

JULY 2014 BOARD MEETING

WESTERN RESERVE ROWING ASSOCIATION

July 15, 2014, CRF Boathouse 6:30 pm

In attendance: Jeff Zabor, Frank Campbell, Victoria Anders, Laura Loesch, Sally Fahrenholz, Jennifer Prugh, Jasmine Carlsen, Kathy Whitford

Next meeting - WRRR Board Meeting - Monday, August 4, 2014, CRF Boathouse - 6:30 pm

SECRETARY'S REPORT

FRANK CAMPBELL / AMY HARMON

1. Minutes of previous Board meetings

- June board meeting minutes

Sally Fahrenholz moved to approve. Frank Campbell seconded. All approved.

2. Notice and Ratification of action taken in between meetings.

a. Full Board

- Ratification of purchase of new Vespoli Advantage 8+

Victoria Anders moved to ratify the purchase of the new Vespoli Advantage 8+. Frank Campbell seconded. All approved.

b. Executive Committee

- **No business between meetings occurred.**

TREASURER'S REPORT

LAURA LOESCH

- The Treasurer distributed the June financials via email and in print at the meeting.
- Received an Activenet check on July 1. It would not be in the June report. Therefore, financials are more or less on track. SRL sponsorship has been short \$2,000.
- We are a little under budgeted income. However, it should equal out.

Sally Fahrenholz moved to approve. Frank Campbell seconded. All approved.

WRRR CLUB MANAGER'S REPORT

JAZ CARLSEN

- First regatta went well.
- Discussion regarding coxswains at the regatta. Teams were not guaranteed
- Second half SRL - There is . There is no Saturday novice team.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

JEFF ZABOR

- Tasked Jaz with creating a Google calendar that Board members can add and organize events (regattas, Learn to Rows, corporate events, etc.) This will be helpful to figure out how many volunteers are needed and to ensure there are no double bookings of events.

REPORTS OF DIRECTORS, COMMITTEES, ADVISORY GROUPS

COACHING AND COXING

JENNIFER PRUGH

- Trying to get together with Jocelyn for another Coxing Clinic. The Saturday went really well. The Sunday Clinic day had some difficulties. Future Coxing Clinics will have better organization.
- Coaching: Coached sculling has begun. There is a tiered payscale for this regarding coaching experience. Adjusted the payscale in a previous meeting. Karen Bush is assisting to arrange coaching for the coached sculling program.
- Kathy and Jennifer gave approval for the Rec women's team to allow for a second coach on a Tuesday night. It's a week by week judgment. In the past, we have budgeted for one coach Monday, Tuesday and two on Saturdays. We need to determine the budget needs for this program. There is still a variety of skill levels and the coaching needs have been reflecting that in addition to the attendance. Discussion of determining experience levels.
- Fall Rowing: Jennifer will get a tentative schedule and coaching needs.

WRRR COMMUNICATIONS, ROWER EDUCATION

BILL RICKMAN

- Communications: Received quite a few emails regarding Fall Rowing and Learn to Row. The info@westernreserverowing.com has been receiving a lot of emails that normally would be CRF emails. Kirk has also been receiving emails that would be more pertaining WRRR activities.
- Test runs for newsletter. Let Bill know if there are any items. First week in August will be the kickoff for the monthly newsletters.

FINANCE, FUND DEVELOPMENT, EMPLOYMENT & COMPENSATION

LAURA LOESCH

- Challenges with timesheets (filling out accurately, etc.)

SWEEPS, SCULLING

KATHY WHITFORD

- Sweeps: Seems to be going better than last year. Captains are doing a great job (Maurice, Morgan and Emily) The captains are scheduling the boats which has been helpful.
- Masters: Received 18 medals out of 32 entries at the Columbus Regatta.
- Rec started and seems to be going well. Masters will be heading to the Welland regatta this week. We are trying to increase communication regards equipment leaving and left here; this is a work in progress.
- Sculling: started the he coached sculling program. It is going in 2 week sessions in order to not compete with Masters for equipment, etc. Recruited Tier 2 - non-competitive sculling. There is interest but a number of people think that is too advanced for them. It is for those scullers that want to improve their skills, etc. The Sunday session (11-12:30) has not been as attractive.
- Working for more Learn to Scull program. Bella was added on this year.

