

JUNE 2014 BOARD MEETING

WESTERN RESERVE ROWING ASSOCIATION

June 9, 2014, CRF Boathouse 6:30 pm

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

Next meeting - WRRR Board Meeting - Tuesday July 15, 2014, CRF Boathouse - 6:30 pm

SECRETARY'S REPORT

FRANK CAMPBELL / AMY HARMON

1. Minutes of previous Board meetings

- May board meeting minutes

Sally Fahrenholz moved to approve as amended, Laura Loesch seconded. All approved.

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

a. Full Board

- Discussion regarding adding a new category of membership; student membership. This would accommodate those rowers that are home for the summer. It would be a \$25 fee for any person that wishes to row over the summer. These individuals would be able to row with other collegiate rowers. Last year, JCU coordinated launches, boats, etc. This year it's CSU.

Jennifer Prugh moved to approve the creation of the student membership category. Sally Fahrenholz seconded. All approved.

b. Executive Committee

- **No business between meetings occurred.**

TREASURER'S REPORT

LAURA LOESCH

- The Treasurer distributed the May financials in print at the meeting.
- There is one outstanding item regarding the new boat fund.
- Discussion of program/membership fees and items over budget.
- Approval deferred until next board meeting.

WRRR CLUB MANAGER'S REPORT

JAZ CARLSEN

- Things are moving along; getting things planned for the regatta.
- T-shirts graphics are set. Jaz will finalize a date re: Jon Cox
- Discussion of volunteers (coaches and other members) for the regatta.
- Everyone seems to be enjoying themselves. Discussion of SRL makeup rows and use of other programs equipment. If a team does not have the rowers necessary to row in an 8 and/or they also are novices; they cannot use a 4. SRL rowers do not pay for the use of the other equipment; etc.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

JEFF ZABOR

- Attended another CRF meeting that is attempting to revise the CRF Code of Regulations. They have incorporated our revisions but not much else has moved forward.
- There are more requests for WRRR to be involved events. Jaz will soon be the point person.

REPORTS OF DIRECTORS, COMMITTEES, ADVISORY GROUPS

COACHING AND COXING

JENNIFER PRUGH

- Coaching: Kathy Whitford and Jennifer Prugh have been working on the coached sculling program. We have some coaches lined up for the tier 2. There is already a payscale for sculling coaches. Discussion of balancing and fairly paying the masters sculling coaches which can involve more than 2 shells. It is a bit more complex at the moment. Discussion of timesheets.
- We have included in the budget an assistant coach for the Masters team. There are individuals that are working in multiple roles. Issue to talk about for the future is coaching assessments; how effective is a coach when they are also serving as coxswain.
- Coaching syllabus needs to be scaled back and revised. It is in production.
- The coaching/coxing sublist has been working.

WRRR COMMUNICATIONS, ROWER EDUCATION

BILL RICKMAN

- Communications: Bill looked into Constant Contact and Mail Chimp for newsletter use. They both seem pretty comparable. There is a similar function with an add-on through our WRRR web site that would be cheaper in the long term. We will explore this hopefully in time for a July 1 newsletter to the membership as a trial. Facebook, Twitter and Instagram seem to be getting a bit more interaction from the membership and beyond, increasing our exposure incrementally. Next step is to build our internal signage to match the external exposure to make sure all members are equally aware of WRRR's activities, etc.
- New merchandise is in. New hats, shirts, magnets and bells. First round of selling will be at the first SRL regatta. We'll get photos up on the web site and Facebook before then.

FINANCE, FUND DEVELOPMENT, EMPLOYMENT & COMPENSATION

LAURA LOESCH

- This is the first month of getting the Activenet reports and ensuring that things are done correctly.

SWEEPS, SCULLING

KATHY WHITFORD

- Sweeps: Rec started and seems to be going well. Masters will be having their first regatta this week. We are trying to increase communication regards equipment leaving and left here; this is a work in progress.
- Sculling: The coached sculling program start date was pushed back one week. Frank and Jen have been involved.

EQUIPMENT, MERCHANDISE

VICTORIA ANDERS

- We sold the Goddess. They will be picking it up on June 28th.
- Row New York: Interested in the Wintech. Discussion of negotiation of prices.
- Looking for new SRL oars.
- Boat reservation process: The priority is for coached programs.
- New shirts, hats, There will be new water resistant zipper bags. There's also Row CLE shirts. This is the 25th anniversary of WRRR. We should probably do something.

VOLUNTEERISM, CAPTAINS CREW

SALLY FAHRENHOLZ

- Building a committee to work on volunteer event planning/staffing. This will help with the corporate requests, etc.
- Volunteer Recognition event - Sally will examine the budget for Leadership Crew, etc. This will be discussed at the next meeting.
- Coxing Clinic - Will discuss with Jocelyn the challenges (Cancellations of registrants; novice rowers signing up to row in a coxing clinic) Discussion of charging a nominal fee for the clinic in the future. Jennifer Prugh will follow up with Jocelyn as well.
- Boathouse maintenance day suggestions: June 21 and August 2. Boathouse and equipment days combined.
- Regatta volunteers: Sally and Jennifer will discuss with Jasmine the volunteer positions and the paid positions.
- Gay Games Regatta: Meeting on Sunday before the Leadership Crew on May 18.
- Captains Crew engagement/kick off event on May 18th: It went very well. Some captains were confused if it was the mandatory meeting for a regatta. Some of the novice captains were also looking for additional guidance on how to be a captain.
- Volunteer credit for hours outside of volunteer events: John O'Donnell made repairs to the Happy Day that saved WRRR over \$1,000.
- Got the volunteer tracking from Eric Romily.

