

MRRA meeting minutes - September 11, 2012 at the Boathouse Deck

Attendees (16): Bernadette Johnson, Linas Alinskas, Joe LaFreniere, Dennis McCarthy, Terry Freeman, Jason Holden, Katie Berger, Martha McLarney, Jennifer Lown, Bob Sherman, Barbara Sherman, Dottie Semonian, Chur Masors, Jay Feenan, Carl Popolo, and Wilma Breiland.

Meeting called to order by Vice Pres. Jay Feenan at approx 7:00 PM.

MRRA notice from recent Boathouse User Group meeting from Karen Scammell via email:

One item from the Boathouse user group meeting is that on Tues and Thurs mornings both UML and LHS have morning practice at 5:30am.

So on Tues-Thurs it is going to be very busy at the boathouse and on the docks. It is critical that all rowers get on and off the docks within 90 seconds. We should also consider using the inside of the docks for launch/return. Remember to be wearing white lights facing the stern and the bow lights on the bow when launching in the dark, or if the evening, when it will be dark while you are on the water.

Joe L. pointed out that using the inside of the docks for launch/return is not a requirement and for people who are not used to this, it may present an additional balance challenge with rowers having to exit on the Port side rather than the normal Starboard exit. Furthermore, the barge has been tied up there preventing complete access.

Textile River Regatta (TRR) – Jay Feenan and Carl Popolo, co-directors

- Permits done
- T-shirts sales sub'd out to another organization – TRR will be getting percentage of the profits – Carl is negotiating – staff shirts will be made
- Docks – additional docks will be coming from local club (GLR) and TRR is paying them to deliver docks and take them away, avoiding all the hassle and work getting the docks from Maine as done in previous years. Joe L mentioned another option of Connect-a-dock rental.
- Entry deadline for MRRA members is Monday, Sept 17. Send email notice to all members as well as post on members website.
- Dave Cormier – liaison with UML for the TRR – Jay will sent out email to members providing update on his role along with other TRR information.
- Joe L agreed to contact the Lowell Yacht Club asking for volunteers and boats – will be given money for some gas, etc.
- Green Team, outside group, coming again this year to pick up recycling – Registration will include clear bags in each entry packet for recycling as done was done last year.
- PR – Bob Sherman agreed to submit articles to Lowell Sun, Lawrence Eagle Tribune, Boston Globe Metro North, etc.
- WUML is coming to the TRR during the day.
- Carl will sent TRR reminder email to last year's coaches. The TRR website is up.
- Bow markers – done – have 750.
- Bibs – done – have 800, sold in 100 increments.

- Vendors - Have 6 Apparel vendors according to Bernadette Johnson (Vendor Chair).
Estimate 14 vendors, with \$1800 - \$2000 in monies.
- Porta-potties and locations – Jay has map – locations need to be clearly marked for quick delivery.
- Distribution – Bob Lynch, chair – Jennifer Lown, assistant – bullhorns, radios, contact lists, etc.
– Joe L indicated that the Fallon bullhorns have lifetime warranty and can be replaced for less than purchase for new, so do not throw them out if not working.
- Cleanup – chair?
- Coordinator for LHS volunteers – Denise Bergeron
- Announcers – Joe L will check with UML for folks being trained in this area to see if any are available.
- Sound system – Steve Hoff, chair
- Launches – permission to use all – John Welch will help with prep
- Course – Joe LaFreniere, chair
 - Will check with John Welch for good compressor
 - same course as last year
 - Course going in on Friday with tweaking on Saturday – too much to do in one day.
 - Need at least three experienced people
 - Will get help from UML and LHS
- Marshals – Katie Berger, chair
 - Karen Scammell has list of folks that are essential for the start and needed to maintain order and control at the start.
- Docks – chair?
 - Boathouse – Carl and Masters sweep team
 - Bathhouse – Jocelyn Eno
 - Will have team inspecting boats and putting a sticker on inspected boat to facilitate launching.
- Results/Timing – meeting with Charles River Timing scheduled for Sept 18 at 7 pm. John Breiland (Results), Karen Scammell (Start) and Erin Lallemand (Finish) need to attend.
- Parking – UML, Dave Cormier
 - Joe L will purchase stakes.
- Contact list for TRR – Jay and Peg will provide to Wilma for lamination.

Meeting adjourned at 8:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Wilma Breiland, MRRA Secretary