

December 15, 2015 Board Minutes

There were no members attending so no open meeting was held. The meeting was called to order at 7:06 pm at the Gowana Teachers Lounge.

Board Members present: Ellen Sherry, Laura McClendon , Nancy Paulsen, Mary Hanratty, Marc Price, Jason Schoen, Paul Ennis, Scott McDonald, Sean Obrien, Joe Castaldo, Kim Ferraioli and Rob Partlow. Also present: Mike Gilbert, and Dave Clayman.

1. Coaches report :

- a) **Winter Training** - Sean and Mike shared the first two weeks at Healthplex went well. Kids are very positive and sore muscles are indicating the strength training is working. 2 days on ergs each week is also keeping with the rowing muscle groups to help prep for Spring. Ryan from healthplex called all parents after the first week to get feedback which was positively received. Discussion of protein shakes and “push” from healthplex on these will be addressed by Sean with the management to stop and leave it to individual choice. Coaches Dave & Scott reported they have seen gym , met with principal and are ready for Mod training to start in January. They are going to pick up ergs on Fridays from healthplex and bring to Mod winter training once a week. Discussion of Saratoga Mod winter program ideas were shared by Lou Baish at coaches conference and possible idea implementation in future.
- b) **Feb Trips** – The Varsity/Freshman FL trip registration email was sent yesterday stating total trip cost is \$680. Registration has begun on regatta central with 4 people already signed up and 2 chaperone volunteers. It is being filled on a first come first serve basis and expected we will meet our 25 seats. Modified Tanks trip is planned for 2/19 & 20th, Rob confirmed the hotels are booked and registration was suggested to begin next month with deposits (30 days prior to event) to confirm numbers.
- c) **Mod and equipment Update**– A plan for growth of Mod program needs to be developed to grow 2-3 quads a year as example. The coaches & director will meet to discuss and plan will be based on coach & equipment capacity. We currently have enough for 36 kids and looks like our Spring estimate is 36-40 at this time. Discussion of having Varsity coaches rotate and run a Mod practice during the season is being considered, logistics to be worked out. Coach Dave presented an extensive plan for equipment repair over winter to be reviewed and approved by Sean & Mike for team needs. SGS dissolution to be completed by June 2016 and equipment to be transferred to Shen & other teams over the coming months. No work will be done on any SGS boat that are ear marked for Shen to receive until property has been legally turned over or a letter of intent has been provided. Dave will connect with Don of SGS to confirm. Mike has been notified that Skidmore rowing is selling ergs. Some are intact and others need minor repair of monitors etc. Since Shen is not receiving ergs from SGS and those are gone, the need to purchase more to support our current team is critical. Board approved Mike to make offer to purchase 10 ergs to replace those we are losing for price of \$3,000 or less if possible.

- ## 2. Bylaws, board seats and Vote
- Joe confirmed bylaw support the following board positions & terms: Class A members (even yrs under old bylaws) – Ellen, Laura and Mary terms end in 6/2016. If Laura is elected President tonight that will extend to 6/2018 but actually end a year prior since she no longer would have a child on team after 6/2017. The thought would be that the VP would then become the President contingent on votes at that future date. Mary was asked if she’d consider staying on the board for an additional term for consistency final decision and vote to occur in June. We suspect the June 2016 election will be only one

person would step in to fill one open slot. Also Class A under new bylaws - Rob and Jason have terms ending in June 2018. The remaining members Joe, Kim, Nancy, Scott, Marc and Paul are Class B that would be until 6/2017. Presentations were given from President candidates Laura & Rob of their plan of improvement and growth of team if they are voted president and both agreed they would accept Vice President role. Ballot Vote was held and counted by Joe & Mary making Laura McClendon the new President and Rob Partlow the Vice President of Shen Crew.

- 3. Hotel Reservations & Regatta food budget fall 2015** –A follow up from last meeting, Rob confirmed he has a \$5,200 bussing price for 2 busses, 3 days for 60 kids/chaperones to Stotesbury in May vs having all parents going. We would be responsible for hotel and food of drivers as well. This option will need to be shared with membership and believed to be positively received since it's a 4+ hr drive each way. It would be less expensive than everyone driving to PA and purchasing individual rooms and support the team atmosphere as well for Freshman/Varsity travel team opportunity. If approved, this would be built into the season pricing and bussing option could be also for Philadelphia summer, Canadian Henley, NH regattas going forward. Next the regatta food was discussed. The fall food budget was \$4,960. We also needed to purchase equipment and paper goods etc to replenish supplies that was not taken into consideration at beginning of year. The budget was based on \$50/Varsity & \$30/mod due to number of races. For food alone we were \$200 under budget when adding in all the supplies we were \$480 over budget which was reasonable in expectations and board recognized this was due to a great job of Lisa Castaldo of taking this over.
- 4. Coaches Contracts** – BOD follow up discussion with Attorney Rich Burger about creating new coaches contracts vs. at will employees vs. putting policy but not formal contract in place. Rich reviewed pros and cons of each and brought back a few answers from last month's meeting. A vote was taken to create a new policy & procedure in place outlining vacation time, review schedules and language to contain protection for coaches of steps needed to terminate employment of a coach. Joe will begin putting a draft together to share with board to review and edit.
- 5. Accounts Receivable** – Nancy shared we have \$1,400 of fall payments left unpaid. All members have been contacted and Nancy is working with them on receiving final funds before spring. Most of this is unpaid fundraising costs as there were members that were confused etc. Jackie Postulka is finalizing the financial statements against the budget and we expect to have those numbers for next board meeting to review. Nancy & Kim then discussed January recruitment for Mods during Regents week when coaches and available varsity will go into Middle schools with ergs. In May at Chango and Okte as a pilot program is going to begin using ergs in a PE class and introducing Shen crew video as well to introduce crew prior to the June free week to increase participation. If this is successful this may be expanded.
- 6. Maritime Center Update** – Jason received no questions from the membership. We believe the purchase by the Fast Break Fund will give us access to grass, water, parking and bathrooms at minimum and whether or not we'll be able to host regattas there or not is to be determined. There was also a discussion of the lease of BHills expiring in 2016 and what that means is unknown and will be investigated further for options and clarification.

Meeting adjourned at 9:46 pm.