

# Minutes for May 19, 2015 Meeting

## Open portion topics:

- Voting procedures
- Mod champs
- Bylaws
- Philly youth regatta
- Dealing with last minute schedule changes
- New regatta procedure with shorter days
- Catching boats after races
- Dealing with shoes during races

1. Call to order at 7:30. Members present: Ellen Sherry, Sean Obrien, Drew Kroft, Grace Keers, Jason Schoen, Rob Partlow, Tom McManus, Laura McClendon, Mary Hanratty, Mary Beth Ryan, Maggie Fitzmaurice. Also present, Dave Clayman and Rich Burger.
2. Modified
  - a. Dave Clayman reports that a majority of the mod team will be graduating to high school level and asked about recruitment efforts. Grace reported on normal shen recruitment procedures but admitted to meeting resistance from other schools and not getting the support she'd hoped for from Dan Elliot at Glenville-Scotia. Ads did go out in Schenectady Gazette and Community News.
  - b. Maggie offered that her parents are on the athletic board at Schenectady and may be useful contacts.
  - c. No little boats this season (used for ages 4-10) due to scheduling conflicts with provider.
  - d. Nisky has no definite times for mod champs yet – may still be two day event.  
UPDATE: We have received confirmation that all races will take place on Saturday.
3. Merger
  - a. Rich floated option of appointing new board along with vote on merger rather than open elections. Proposition was quickly rejected.
  - b. Rich reports that Amy Cullen has confirmed that merger and name change will not affect our affiliation status; we would merely have a shen booster club operating under the umbrella of our parent organization of whatever name is chosen. We can also choose to file a DBA for a small fee which would allow us to continue to use checks we already have and keep FOOSC name active.
  - c. We will need to make the name change clear to the membership at the time of the vote. Various methods for doing so discussed.

- d. Discussion of categories of group recognized by shen for purposes of utilizing facilities. It is hoped that we will remain category 1 and that this ruling will not be closely scrutinized as technically our faculty liaison is technically supposed to be on site.
  - e. Discussion of what happens if the merger does not pass? We will continue to accept rowers from SGS districts, but distribution of their equipment will likely go elsewhere.
  - f. Discussion of new possible names. Would like rowing squads to come up with possibilities and the board and coaches to submit one possible name. Suggested that new casino may want to sponsor us as goodwill gesture, Jason to follow up.
4. Vote to accept minutes passed
5. Membership Policy
- a. Discussion on language detailing our responsibility to act when students are failing at school. ACTION: Laura will tweak language to make clear that we have no standing to demand grades and will only act upon request from school and/or parents.
6. Open board seats
- a. Split treasurer position? Not really sure how to accomplish this.
  - b. Rob to take over travel/regatta planning
  - c. Laura will move to fundraising
  - d. Mary will keep volunteers
  - e. Jason will keep financial
  - f. Kim Ferrioli will be new registrar?
  - g. Nancy Paulsen will take over recruitment?
  - h. Marc Price to secretary?
  - i. Scott McDonald to boathouse/equip assuming no conflict of interest?
7. Election Procedure
- a. Laura presented proposed election procedure to group. No changes requested.
8. Summer session
- a. Sean reports that plans to do weight training at the boathouse with trainer have been scrapped due to expense and people wanting to "opt out".
  - b. Will stay with \$50 increase as previously discussed.
9. Golf outing
- a. Laura reports that people complained about set up last year of running nine holes twice with different pins for the back nine. Reported that this was due to scheduling restrictions, and that if we want 18 holes to ourselves we would need to hold tournament on a weekday. Board opted to keep tournament on weekend to accommodate members. ACTION: Laura will contact Van Patten this week to get a date.
10. Zumba fundraiser

- a. Marybeth reports that Melissa Mace would like to do a Zumba fundraiser for us, and that this will be a very easy one for us as far as planning. Details to follow.

11. Website complaint protocol

- a. Complaints that come in over the website and go out to the whole board will be answered or delegated by the executive director.

12. SGS issues

- a. Some members of the SGS rowers complaining that they were not informed that Stotesbury was only scholastic race and that therefore their only recourse was to row in singles, which they felt was inadequate. In response we allowed those rowers to attend the Pittsford regatta free of charge, but at least one parent still complained that they did not receive adequate notice and were therefore unable to attend. Complaint deemed to be without merit.

13. Attendance issues

- a. Coaches report extreme absenteeism especially on the girls' team and especially among SGS rowers. Group wondered if parents were aware of this. Also discussed was difference in expectations between modified group and high school teams. ACTION: coaches will meet with current 8<sup>th</sup> graders to explain difference in expectations and increased competition at high school level.

14. Adjournment: 10:00.