

JANUARY 2015 BOARD MEETING

WESTERN RESERVE ROWING ASSOCIATION

January 12, 2015. CRF Boathouse 6:30 pm

In attendance: Kathy Whitford, Frank Campbell, Victoria Anders, Laura Loesch, Sally Fahrenholz, Jennifer Prugh, Sarah Jackson, Michelle Landon-Fox, Maurice Ruelens, Kirk Lang

Next meeting - WRRR Board Meeting - February 2, 2015, CRF Boathouse - 6:30 pm

SECRETARY'S REPORT

FRANK CAMPBELL / AMY HARMON

1. Minutes of previous Board meetings

- November Board meeting minutes

Sally Fahrenholz moved to approve the November Board meeting minutes. Laura Loesch seconded. All approved.

- December Board meeting minutes

Approval postponed until the next Board meeting.

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

a. Full Board

⤴ Ratify email votes of Community Outreach Director and WRRR representative to the Cleveland Rowing Foundation Board.

Frank Campbell moved to approve the appointment of Sarah Jackson as Community Outreach Director. Sally Fahrenholz seconded. All approved.

Jennifer Prugh moved to approve the appointment of Rachel Stanley as WRRR representative to the Cleveland Rowing Foundation Board. Sally Fahrenholz seconded. All approved.

b. Executive Committee

⤴ **No business between meetings occurred.**

TREASURER'S REPORT

LAURA LOESCH

⤴ The Treasurer distributed a draft December and year end financials in print at the meeting.

⤴ Based on what we budgeted last year, we were on target for expenditures.

⤴ Something to note: We had budgeted \$9000 in volunteer deposits to be refunded; we refunded roughly \$5000.

⤴ We will send out donation letters to those that have donated their volunteer deposits or other donations for IRS tax purposes.

Approval deferred until next board meeting.

WRRR CLUB MANAGER'S REPORT

JAZ CARLSEN

⤴ Nothing to report.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

KATHY WHITFORD

- ^ WRRRA SRL Membership donation to Bow Ball

Sally Fahrenholz moved that WRRRA donate a Summer Rowing League membership that will be auctioned off at Bow Ball. Frank Campbell seconded. Approved.

- Bow Ball is scheduled for February 28. Discussion of Board attendance and possibility of procuring a Board table.

- ^ Club Manager Job Description

- Kathy emailed a draft of the Club Manager's job description. She organized job duties based on Program Directors. The goal is to create more concise job duties. Kathy will re-send an updated job description based on Director input.

- It will be a concrete tool for evaluating progress and to inform members the duties of the Club Manager. We should look at the various timelines of the program planning, etc. of each Director, examine the agreement that was presented to her: April-October. Discussion on how the needs of the club calls for year round support from the Club Manager. We do not want to take Jaz Carlsen's interest in the position for granted.

- ^ CRF Annual Meeting report

- Rachel Stanley was appointed as the WRRRA representative to the CRF Board. At large members that were elected Rob Johnson and Betsy Bass. Betsy will head the Safety Committee, Rob will head the Building and Grounds Committee, Rachel will head the Coaching Committee.

- CRF Budget: Discussion of the first draft which would potentially have a decreased charge for individual rowers and fixed fee for 8s, quads, doubles, singles, etc. The proposal would move more toward rack charging vs individuals. WRRRA would benefit because we have a lot of members. Discussion of school proposal: paying one part of their fees in the beginning of the season and the other halfway through.

^ CRF Code revision: Language of 19 year old designation as an adult rower has been a point of issue. It is perceived that this would limiting those individuals that would like to participate with high schools as alumni or college programs. WRRRA wants 19 year olds that want to row with us. This may potentially include young adults in the work force that are in the are and those students home for the summer where colleges do not have any program activities for that season. This would allow them that opportunity to row with us. Before a CRF vote on this issue, the WRRRA Board would need to see the proposed wording.

- ^ A meeting of the CRF Member Organizations is scheduled for January 17 at 1pm. Laura Loesch will serve as a representative for WRRRA.

