

Old Lyme Rowing Association
MINUTES for Board Meeting of March 13. 2017

Board members present: M. Fagan, P. Fuchs, T. Patten, J. Montanaro, K. Drummond, J. Carey, C. Fuchs, D. Dennison

Others present: M. Welch

Meeting called to order at 7.05

1. **Approval of the minutes** from the board meeting of January 30, 2017.

2. **Treasurer's report:** Bank balance remains in the region of \$117k. Several large invoices have recently come in and will draw down this balance as anticipated.

Budgeting for the future needs in boathouse was discussed: e.g. a desk and a chair, new TV screen, rubber floor for flex room, hook ups for video, wires, speakers.

ACTION: - Paul to prep a preliminary list of boathouse needs and circulate for additional input.

3. **Financial manager:** Jane has agreed to be registrar, now that Heather has moved away from the area. Heather has agreed to continue as "Financial Manager". After some discussion, the Board agreed to increase her stipend to \$2000.00, no longer including free membership. The Board agreed that this represents an excellent value for the services that Heather provides.

4. **Fundraising for boathouse and Hains Park:** Dates for opening ceremony discussed, along with ideas for the program. Tentative date is May 6.

ACTION: Greg and Candace meeting with Skip on 4/15 add to agenda for that meeting, invitations, contact oral history contributors. Include invitation to State representatives.

Boathouse/Hains Park fundraising, deadline 3/31. An anonymous donor will match up to \$10k.

Parents were reminded in last communication from parent reps.

5. **Coaches report:** A lot of kids signed up, girls 38, half are novices.. Boys 27, more novices this year, 4 or 5. Will have to use all the boats. Trailer may be an issue soon. BOE controls coaching staff for this season, 4 coaches, and assistant, more a safety officer. Currently practicing indoors, plan to go out, 3/20. Docks should be going in on Monday.

Still have 2 empty seats on the board: 2 student reps.

ACTION: invite student captains once announced. Encourage Louis to participate in Board meetings.s

6. Boathouse update: The Focus racks have been installed. Two lifts, were ordered and will be shipped this week.

Issue of access to the boathouse was discussed. Particularly who will have keys and what access the Masters members will have once the season begins. Paul F and Paul G have the only keys at the moment. Co-ordination with the Town and the school is ongoing in this regard. We are awaiting legal documentation completion which is believed to be imminent.

ACTION: Appoint a masters rep to co-ordinate with LOLHS coaches as to when they will have access to equipment. Paul Fuchs is contact person for HS timetable.

A need was identified for an equipment use log, which should include a place to record any issues with equipment so that the equipment committee could attend to it. It was suggested that a QR code posted in boat house linked to an online form could be an easy/interesting solution.

ACTIONS: Need to inventory equipment, and hold an inventory of spares. Designate a person, (or two possibly one each for men and women), to whom to report any equipment issues. Also need a person to be in charge of safety.

7. Summer junior program plans, Paul reviewed the dates, which he has posted on OLRA website. June 21st start date. Decided on a June 10th registration deadline - to enhance planning. A fee increase to \$450, was agreed with the proviso that OLRA's policy is that "no kid is left at the dock". Anyone who has financial challenges should discuss with head coach or a Board members.

ACTIONS: Paul to add note on website about that policy (YMCA has wording for similar policy). 100 brochures for distribution to include all of our summer programs. Greg will develop and print this brochure again this year.

8. Spring fundraiser: We will be pursuing the "Million meter challenge" event, launch on boathouse dedication day kickoff (May 6th) and conclude a month later, which is end of season clean up day for kids. Pair up a master with a group of kids because in addition to raising money this event is aiming at bringing together the whole rowing community.

It was decided that we will select specific goal for donation; e.g. a chuck wagon or new trailer. The goal remains to raise \$250 per child participant.

ACTIONS: Parent reps will do publicity. Update captains once announced (Margo will help with masters captains). Identify a specific goal item.

9. **Coaching staff.** Hannah Paynter, will be summer program manager. Other coaching staff recruitment is ongoing, and proceeding well.

Masters development group, not running this spring, may consider doing another fall program after LTR need to consider coaching staff for that program. Many of the development group from last year are now fully integrated into our masters group!

10. **Equipment committee**, Paul Fuchs, Anne Hickman, Louis Zubek and Bill Plage. Need a 5th person to join this group, to replace Heather.

Heather has list of ongoing equipment/buying plans. The need for a process by which to identify and rectify any equipment issues was reiterated (see above 6. Boathouse)

Eight new oars bought with funds received from Old Saybrook HS fees paid to Region 18. Same system again this year.

Plans to cycle out old equipment as new is acquired. Wooden handles on oars to be replaced.

ACTION: 5th person appointment next time, equipment log and inventory system implementation

11. **Historical committee**, continues to gather oral history and historical materials from all past participants. Await materials from the Emerson estate, through Ric Ricci, Conn College coach.

12. Next board meeting: Monday, April 17, 2017

Respectfully submitted by
Diane Dennison
Secretary.