

Willamette Rowing Club
Board of Director's meeting
August 16, 2015 09:00

Draft minutes:

Present: Steve Wu, Brad Smith, Scott Smith, Jana Schweitzer, Luis Ruedas, Michele Gamburd, Phoebe Shen (women's captain), Jann Byrd (coxswain liaison), Steve Loaiza (head coach), Kathleen Crowe (member), Sarah Gray (member), Katie Brower (member), Andrew Brown (member), Chris Wojda (member), Maria Valls (member), Susan Wood (member)

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

Questions in Blue.

- **Review and approval of last minutes:**

June minutes were reviewed. Michele moved, Brad 2nd, and unanimous board approval of the June minutes. The minutes have been posted on TeamSnap.

- **Treasurer Report: (report will be attached to the minutes, Scott can you send to me electronically?)**

Budget was reviewed. Income is ahead of that budgeted, and expenses have been less. Projection of YE balance to be approximately \$17-18,000. Scott has met with Maria, who enjoys the bookkeeping and invoicing aspect of the Treasurer position, but has indicated that she does not like the other duties including preparing the budget, planning financial matters, etc. The configuration of the Treasurer position for next year remains to be determined.

- **Captain's Reports:**

HOCR: Women have a guaranteed 50+ 4+ entry, and have submitted for a 40+ 4+ entry. Seat racing is underway, and women are submitting 5K erg test scores. Men have a guaranteed 40+ 4+ entry, and Sam Gray is sorting out lineups. There is also a bid submitted for a men's 60+ 4+ entry.

- **Membership Committee:** all new members are buddied up and have received House Rules.

- **Equipment Committee:**

Launch maintenance has been increased in accord with increased frequency of usage (frequent rental by ORU). The club is actively seeking a small hull (men's LW size) 8+, to replace the Mimosa. This size boat is popular and rare, and likely to be more expensive. Scott moved and Luis 2nd to put the Johnson on the market, as this boat is used rarely, and those funds would then be available to assist the club in moving quickly if an 8+ becomes available on the market. The motion was passed with unanimous approval. **Scott will present to the Board any offer received.**

- **Entertainment committee:**

End of summer event to take place at Oaks Park on August 29th, to include mini golf, potluck dinner, and a movie. **Sign-up to be sent out shortly.**

Annual dinner is planned for Saturday January 30th. The committee is in contact with the executive chef at Rose Villa Retirement Center, as they have a highly recommended catering menu, good venue, and reasonable prices. **Entertainment committee to reserve a locale soon, are looking at other options as well.**

- **Safety Committee:**

Revised safety rules have been sent to US Rowing. Once formalized, all members will have to sign the new rules.

- **Oaks Park Community Boathouse:**

Scott and Brad have been serving on the committee that is developing a new non-profit consortium for management of the boathouse facility. The 4 long term tenants Oregon Rowing Unlimited, Lewis & Clark College Crew, Portland Kayak & Canoe Team, and Willamette Rowing Club have been working with the help of facilitator Tom Fuller to codify details of the new consortium. A draft lease has been circulated, comments have been gathered, and feedback considered. Regular meetings are in process to discuss the potential lease and business arrangements. No documents have yet been signed. A manager (possibly Sam Taylor of L&C) will likely be retained and paid by the community boathouse, to assist in more efficient management and maintenance of the boathouse, dock, port a potty etc. ORU will also be managed by a group of 4 people in the future. An operating agreement will be negotiated including scheduling of erg and dock use. The services of a lawyer for review of documents is being considered, and Bernie Thurber was recommended as someone with experience in the creation of the Portland Boathouse.

Members with private rack space are advised to continue to pay ORU monthly until the new nonprofit is established. Payments made in advance by any member for rack space will be honored by the new non-profit. (note this information differs from that stated in the meeting, and is obtained from the updated email about the Boathouse Committee received by WRC members 8/19 am).

- **New World Rowing:**

Susan presented on the history and current status of NWR. Currently the club is incorporated, and Susan is coaching under that banner. The club is registered with USRA so that she can provide insurance for coached practices. There are 6 board members. Susan defines the purpose to supply what is lacking for individualized coaching, and states that anyone who has been coached by her previously is now listed under the banner of NWR. She indicates that she has a “strong base of dual membership” and that her aim is not to divide or destroy WRC.

There was extensive discussion of the use of WRC equipment by this club. Susan specified that this happens outside of regular WRC practice time, and as currently specified in the by-laws, boats can be used by members outside of designated WRC practice times. Concern was raised regarding the additional use, wear and tear on the boats, as well as the development of a club within the confines and space of a pre-existing club (WRC). Concern was also raised around the use of equipment at regattas by WRC members under the NWR banner. Michele motioned and Jann 2nd a proposal for a sub-committee to discuss boat usage and interclub agreement. **The sub-committee will be tasked to identify hot spot areas, as well as a review of the House Rules with recommendations to be provided to the Board. The Board will then incorporate this information to develop a Memo of Understanding that may involve amendments to the House Rules.** This proposal passed with unanimous approval.

Also addressed but deferred was the question of conflict of interest of a person serving on both the board of WRC as well as NWR. **The WRC board will need to address this in a timely fashion.**

- **New business/Replacement of VP:**

Tiff Wood tendered his resignation from the board on 8/15. The position of VP is currently vacant. The by-laws allow for convening of a special meeting of the membership for voting in a new VP. Steve Wu will send out an email to the membership inviting them to submit nominations for this position, through August 30th. There will be a full membership vote on Saturday Sept 5th immediately after practice, and people can call in their vote to President Steve Wu or Secretary Jana Schweitzer (phone #s supplied). Voice mail will be accepted in the window of 8:30-9am on Sept 5th. **The membership has received this email.**

Additionally, the governance committee including Brad, Scott and Michele, **will propose an amendment to the by-laws to cover the situation in which a board members or elected executive committee member steps down or is otherwise unable to fulfill their job. This amendment then will be submitted to a vote of the full membership.**

The meeting adjourned at 12:15.