OLD BUSINESS

GROWTH

^ Racks: Discussion of reserving spots on the waitlist for 1-2 additional racks. We understand that we would be incurring costs (purchasing rack space for boats that we currently do not have). Until we get the shells, we could leave the vacancy in the high racks.

^ If growth comes from Corporate Rowing: What if a business wants to purchase a shell and they would have the opportunity to row it whenever they wanted and we could get to use it when they're not using it.

^ Budget discussion will include possibility of purchasing one to two racks for 8 person shells (paying for the spaces right now). This would be taking into consideration the needs for Sweeps and other rowers in general.

REPORTS OF DIRECTORS, COMMITTEES, ADVISORY GROUPS

- ^ **Please email committee coversheets out to Board to be approved at the Feb board meeting.**

COACHING AND COXING

JENNIFER PRUGH

- ^ Rachel Stanley is our CRF coaching contact.

^ Coaching and Coxing Committees: We may combine those committees into one. Excited to work with these potential new members.

^ Kirk Lang has agreed to come back as Women's and Men's Coach this year. He will be considered our Masters coach - not Head Coach and we will explore a better way to evaluate our coaches, etc. Masters season starts in April.

^ Discussion of WRRRA Assistant Coach: If we have the same number of women as we did last year, that may There is one person that may have an interest in serving as an assistant coach for the Women's team.

EQUIPMENT, MERCHANDISE

VICTORIA ANDERS

- ⤴ Met with Equipment Committee and put together an orientation. Members are excited about it. It is planned to take place again during the SRL season. We will work with Communications and Volunteer Committees.
- ⤴ There will be a workshop in February.
- ⤴ She's talking to the head coach at Purdue regarding oars with wooden handles for sale. We are at our minimum. We will need some back ups.
- ⤴ We are in discussion with Sandusky Bay Rowing regarding one of the Wintechs.
- ⤴ We have had an inquiry from head coach at a prep school in Massachusetts. He is interested in our trainers as he is putting together a rowing program there.
- ⤴ Discussion of quad boats.

SCULLING, SWEEPS AND ROWING PROGRAMS

MICHELLE FOX

- ⤴ Jaz and Michelle will spearhead SRL planning.
- ⤴ There was a meeting last week. They will be updating their own prospective program descriptions (Teri Cutler will be working on independent buddy boats, Kirk Lang: Masters; Maurice Ruelens, Morgan Taggart and Emily Felderkrist: Rec.) There will also be a focus on these committees to re-organize Fall Rowing to combine the two (SRL vs Rec).
- ⤴ Discussion on an interboathouse regatta - Independent boats, Rec boats, etc.
- ⤴ Pat Connor has expressed extending the scholastic Friday Night Lights events to other member organizations.
- ⤴ Communication: There has been a lot of misunderstanding. Maurice will ensure the dissemination of information.
- ⤴ Sweeps information session will be moved to March. Emily and Jamie would love to have someone from sculling. There are quite a few people in Sweeps that would like to have a better understanding of Sculling.
- ⤴ Sweeps Committee meetings (Rec, Independent boats and Masters) will be held once a month. - June and August - no meetings are scheduled. Sculling meets through May-summer. Timeline created for respective committees that will be helpful for future planning, etc.
- ⤴ Discussion of WRRR partnering with Gemini Rec Center in Fairview Park to provide erg training. Its director, Joe Brown is interested in having an WRRR Coach come in to show members the correct way to erg. In turn, we could advertise LTR and other programming (Outreach rowing) there. Will follow up with him.

Learn To Row:

- ⤴ The Meet and Greet is typically scheduled for the end of March/beginning of April. Publicity: Flyers for the Meet & Greet will be thrown around town. Scheduling the Learn to Row sessions are constrained by weather and SRL schedule. They are held during 3 weekends in April. Easter is early this year so that will help. Sally has a proposed schedule. Michelle will mention to Jaz to start planning. Sally will coordinate coxes and rowers. Victoria will reserve equipment and Jaz can plan the snacks. We will need to send the room reservations to Kirk for those dates.
- ⤴ Discussion of providing WRRR merchandise for sale at the LTR. In LTR email - let people know that we will have merchandise for sale.