MEMBERSHIP, ADMINISTRATION

FRANK CAMPBELL

- Student membership fee discussed earlier in the meeting.
- Friends of Viking Crew is active; 8 members. We are collecting their fees for processing.
- Paper waivers: We are getting participants to sign the paper waivers at the boathouse.

PROGRAM COMMITTEE

JENNIFER PRUGH, KATHY WHITFORD, VICTORIA ANDERS, TBA

- No new business.

OLD BUSINESS

SUCCESSION PLANNING - CANDIDATES FOR BOARD & LEADERSHIP POSITIONS

- Jeff has 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

- Current problems: It is difficult to place people in spots. We appear to have reached our maximum. We could increase morning and afternoon rowing.
- Jeff asked the Program Committee to accept the challenge of proposal of growth by the August Board Meeting. We may need to find an additional facility for members to take a shower. The E. 4th Bike Rack could be possibility. Discussion: New FRL rowers having the opportunity to row on Saturdays/Sundays.

GAY GAMES 2014 (GG9) UPDATES; WRRR BOARD BOAT

- Rowing registration deadline has been extended to July 15th.
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FORM 990 APPROVAL

Laura Loesch moved to approve the Form 990 as presented. Sally Fahrenholz seconded. All approved.

SRL EXTRA PRACTICE POLICY

- A team discussed the past (but not as utilized) practice of allowing extra practices for those that accept the responsibility for paying the coach/coxswain. Since it is not possible for everyone to be able to have extra practices, this should not be allowed. Discussion for the future: SRL teams that register for the HOTC.

Jeff Zabor moved that Summer Rowing League do not permit extra practices during the SRL program. Frank Campbell seconded All approved.

- Discussion regarding HOTC participation.

Sally Fahrenholz moved that in order to row in the HOTC, a participant must be enrolled in a Fall Program (Fall Rowing, Fall Rec or General Sweeps/Sculling). Jennifer Prugh seconded. All approved.

WRRRA EVENT REQUESTS FROM OUTSIDE ORGANIZATIONS

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

- Jeff Zabor arranged and agreed with Diane Foley for her to purchase a Learn To Row (6 seats) as a silent auction item for a Great Lakes Theatre fundraiser.
- This could be a template for a corporate rowing program/team building exercise.
- 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

- A Rec rower contacted Jeff about an event at the Euclid Beach Metroparks Reservation in conjunction with the Northeast Shores Development Corporation. The rower was wondering if we could bring a boat, etc. We would not be able to do this. We can try to get an erg and a rowing video; possibly the erg practice/teaching boxes. Discussion - This could be a great marketing/outreach event. Jeff suggested that Cleveland Rowing Foundation could coordinate this.

3. Swagelok

- This would be a corporate Learn To Row which Jeff has also arranged.

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

- YPO - These are individuals aged 50 and under; WPO - individuals aged 50 and above. - These are individuals are presidents of corporations in the Greater Cleveland area. They will be bringing a speaker for an event. Jeff has discussed with them about having a Learn To Row as part of their event. It would be 3 hours which would condense the LTR event to 3 hours instead of a day long event. It will be capped at 5 boats. We've asked for the fees to be \$300-350/boat This is an opportunity for WRRRA to mingle with influential members of the region.

5. Possible: Sisters of Charity Hospital Group management team

- One of our rowers is the VP - They are also interested in a Learn To Row as a team building exercise.

No further action was taken regarding the above events.

WRRRA EVENT AND PROGRAM REQUESTS/COORDINATION WITH CRF MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS

- Discussion of fund development vs. events that serve to benefit other organizations.

1. CYRA - Union Club event

- The individual wants to work with us to have another Learn To Row type event utilizing the orange boats in the next six weeks.

2. CMSD - Row & Workout Club - Learn To Row - Sunday, June 22

- Russ Eckles had previously arranged a Learn To Row with an exercise club to have a Learn To Row as a fundraiser for CMSD. WRRRA was not aware of this at all. Jeff had a discussion with Russ Eckles to see if CMSD students could serve as some of the rowers and coxswains. WRRRA is agreeable to the event, if there are subsequent days, we would like to be involved in this. We desire and require communication regarding planning these type of events.
- Jeff, Sally, Jenn will meet with Russ and Pat Poole to discuss that this event is too soon but that we would like to salvage the event. We do not want to leave a bad taste in anyone's mouth regarding WRRRA and rowing.

3. St. Ed's faculty request to start rowing program

- This program would be very similar to the Friends of the Vikings program.
- Discussion: WRRRA has the authority over adult rowing programs in the area. How can we justify this stance?
- The matter will be under review and tabled to the next meeting.

HANDICAP ROWING PROGRAM FOR WRRRA

- Jeff Zabor wishes 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.
- This program would provide access and service to the community.
- Jeff Zabor would like to see a plan from those interested members by August in order for the program to launch in 2015.
- Reasons not to do it: operational, logistics or lack of interest.

QUESTIONS, COMMENTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS, WRRRA MEMBERS, GUESTS

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

Meeting adjourned at 9:42pm.