EQUIPMENT, MERCHANDISE

VICTORIA ANDERS

- Vespoli Purchase: Hoping to get it before the next SRL regatta. Would like to have a \$5 raffle for an exhibition (first time) row. Would also like a dedication ceremony. Silent Auction naming rights - proposed starting bid at \$800-\$1000. A Cleveland business would be more interested in having naming rights to a SRL boat. There is currently no boat naming policy. In the past, we honored rowers that passed away or companies/individuals pitched in. Rowing Goddess was named by a previous SRL crew. It was less expensive. Do we want naming boats to be a capital fundraiser? Victoria will re-send her proposed boat naming policy. Decision will be made at the next Board meeting.
- SRL is still using 3 sets of hatchets. They are also using the Notre Dame oars. Victoria found someone to purchase oars from - \$100/oar + \$100 shipping. New oars would cost about \$350. SRL are very hard on the oars. Victoria will discuss with Kathy and Jennifer regarding the allocation of the new oars.
- **Victoria Anders moved to make the purchase of oars for SRL. Kathy Whitford seconded. All approved.**
- Distributed the boat inventory. (age, program use, etc.)
- Merchandising: SRL Regatta: Sold \$1834 of merchandise. Jaz has been selling magnets, t-shirts at the boathouse.
- Jeff has signed an agreement with Sisters of - We will need to allocate funds for the purchase of the team building event t-shirts. The t-shirt cost would be passed onto the event.
- Equipment Committee members have been going above and beyond. Victoria would like a form of recognition for the individuals that have been making numerous repairs. Discussion of how to be fair to other volunteers that have been going above and beyond. Definition of committee work versus equipment repair volunteerism. This would be something for the Volunteer Committee to discuss.

VOLUNTEERISM, CAPTAINS CREW

SALLY FAHRENHOLZ

- We received a thank you letter from the Ohio Corridor for the Riversweep clean up event.
- Tallying volunteer hours. She will discuss with Frank regarding processing volunteer deposits.
- August events -
 - ◆ Aug 2 - Boathouse Maintenance Day
 - ◆ Aug 10 - GG9
 - ◆ Aug 21 - Sisters of Charity event - Sally needs more information on the event from Jeff regarding the hours so that she can wrangle more volunteers.
 - ◆ Aug 23 - SRL Regatta
- The Head Of The Cuyahoga is September 20. Sally would also like to schedule a Metroparks volunteer event.
- Volunteer Recognition event - Ideas on timing at or after the Annual Meeting. Would need to look at the budget to see if this is possible. Oar naming could also be good for this.
- Leadership Crew Cookout at Jeff's house - July 26 - 3-6:30 - Jeff has an agenda planned. It's an informal opportunity to talk about the things that are important as a club, etc. Board roles seem to be daunting; this could be an opportunity to invite others to even take on smaller leadership roles. There are other opportunities/projects that members could participate in.
- Coxing Clinic - Will work with Jennifer on scheduling.

MEMBERSHIP, ADMINISTRATION

FRANK CAMPBELL

- We currently have 524 voting members.
- Transition was not smooth. There were registration timing issues and communication glitches that made the transition bumpy. Some who took LTR did not receive an email about the July half session registration between the first half SRL session and second half SRL session. There are individuals also interested in second half sculling session. Frank will investigate this opportunity.
- Activenet subscription fee invoice has been received.

PROGRAM COMMITTEE

JENNIFER PRUGH, KATHY WHITFORD, VICTORIA ANDERS, JAZ CARLSEN

- No new business.

OLD BUSINESS

SUCCESSION PLANNING - CANDIDATES FOR BOARD & LEADERSHIP POSITIONS

- Thank you for those Board members that have suggested members for leadership roles. Jeff has continued to speak to the members suggested by members of the Board. spoken with a number of the suggested members. This would include duties such as: Committee responsibilities, board candidates, CRF Board, etc.

GROWTH OF SRL 2015 - ASSIGNMENT OF PLANNING RESPONSIBILITY & TIMETABLE

- SRL had to cap this year. The growth is organic and will only steadily continue. Issue of a new boathouse. Estimates growth of 75-100 people.
- Jeff asked the Program Committee to accept the challenge of submitting a "proposal of growth" by the August Board Meeting. How will we do this? This involves coaching, equipment, timeslots, etc. Jeff has suggested increase morning and afternoon rowing programs.
- Questions to ask on the SRL Survey: weekday mornings, Saturday, Sundays, etc.
- The Program Committee will craft a survey by August 5 re: SRL Poll; other times for rowing, etc. It will be on the homepage. We'll also direct people to the poll in the newsletter.

GAY GAMES 2014 (GG9) UPDATES; WRRR BOARD BOAT

- This will be the first race of the day! For every non-current CRF Board member, there will be a 5 second penalty.
- Sally will discuss with Kirk regarding volunteers. She still needs to know how many are needed. He needs to communicate what roles, etc.
- There are approximately 120 entries.

