

MRRA monthly meeting

May 8, 2012

In attendance: Jay Feenan, Ann Ballantine, Bob Bowen, Jason Holden, Bob Sherman, Barb Sherman, Joe LaFreniere, Bob Sengstaken, John Ballantine, Karen Scammell, Chur Masors

- Meeting called to order by Prez Scammell at approx 7PM.
- Reading of previous month's minutes waived by unanimous consensus.
- UML will be installing bollards to better define and separate the sidewalk from the area in front of the bay doors. UML feels this will increase safety by protecting rowers and pedestrians from potential collisions with each other. The bollards will be joined by lengths of chain and will be lockable. They will be removable for regattas and snow removal.



(example of bollards)

- UML has purchased ridid foam life jackets for use in the launches. They are located in a storage box on the launch dock and are available to anyone driving a launch.
- MRRA is now all set to run a Junior Rowing Camp this summer. Complete info is available on the MRRA website. Neil Coppinger from LHS is Head Coach. Denise Bergeron is MRRA Program Manager. Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, 8-10AM. 2 sessions, 3 times per week for 3 weeks. Starts June 25.
- Another CPR class will be offered by the MRRA on June 9. It will be held at the UML Rec Center. Part of the cost will be paid by MRRA. Must have a minimum of 10 participants in order to happen. If interested, contact info@merrimackrowing.org
- VOLUNTEERS NEEDED for National Learn to Row Day is June 2, 10AM-2PM. It will run in conjunction with UML's Water Sports Day. Tours of the boathouse, ergs will be set up, the barge will be available, the social committee is planning refreshments. Please volunteer for an hour or two at info@merrimack.org

- Equipment Committee:
 - planning to purchase 3 footboards and adjustable Vespoli shoes for the Quad.
 - 9.9 hp, 4 stroke outboard motor for sale, \$300. Being offered to membership first
 - MRRA sweep oars have arrived
 - Open Sweep program is still looking to rent a 4-
 - MRRA ergs are being rounded up. So far there are 2 complete ergs at the boathouse. Pieces of more ergs are currently under repair by Roland Meijer. The goal is to have 4 complete, working, MRRA ergs.
- Safety Committee:
 - Good news! If you want to paint your oars, you no longer have to get the official MRRA color custom mixed. A very close color match is commercially available at Lowe's in a spray can. Valspar, Gloss, "Exotic Sea", #65201. 1 can can do approx. 4 blades. There is a diamond pattern in the spare paint box on the floor, under the racks, in the MRRA bay.
 - Flip Recovery Clinic to be held June 30, 9AM. More info will be announced as the date approaches. Shells with both types of riggers will be available.
- MRRA Board of Directors: Authorized the donation of \$100 to Wenger's Wheels
- Programs:
 - Masters Sweep has begun. For May and June, will meet Monday and Wednesday, 5:30PM to be on the water by 6PM.
 - Learn to Scull1 has filled the June class but still has openings in the July class.
 - Learn to Sweep still has openings. Spread the word.
 - Beginning Sculling has lined up Dave Cormier and James Gilchrest to coach. \$50 per session divided by number of participants.
 - Competitive Sculling has arranged to do a trial row on May 20 with Sarah Paret (sp?).
 - Open Sweep is well under way with 6-7 men and 6-7 women.
- Financials: So far, collections are ahead of last year's at this same time. Current membership totals unavailable
- MRRA is offering 2 "Come Back" events on May 26, 8AM and May 29, 6PM at no cost. The events are geared towards those who have taken LTScull in past years but didn't stay with rowing. Coach Dave Deluliis will be on hand both days.
- A suggestion was made to create a Google group so that rowers who want to buddy up can more easily find each other.
- Meeting adjourned at approx. 8:30PM

Respectfully submitted,
Chur Masors