

Old Lyme Rowing Association
Minutes
Monday, December 4, 2017 7:00 PM

Present: Greg Hack, Paul Fuchs, Candace Fuchs, Sean McTigue, Bill Plage, Tanya Patten, Kristy Dorsey, Margo Fagan, Heather Stone (on the phone)

Minutes from previous meeting were approved (motion by Sean McTigue)

Financials: There is little activity at this time of year. The bank balance is \$76,318.

Receivables from 2017 Season

It has come to the attention of our Treasurer and Financial Manager that there is approximately \$6600 in unpaid program fees from the 2017 seasons. This has occurred because participants choose the 'pay by check' option when they register, and then they fail to send in payment as promised in a timely way. It was the expectation that the Registrar/Treasurer would follow up with these people to ensure payment. Heather and Jane have been contacting the individuals involved. Some of the amounts listed as unpaid fees included discounted fees or other special situations that were not properly accounted for. This situation typically impacts about ten participants, the majority of whom are parents of juniors. Options to avoid this situation were discussed:

Eliminate the pay by check option: Aside from presenting risk mitigation and convenience, this would present a barrier to those who prefer not to use credit cards, and those who prefer to pay in installments (>20% of participants). We could require a downpayment by credit card at checkout, and the Registrar (or Summer Program Manager) would be required to chase down the balance at a later date. There is a 2.5% fee associated with credit card transactions, but we agree that the mitigation of risk and convenience is worth the fee.

We agreed that for lower cost programs such as Learn To Row, full payment at registration would be required

Participants should be prohibited from participating if they are not registered—no exceptions!

We agree that the payment scheme must be uniform across all of our programs.

We agree that the Registrar role should be defined and documented.

Traci Stocker (Regatta Central representative) suggested that we should have a clearly worded refund policy if payment in full is required at the time of registration.

Executive Committee should convene to discuss the registrar role for 2018. Paul Fuchs mentioned that Theresa LeMay has volunteered to assist with collection for the Junior program.

Boathouse Access

We presently have 20 key holders. Several members have requested that they become keyholders. We agree that it is unlikely that RSD18 will extend many more keys to us. We could revisit the keyholder list and consider redistribution as appropriate. Region 18 expects to arm the alarm system in advance of the spring season, and each key holder will get a unique code for the key pad.

Flex Space

The TV has been installed, and flooring has been purchased and installed by RSD18. Paul Fuchs to take a picture and forward with thanks to John Rhodes.

Signage

Sophie Marsh has volunteered to have her business repaint the original Fred Emerson Boathouse sign, which will hang outside over the center barn door.

Plan to remove the sign from the boathouse so it can be painted over the Winter

Bathroom Building

A Town committee has been formed to execute this project. There is a chance that Candace Fuchs will be assigned to this committee.

Outdoor Racks for Private Boat Storage:

Quite a few rowers have expressed a desire for private boat storage on outdoor racks. If the Town were to ever allow this, it is likely that kayaks and other non-rowing craft would be welcome. We agreed to table this topic for at least a year.

Equipment Committee

Purchase of lightly used 8+: Vespoli has a possible boat built 2012-2014. Completely refurbished and repainted if needed for expected sale price of \$25K. This would become the girls 1st boat. Paul and Greg to inspect on 15DEC if the boat is available for viewing. Not to exceed amount of **\$27K was approved for this purchase at a previous meeting**

Black Vespoli 8+ to be repainted and new backstays estimated at \$5K **this expense was approved**

Old trailer has been sold for \$5000, funds are in the LOLHS rowing activity fund and will be applied to the purchase of the 8+ (presumably)

Filippi 2x needs repair and paint, estimated at \$4K, Bill Plage to research a reasonable vendor **this expense was approved**

After the retirement of the 9.9hp motor and the 15hp motor, we need to purchase a new outboard motor (8hp preferred) estimated at \$2K **this expense was approved**

Historical Committee

Candace Fuchs met with Ned Farman and Allison Mitchell in late November to assess the ability of Old Lyme Historical Society to assist us with our archive. The Old Lyme Historical Society

has a perfect facility to store the original documents, but no resource to scan them electronically. The committee will take Greg Hack up on his offer to scan them at his office. The committee has initiated a project to install a 40x60 photograph of Fred Emerson above the entrance to the Flex space, and to install pictures and biographies of our three Olympians between the windows. We will also endeavor to complete the painting project proposed by Hannah Paynter and Peter Fuchs.

Boat Naming Committee

Greg Hack, Candace Fuchs and Sean McTigue have been nominated to the boat naming committee. Some names to consider:

Cookie Jar: the name of the original girls 4X

Codfish Aristocrat: the name on the Garafolo 8X

Bow First: the only way the Hudson 8+ fits in the house

Winter Projects

Haul the docks: Paul to discuss with Public Works, and also get a schedule for removal of the fence

Sculling oars: check adjustments

Labels for small boats: Greg to propose to Mike Furgueson

LOLHS Fundraising:

Candace shared with Diane Dennison a list of ideas for fundraisers. Candace to forward this list to Sean too. A list of responsibilities for parent reps should be developed, including

Make hotel reservations

Manage online store with Boathouse Sports

Racing Membership Category: consider a new low priced membership option for athletes wanting to train and race with us occasionally

Fall Program Financials

Income (profit) for Fall currently at \$7K but if the receivables are collected, it could exceed \$10K
Agreed to pay a bonus to Paul Fuchs and to Dale Hoxie for their dedicated full time service with the juniors this fall.

Spring Program

Seeking an assistant girls coach. Several candidates include Andrea (Simsbury crew), Caroline Muhsin and TJ Buckley.

Annual meeting to be scheduled for 22JAN

Next board meeting to be scheduled 08JAN