WRRR EVENT REQUESTS FROM OUTSIDE ORGANIZATIONS

1. Great Lakes Theatre - Learn To Row - date tba

- Jeff has not had any contact with anyone. A Learn to Row was auctioned off at a fundraiser for Great Lakes Theatre. Laura has not received a check for this. Hoping to make this a boat in an already scheduled Learn to Row session.
- Finding rowers, coach and coxswain to assist with these events - Whose responsibility will this be?

2. Euclid Beach Blast - Saturday, August 2 - 4:30pm-8:30pm

- Bill checked out the beach and does not believe that we can get any boats down there. The option seems to be bringing an erg down. It might be fun to have erging contests, give away prizes. Jeff will let them know that we don't have the man power at this time to assist with this event. It would be excellent timing if it were earlier in the season.

3. Swagelok

- Cancelled.

4. Young Presidents Organization/World Presidents Organization - Wednesday, October 22

- No other information for this event was provided at this meeting.

5. Sisters of Charity Hospital Group management team - Thursday, Aug 21 - 1pm-5pm

- Joe Purton is the VP - They are also interested in a Learn To Row as a team building exercise. Approximately 16 rowers. Initially pricing \$125 per participants. \$50 for non-rowing. We'll have to pay coaches about \$75-100. \$40/person to cover t-shirts, caps. \$10 - CRF donation.

6. Joint Learn To Row with CYRA for the Union Club - No date yet

- Jeff is working with Matt Previts on this event. - We'll provide the volunteers for one boat. We'll need approximately 10 volunteers. This will give our members exposure to the Union Club members.

Jeff discussed his vision of these events. These are beta tests for corporate rowing team-building activities. He has a presentation, which ends with a safety briefing, signing of waivers, video of erging, erg for a half hour. Row for a half hour out of a 4 hour program. - Jeff will also send out the outline for his presentation to the Board members.

How can the Board collaborate on these plans with the boundaries of what we can manage. This will help to determine what the volunteer demands are, etc. The Board will later review the process - Examine any problems/situations that we would need to adjust.

These programs will provide some revenue. Additionally, it puts us into contact with people that may organize their own teams (companies).

Jeff will send out the preliminary agreements to the Board for review prior to any signatures/commitments.

NEW BUSINESS

SRL EXTRA PRACTICE POLICY - GG9

- There are SRL members that row for different teams. They would like to row together outside of a normally scheduled SRL night. They can coordinate equipment through Jaz, coach, cox.
- This issue is similar to the HOTC. These are non-SRL regattas. They will organize their own coach, cox.
- The rationale to allow these practices are that these people don't have the opportunity to row together during SRL.

Kathy Whitford moved to allow teams competing in the Gay Games to practice outside of a normally scheduled SRL night to coordinate with Jaz and find their own coaches & coxswains. Sally Fahrenholz seconded. All approved.

AUGUST LTR

a. Dates - August 16 & 17 with 4 boats

b. Can we offer Fall Rowing Sat or Sun morning?

- Novice rowers cannot row during the evenings because of darkness, congestion on river, safety, coaching resources, etc. The question before us is whether we are willing to try to offer a morning session for new novice rowers during daylight hours (and relatively uncongested hours) on Saturday or Sunday mornings. If we can find coaches for those sessions, there is no objection to offer the morning option to novice Fall Rowing League teams. Note: Last year, we could not get coaches for Rec in the Fall. There were different coaches every week for the Saturday Rec rowing sessions.
- We will hopefully be able to let the novice rowers know at the LTR if there will be a spot.

ADAPTIVE ROWING PROGRAM FOR WRRRA

- Jeff Zabor distributed a Task Force proposal for an adaptive rowing program via email and in print at the meeting. Jeff wants WRRRA members, that are passionate about this issue, to have the opportunity to utilize rowing and benefit members of the community. He would like to extend to the membership, the possibility of planning this program. There are many within the club that would be interested in planning this. The program would be ran by the members of the club; not the Board.
- Target date for the creation and first meeting of the Task Force will be September, 2014. The target date for completion of the proposal and presentation to the WRRRA Board of Directors will be at the January 2015 Board meeting.
- This program would provide access and service to the community.
- This will be on the agenda for the August meeting. Newsletter will promote the proposal for a Task Force and a call for member collaboration, etc.

QUESTIONS, COMMENTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS, WRRRA MEMBERS, GUESTS

Frank Campbell moved to adjourn. Laura Loesch seconded. All in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00pm.