

Old Lyme Rowing Association

MINUTES for Board Meeting of Monday, November 7, 2016

In attendance: G. Hack, C. Fuchs, B. Cheney, K. Drummond, M. Mergy, M. Fagan, J. Montanaro, P. Fuchs

Others in attendance: B. Plage

1. Minutes:
 - Approval of the Minutes from Board meeting of September 26, 2016. G. Hack/C. Fuchs. All voted in favor.
2. Treasurer's report
 - Bank balance is \$119,000. Expenditures include the purchase of boats (balance on the Peinerts, and 2nd Vespoli deposit) and coaching. \$42,000 remains as payable on boats and coaching.
3. Fundraising:
 - Ongoing plans for fundraising to support Boathouse and Hains Park project. Launch of broad appeal to the community at the cocktail party on September 30. Fundraising committee met (Candace, Greg, Skip). Mailing of brochures to club members and community, email reminders will be sent to all club participants encouraging 100% participation.
4. Boathouse construction update:
 - December completion date is still expected. Coordinating the delivery of the retractable Focus custom boat rack system.
 - Thoughts on décor: Request college pennants from club rowers for displaying in the new boathouse flex space. Candace to check with Region 18 for approval first. Bill & Lauren Plage offered framing of club memorabilia.
 - Name of the new boathouse? For town to decide, not the club. Suggestion made that the erg room be named the Emerson Room. What is the town procedure for naming? Are there restrictions on naming because to the State of Connecticut grant?
5. Other news and updates:
 - LTR II/ adult development program success – many of the new rowers competed in fall racing. Make sure we continue to robustly support the new program and incorporate sweep rowing.
 - Fall program update and financial picture: 41 participants, 2 coaches (Paul Fuchs, full time; Molly Hack, part-time). Need to improve the size of coaching staff for spring program. Because of the low number of coaches this season, student access to coaches was extremely limited. Paul F. and L. Zubek will return in the spring. Program income for the fall was approximately \$14,000. More detail from Heather needed before board can determine bonuses for coaches.
 - Ideas about developing a “high performance” regional team (for performance training

in the fall; then students would compete with their respective school teams in Spring).

- Parent reps will conduct a survey of athletes and parents for feedback to help evolve the program. Content of the survey does not have to be reviewed by the board but may include program costs, racing and other fees, organization vision, etc. Samples of other surveys will be sent to the parent reps. Survey will be sent to Regatta Central list and Paul's email contact list.
- More frequent and better communication between coaches and students needed– to be facilitated by team captains and student board reps. Paul to have student board reps in place by the next board meeting.
- Plans for winter training, with Paul and Molly as coaches. Email is going out to the students soon.
- Developing plans for Valley HS program: John Laundon confirmed that they will be independent in Sp'17 with their own boats and docks, operating at Cedar Lake, Chester. Old Saybrook will continue to train on Rogers Lake.

6. Equipment Committee:

- Status of two new 4+ Vespoli VHPs.
- New oars will be needed for the new boats; 12 sweep oars which will cost approximately \$4,000. Quote needed.
- Two 2+/- (Scylla and Charybdis) going to Vespoli for refurb over the winter
- Girls Hudson 4+ in Canada for warranty repair. Hudson 4x to Canada for repair of 2-seat deck.
- Erg repairs: 5 or 6 ergs need monitors repaired or replaced. OK to purchase.
- Repairs to trailer (approx. \$1,800 materials, \$1,500 paint) or purchase new trailer (\$22,000 +/-)
- Still shopping around for a used quad (\$27,000 has been set aside).
- Devise a plan to dispose of older/little used boats in discussion.
- Equipment Committee will meet on Dec 12.

7. Transition planning for new OLRA officers in 2017.

8. Next meeting date Monday, December 19, 2016.

Meeting adjourned at 8:44 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Jane Montanaro, Secretary