luis **and ?**-developed the list of regattas in which the club participated this year. Colby weight training program and TWTP have been provided to members. Luis has sent out a few articles on training and nutrition- **request for him to send out more on approx q 6 week basis. Also request for more distinct seasonal training plan, and for weight training recommendations towards specific goals/ and to include priorities for people with limited time. Suggestion for a weight training demonstration to be organized,** to assist people with using good technique. Some discussion of how lineups are set, with specific concerns about people who are in lineups who don't train regularly with the club. Team captains are aware of who these people are and try to include them in boats where their absence

will have minimal impact. House rules have been given some modification to address these points.

•**Equipment committee-** Sam, Bill, Tiff, Richard, Kathleen. Review of launch annual maintenance and twice yearly service, which is on current schedule. Discussion of request for a boat to accommodate smaller rowers- steps underway to rig the Smith to better fit shorter rowers. Recommendation for women's captain to poll women rowers on height and weight to obtain accurate recommendations for boat size. 1st priority for new acquisition in 2015 will be for 4-/x. 2nd priority possibly for another 8+. **Committee to make clearer equipment acquisition proposal in early 2015.**

•**Membership committee-** Scott, Cynthia, Nancy, Sarah G, Sara W. Committee has developed a new membership category for full time students for up to 3 years, w no age restrictions. Membership categories as well as other club expectations are delineated in House Rules, which are available on website and given to new members. Recommendation of expectation of members all wearing a uniform at races will be included in the house rules. The website now has a screening assessment for potential members so that they can have an idea of the appropriateness of their skill set for the club. **Sarah G will update the website with photos and results from fall races. Sarah G will also talk w Susan about becoming a co-administrator of the WRC Facebook page, and beef up the presence of masters on that site. Allison M will be asked to participate due to her experience with other social media.** Susan, Sarah G (and Allison?) will work together to be responsible for content and site updates.

•**Other business:**

•**2015 annual meeting:** **Scott will confer w Oaks re room availability for either January 10 or 17th. Brad will send out notice of the meeting no less than 30 days prior to the meeting.** Jann as ex officio is talking with possible candidates for VP- a few have declined due to some of the conflicts over the summer, and **officers are requested to send to Jann ideas for potential candidates.**

•**Boat renaming:** One member has donated \$1,000 to the club for renaming rights of the Snow Goose, with the request to name it after Michele's mother who recently passed away (this is a surprise). Scott motioned, Jann seconded, and the motion was adopted with unanimous approval. Scott will arrange for the new name to be emblazoned on the boat and arrange the christening.

•**Coaching survey:** Committee of Steve, Brad, Bill, Phoebe and Sara W developed a survey, which was reviewed. Board agreed on the phraseology of the first and final questions. The second question concerning like/dislike about the coaches will be divided into two questions. The questions about what could help coaches to be more effective, and ranking of coaches, were discarded. When the survey is sent out early December, the membership will receive clarification that this is a review so that the board can obtain input regarding all the coaches, and to assist the board in planning and scheduling of coaches for the future. **The survey will be sent one to each active rower's email address, so that each can only fill out one survey. Members will be given 10 days to complete the survey.** Sara W as administrator will pass along the results to the board. **A tally and summary of the results will be presented to the coaches and at the annual meeting,** but specific comments are for board review only.

•Meeting adjourned at 10:50.