

## **MRRA Board meeting minutes - August 6, 2012 at the boathouse**

Attendees: Jay Feenan, Mark Romanowsky, John Ballantine, Wilma Breiland, and Karen Scammell. Bob Bowen and Joe Bernard were unable to attend.

### **Budget Update – John Ballantine**

- Revenue projected to be almost \$59K now with projections to be over \$60K - includes \$10K from the Festival Regatta. Expenses under \$50K. Profit \$10K projected.
- Will provide Budget presentation for monthly August meeting
- Action update: Collection of \$500 from USRowing – Jay will get PO # so that the monies can be located somewhere within UML. As of 6/4/12, the UML contact was identified as the Athletic Business Coordinator and Jay is pursuing. Update on 8/6/12, Jay is working with USRowing to confirm invoice, etc.

### **Membership Update – Wilma Breiland**

Total of 90 members with breakdown as follows:

Open Sweep – 26 with 4 signed up for logbookOS

MSweep – 11

Sculling – Total 53 (logbook 41, offpeak 2, private 6 and student 4)

LTScul – 25 paid sessions for total of \$5000.

JRSweep camp – over 24 paid sessions - projected \$3600

LTSweep - 6 enrolled

### **Guidelines for Program Manager Discretion to Use Fees – Jason Holden**

- Do program managers have some discretion in assessing amount persons owe when boat is damaged if enough fees have been collected to cover boat damage?
- Factors to consider:
  - Was it avoidable?
  - Gross negligence
  - Based on situation
- John B - wear and tear is included in the budget
- Karen \$2K line item for damage for sculling, osweep and masters sweep programs.
- OSweep has the budget to cover some of the costs with board review.
- MSweep – damage to Stealth 8+ – incident was avoidable – members need to pay deductible – still no estimate on total costs from Resolute.
- Millenium 4 and Modell 4 are at Hunt Boat Repair still

**Monthly August Meeting agenda** – Karen emailed the membership – Focus on TRR volunteers and some miscellaneous items and then onto social part.

### **OnBoarding of New Members – Karen Scammell**

As we grow and expand, how do we improve our “onboarding” of new members such that they understand the basic rules of the boathouse and club that is needed to continue and thrive?

Are the latest equipment damage issues due to this lack of clear expectations for our equipment?

- Need to show how things are inter-connected and what relationships are in place – Jason shared MRRA Org chart, the chart that he reviewed with his mens open sweep team. It captures relationship with UML, Boathouse users, coaches, agreements, etc...as well as the MRRA ByLaws organizational information...very useful to share with members.
- Schedule several orientations per year, not regular monthly meeting night but rather on the weekend with a social component.
- Fog policy and Thunder policy – Do members know what these policies are, asked Karen?
- About to row, what do I need to know?
- Race checklist – equipment, supplies, inventory, etc.
- Create single binder with all policies and important information in one place.
- Winter project – need volunteers

### **Capital Fund – Karen Scammell**

The board would like to develop a long-term plan for the MRRA according to two scenarios:

1. No expansion of space/sustaining-minimum membership growth
2. 50-100% membership growth / expansion - this would include options of moving the club to other locations in Lowell.

Karen has asked the equipment committee to prepare a 5 yr plan for equipment needs and planning for replacement/growth to be presented at the annual meeting. An equipment plan goes hand in hand with possible growth plans for the club which would include the possibility of a new location that would be separate from UML.

- Initial actions are for Jay to explore what other clubs have done in Boston/Cambridge and Mark to explore with the Lowell Land Trust and other Lowell politicians.
- The equipment committee needs one or two volunteers from the Sweep programs (prefer one Open Sweep, one Masters Sweep) to join this committee. Their next meeting is September 9th. See Erin Lallemand or Roland Meijer if interested.

**Watershed Council** discussion was postponed since Joe Bernard was unable to attend.

Respectfully submitted,  
Wilma Breiland, MRRA Secretary