



Narragansett Boat Club
Board of Governors Meeting
March 8, 2023 6:15 pm
Hybrid

Board of Governors members present in person: Andrea Arena, Susan Burgoyne, Matt Eriksen, Pete Evans, Jonathan Haisman, Q Kellogg, John Ryan, Eric Watne, Kristi Wharton

Present via Zoom: Michael Hamilton, Bradley Werntz

Board of Governors members absent: Meaghan Delaney, John Mulligan, Chanika Phornphutkul

Other members present in person: Kiana Anderson

Other members present via zoom: Anne Fleet, Chris Rogers, Pam Vogel

Meeting called to order at 6:22 pm by Kristi Wharton, President.

Approval of February Minutes (Kristi Wharton):

No suggested changes.

Kristi moves, John seconds, all in favor.

Secretary's Report (Q Kellogg):

See attached Secretary's Report.

- There is one proposed member: Payton de la Cruz. Q moves to approve, Kristi seconds, all in favor.

Captain's report (Eric Watne):

See attached Captain's Report.

- Included are some amendments/revisions to Policies & Procedures sculler ratings.
- New: rating criteria for bows and coxswains.
- Eric says changes are minor.
- Eric moves to adopt changes to P & P, Pete seconds, no vote taken.
- Discussion re: cold water single sculler requirements
 - Comments include:
 - Suggestion of inflatable PFD in 40 to 50 degree water for cold-water single sculling, or coast guard throw raft. Maybe do it by date. Put current water temp on reservation form. Risks are not fully appreciated.
 - Shouldn't single scull in less than 80 degrees combined.
 - Make this be in effect whenever we have the four-oar rule, which is based on combined temp.
 - You might not be safe even with all the safety gear.
 - There are only a few people who would want to or should row a single in March.
- Vote: modify language that if you're rowing single in cold water conditions [when the four oar rule is in effect] it's required that you pass the flip test during Cold Water months, permission of the Captain, and have some form of Coast Guard approved floatation device with you. Proposed by Eric, second by Kristi, one against, all others in favor, Passes.

- There will be an Open House for RISD rowing program this Saturday. They're trying to recruit more students.

Adult Rowing Programs (Eric Watne):

- Indoor Adult programs end this Saturday. Partnership with CrossFit gym has been successful; discussion with them about extending this. Possible: members can buy book of tix, punch card system. We'd like to leave our ergs (10 or 11) there; they have another 7 or 8; allow members to go over to use our ergs and other equipment.
- Propose the club pay \$300/month with unlimited use of the facility without paying a per use fee (i.e., no classes). Punch card would be for taking classes. How many months? It could be indefinite. Now we pay \$2500/month to use the space for classes and unlimited use when it's open. But when winter classes end, then we shift to the \$300/month deal. No need to vote on this. Pete will take care of it. We'll send out an e-mail to let membership know about this.

Youth Rowing Program (John Ryan):

- Working on getting coaches; Stem to Stern is up and running. Caleb Tansey might be available to coach. We start competing in a few weeks.
- Kristi brings up the Rowing Strong Rowing Together Program for young parents.
 - Charter School Noelle academy (men and women, age 14 to 18). They have approx. 160 kids in the school; 80+ are pregnant or parents now. They're interested in doing this. They know of 6 to 8 people who might "fit the bill." They provide transportation and Tu and Th they provide childcare for parents until 6:30 pm. Maybe double youth sessions on Tu and Th to accommodate this. Students at Nowell are native speakers of 8 different languages, but most speak Spanish. This program is also at Riverfront Recapture, Holyoke, etc. and they will all come together to race in August. Could start later, e.g., April. If we send 4 kids to the regatta, we get \$2500 back. Coaching commitment would be two days/week through spring, then possibly more flexible in summer.
 - There are two ex-Brown rowers who are also interested in coaching.
 - How well does this integrate with what we do? It might cost us about \$4000 to \$4500, so if we get the \$2500 back, it's not a big commitment financially from the club. We're interested in promoting rowing community wide. Interesting demographic. School is in downtown PVD.
 - Not sure how we can best fit this in while we're still getting up and running. Have to get past barge commitments, get to warmer weather, etc. Maybe start them on an erg, maybe CrossFit? Rowing is great for life skills, discipline, teamwork, etc.
 - Reception is favorable but we have details to work out.

Treasurer's Report (Pete Evans):

See attached Treasurer's Report.

- We're doing pretty well with people paying dues.
- Working with Joan to get Treasury Direct account transferred. Money still needs to be re-invested. Need to figure out long term savings plan.

Buildings & Facilities (Pete Evans):

See attached Report.

- Getting IP camera up and running, should be up in April. Internet is currently down, but Pete will get Verizon to fix it.

- There's a broken cross-brace below boathouse. Atlantic Marine is giving us a discounted rate to do an assessment. Maybe raise boathouse by 8 inches. Might have bids by April meeting.
- Working on key fob with Eric.

Membership Committee (Susan Burgoyne):

See attached Membership Committee report.

- Will start monthly meeting on Thursday evenings
- App TeamSnap – possible thing for the club to use. Has all club activities on the app and can contact members through the app. Program Committee has used a couple of different apps. They've used TeamSnap. They've asked different boat clubs about their experience. It could help the membership know when different things are happening. We should engage the Communication Committee on this. May help us put the different pieces all in one place.

Safety Committee (Jonathan Haisman):

- Committee members: Jonathan H., Francesca Beaudoin, Bjorn Sandstede
- Working to finish off emergency action plan (EAP).
- Had a meeting with Brown Men's team to come up with guidelines for happy medium regarding navigation.
- Check AED is working, First Aid is now above where the computer used to be. Francesca will help review the first aid kits and restock.

Other business (Kristi Wharton):

- Communication Committee: John Mulligan is putting together a newsletter about the awards party and January challenge. Pulling together people who are overseeing different social media to coordinate.
- Governance Committee: Chanika talked with Kristi on process and past challenges. Kristi sent her docs and the comments so she understands where things got stuck. Encouraged to bring things to the BoG for feedback. Goal is to amend documents to reflect what we do in practice.
- Regattas
 - Kristi & Scott Whitney met with Brian Reynolds (HereNow) to discuss NBC changing to HereNow for timing at future regattas. Sounds pretty easy. Decide whether to buy our own iPads and use their software or rent theirs. Charged by regatta participant. We need to try this out before Sweeps & Sculls. Do we do this with Mayors Cup? Or just do this within the club? We don't know the cost yet. They'll have a rep come and go through it with us. They have 24-7 technical help.
- Reminder about retreat on April 1. We need to talk about long-term planning. Physical structure, finances, programs and various relationships with other entities. We're getting more requests to have programs for groups (J & W, RISD, MB). Do some brainstorming ahead of time. Start with a Google Doc that we can all add to and build agenda from there. Location: Scott Whitney's loft.

Remarks for the Good of the Club: none

Meeting adjourned at 7:48 pm. [Pete moves to adjourn, Kristi seconds.]

Respectfully submitted,
Q Kellogg, Secretary