

MRRA Minutes 8/14/12

Motion to wave reading of the minutes from last meeting

AGENDA:

Barbara Mack, New Member welcomed macbar@comcast.net
From Learn to Sweep program

1. Flip Clinic August 25th from 9-10:30 AM
Register Safety@Merrimackrowing.org

Jay Feehan, also mentions in addition to Flip, safety will review how to assist during an on-water rescue, from a rowing boat or a launch.

2. Equipment Planning Directive, discussion by Karen Scammell
Long term thought regarding 5 year and 10 year plan for equipment and under two scenarios
Scenario A: MRRA continues to grow to 150 members (60 sculling, 90 sweep) and have own boathouse in 5 years somewhere along our stretch of the river.
Scenario B: MRRA grows to same number but in existing space

No purchases this year because no compelling understanding of long term club needs (do not want to be buying boats for single individual needs)

Membership fairly equal between sweep and sculling

Next equipment committee meeting planned for Sun Sept 9th 9-10 AM

Need to have representation of Open Sweep and Masters Sweep – if interested

Email: Equipment@merrimackrowing.org

3. Budget was presented by John Ballantine, see attached.

4. Membership Update: Open sweep (26) Masters (11)
Sculling (55) Logbook (21)
Off Peak (2)
Student (3)

Coaches (7) spread out through all programs:

Junior Sweep (24) Students \$3450.00 revenue brought in from program (not net profit, expenses still open for coaching, payments to UML).

Ongoing discussion regarding appropriate equipment for Learn To Programs (Space is ongoing issue.)

Learn to Scull: about 1/3 of participants joined the club.

5. TRR September 30th.
Jay, Carl and Peg Chairs

Need 150 Volunteers, have 90 members, all expected to participate in some manner. All types of needs, some weeks, days before event, for those not available on the day of regatta.

Jay Feenan will send out Club Wide E-mails
For Experienced Member: Chairs needed for:

Course
Marshalls
Docks
Announcing Position

Peg will contact: Members can contact Peg if they have specific interest.

Junior Sweep T Shirts were ordered in the wrong size, a few small shirts given to members.

6. The “Culture of the MRRA” Discussion by Karen Scammell
Importance of being a good tenant; Review of the UMass, MRRA organization chart
See attached:
User agreement reviewed, \$14,000 paid to UMass for rent and equipment, space and “people.” Want to be sure all members are respectful of equipment and follow safety rules.

- Discussion about the cost of sweep damage, UMass will be back in session shortly.
- Fog rules, no row if bridge cannot be seen, regardless of launch and coach. Lightning/thunder rules, no row for 30 minutes after sounds of thunder or visible lightening strike. Need to make sure all rowers, coaches and Coxwains aware of all safety rules.
- Boats must be re-rigged to original state if changed. This is also true for oar lengths, if changes are made. Need to be returned to original state.
- Club discussion about when members would hear these things. Discussion about posting near log book, or making a pamphlet, post on web site.

Club needs help with how best to assist in “On Boarding” new members. Anyone interested to help with best way to communicate the rules and intent of the club, Contact Karen Scammell and Presidnet@merrimackrowing.org.

Meeting was closed:

Attendees: Karen Scammell, John Ballantine, Jay Feenan, Lisa Doucette, Kathy McGowan, Dottie Semonian, Barbara Sherman, Robert Sherman, Chur Masors, Ann Ballantine, Barbara Mack, Jennifer Lown, Jody Decarolis, Mary Gill, Bob Bowen, Tim Wheatly, Steven Freund, Dennis McCarthy.

Respectfully submitted by Dottie Semonian