

August 11, 2015 Board Minutes

The meeting was called to order on time at 6:00 pm at the Clifton Park Library. There was no open session as no members were present.

Members present, Ellen Sherry, Laura McClendon, Nancy Paulsen, Scott McDonald, Marc Price, Rob Partlow, Kim Ferraioli, Mary Hanratty and Joe Castaldo. Also present: Sean O'Brien and Mike Gilbert.

1. Coaches Report given by coach Sean.

- Discussion was held about shorter summer period leaving an extra week for boat repair and boathouse organization between end of summer and start of fall program.
- Henley Regatta recap – The trip went well, kids had fun and team building across Burnt Hills & Shen was a positive experience for all. Discussion about making it a more competitive race in future by trying to get more kids going for better boat selections.
- Philly race – Ideas of building up the Philly race for higher participation and adding sightseeing day for team building since closer and cheaper than Henley may be stronger option for the team overall for summer race.
- Attendance policy discussed. Sean and Mike will draft policy to put in place to be implemented this fall and going forward. This is as follow up of poor attendance last Spring at Varsity level specifically. We want to be fair to students who come to practice every day and work as a team.
- Coaches for Fall will be – Mike for Varsity Girls, Sean for Varsity Boys, Justin returning for Freshman boys, New Coach Kelly Lischynsky hired for Freshman girls (Jackie got permanent job and not returning), Coach Scott, Dave & Sarah for Modified. Lindsey will return for a few days each week and we are still looking for additional Modified coaches to assist for season.
- Equipment update – An estimate for repair on the Birch has been requested from Saratoga Boats

2. SGS Dissolution – Ellen reported out on the meeting she & Lucette attended with the SGS board and their decision to just dissolve their organization and offer the equipment out to Shen and other teams in area. They were happy to hear that all previous SGS rowers are welcome, will have a home w/in our organization and we chose Guilderland to start recruiting at Mod level to begin building enough membership to make busing feasible. They were very undecided on how the equipment process will go, they still have storage facility and launches on loan to marina that will need to be distributed out. Coach Sean is putting together a list of what we'll request to keep.

3. Regatta Planning Update

- Rob will be sending out an email this week to all Freshman & Varsity households. With Camille leaving and the previously planned organizer not returning this fall, we are without someone to run the food tent. Camille has documented processes and menus so we are hoping one or two people will step up to take this big job over
- Fall hotels for New Hampshire are confirmed. 60 rooms spread over 3 hotels. 10 rooms are confirmed for MA for the Charles and for Stotesbury (Spring Regatta) rooms are reserved in downtown location so team dinner at banquet room and convenient location can be secured.

4. Anonymous emails – The board voted unanimously to change the “contact us” email to require the sender to include their email so we can respond back with questions or follow up if needed.
5. Registration – Kim reported that Fall registration packets are at boathouse, emailed to members and were sent home from summer program. Registration has officially begun.
6. Treasury Report – Nancy Paulsen to continue accounts receivable & payables. All bills are up to date. Kelli Mariano will be starting Bank Reconciliation. The previous Treasurer job has been split into 3 areas to make more manageable. We are working with the accountant to balance Quickbooks and will discuss its program use for future since not many have experience, it’s an obstacle for Shen Crew organization.
7. Fundraising – Laura reported that the Golf tournament planning is going very well. Saratoga national bank & Element message just signed on as corp sponsors and more have verbally committed as well. The fundraising committee met and divided different companies to approach. The rowathon is planned for 9/19 and goal will be 10 miles for Freshman & Varsity 8:00 – 1:00 is time planned. We will be having Modified participate at a shorter distance from 8:00 – 11:00. All coaches will be expected to work and assist and it was confirmed that we do have enough launches for safety purposes. We will be having kids bring their own water and lunches as we did last year.
8. Safesport – Mary reported that there are no US rowing requirements for continued training for coaches or rowers after initial program was started. The board and coaches agreed that everyone would like a refresher training done each season to remind everyone of rules and also capture any new members so they know standards to keep everyone safe. She will contact the committee to get certified trainer and begin to set up schedule with coaches.
9. Membership Survey – Mary reported on June 26th a membership survey was sent out to all members to recap from the parent & rower perspective the experience of Spring season. 23 households responded with 22 parents and 24 students representing 13 were Modified, 5 Freshman and 6 Varsity students. A write up summary will be put together to go out and the ideas of improvement were reviewed and discussed with Coaches and board for decisions for fall implementation.
10. Fall Team building event. Lisa Castaldo is organizing a team building event for mini golf for Freshman & Varsity members on 9/13 to be held at Glenville Sportsplex. Flyers to go out, expense is only \$10 per person for lunch and golfing. An ice cream social will be planned for the Modified Team at a later date since more new members and will be held at boathouse. Lisa offered to run this too and with work with Mod liaison & coaches.