WRRR COMMUNICATIONS, ROWER EDUCATION

MAURICE RUELENS

- ⤴ We have been contacted by a radio show at Lakeland Community College. This can give us additional exposure. We would talk about history of WRRR, provide Learn to Row dates, etc. The show would be broadcast end of March/early April.
- ⤴ Question re: latest news section on website -
- ⤴ Working toward putting up more videos. We'll bring a camera to the next workshop to see what we do.
- ⤴ Newsletter: Just needs input. He was waiting for content to be sent to him. Suggestions for March newsletter content: Learn To Row dates, dates of the season, announcements for recruiting coaches/coxes, etc. He will remind at the February meeting.

FINANCE, FUND DEVELOPMENT, EMPLOYMENT & COMPENSATION

LAURA LOESCH

- ⤴ Will get a first draft of the budget to discuss in later February. Final version is due March 15 to be approved by the Board and available for members to review. Draft 2 or 3 can go on the website for members to review, etc.
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VOLUNTEERISM, LEADERSHIP CREW

SALLY FAHRENHOLZ

- ⤴ Thank you to Victoria for providing her schedule on the Equipment Committee's needs for volunteers for Jan-October 2015.
- ⤴ She would like to set a calendar for the year. If it is an event that requires pre-registration and is still in the planning stage, there is no need for it to be placed on the WRRR Calendar yet.
- ⤴ She has been getting more volunteer committee members. If there are any Directors that need volunteers, let her know. There were individuals at the Annual Meeting that stated their interests regarding assisting Committees.
- ⤴ Corporate rowing: The volunteer committee would need to be notified 3 weeks in advance. Sally will provide the volunteer list to Sarah.
- ⤴ Jan 29 is the next CRF meeting. They will be meeting on the third Thursday of every month at 7:30am at the boathouse.

MEMBERSHIP, ADMINISTRATION

FRANK CAMPBELL

- ⤴ He does not have a committee. For any organization, if there is a function (Activenet) that can only be done by one person. Perhaps Jaz can assist further. He will write things down (guide on how to work with Activenet, etc.)

COMMUNITY OUTREACH (ADAPTIVE AND CORPORATE ROWING)

SARAH JACKSON

- ⤴ Discussed an outline for various tiers (Bronze, Platinum, etc.) based on higher costs, A binder will be created for each of these levels. They will include a cost level and price per person (Income vs. Expenses) and deposit. It will have bullet points for all of the things that we need (What features are included, which powerpoint to use, timeline for each stages, etc) so that there can be point person for each event.
- ⤴ We are ensuring that deposits will be paid for these events. This is important especially if projected numbers of attendees change to a point where the program would not be feasible.
- ⤴ June will be our first corporate rowing event. We need to be careful not to go too late into the year. We ought not to go past September.
- ⤴ The WRRR Board will be provided with details for each tier so that the Corporate Rowing Committee knows what they are empowered to do. The Board would approve these tiered opportunities, etc.
- ⤴ Question: Will we need to be actively promote Corporate Rowing? - We have about already a dozen that have been interested. The dilemma is how to choose which ones to do at any given point.
- ⤴ Sarah will provide income, expenses, etc. for each program and keep track of financials for the Treasurer.
- ⤴ Adaptive rowing is onto a healthy start! Jimmy Sholtis will reach out to the Task Force members to see who would want to stay on. We believe that having an event in March; erging with 4-6 people is a reasonable goal.

PROGRAM COMMITTEE

JENNIFER PRUGH, MICHELLE LUNDON-FOX, VICTORIA ANDERS, TBA

- ⤴ These committees will include SRL, Sweeps and Sculling, Equipment, Coaching and Community Outreach
- ⤴ Jaz would still be a point person for assisting these committees.
- ⤴ It would be helpful for Sarah (Community Outreach Director) to be involved in this Committee
- ⤴ The cooperative efforts would ensure the balancing out of needs for coaches, coxswains, equipment, etc.

QUESTIONS, COMMENTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS, WRRR MEMBERS, GUESTS

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:50pm.