

August meeting on 8/11 at 7pm  
location: boathouse deck

Attendees: Wilma Breiland, Chur Masors, Tim Wheatley, Linas Alinskas, Karen Scammell, Peg Landry, Dottie Semonian, Jody DeCarolis, Terry Freeman, Mark Romanowsky, Kathy McGowen, Bob Lynch, Mary Lynch, Jay Feenan, Dennis McCarthy, Fred Gavriel, Alex Gavriel (17).

Meeting began 7:08 PM

Agenda:

1. Safety message - Look at Sunrise time, get the safety lights out, debris after rain
2. Accept July meeting minutes (posted on website)
3. Karen update group on rescission of earlier Lifetime Membership status for the 9 founding members of the MRRA and where we go from here.
4. Karen discussion on forming a formal Boathouse Building Committee - it has been discussed for a few years now and want to update the membership on some new factors that have driven the request for a formal group to convene. Plan to start to research what might be possible. Importantly to make community connections.
4. TRR - Joe and Carl : discussion on status of TRR/ USRowing National head race planning and execution.
5. Updates from committees: Safety, equipment

UML Coach - Open House Tuesday September 1, Members should be aware.

Minutes: Lifetime Membership was not properly reflected in the July meeting minutes with the revision.

Will accept July meeting minutes with correction

Concept of Lifetime membership for the 9 founding members of the MRRA

Board Meeting, had bylaws committee to give impression

Wilma and Kat, Jay attended

Discussion: Mostly around 2 classes of members, voting and non voting

Family and individual

Non voting student and honorary

In order to use equipment should be paying some dues, Was concern about coverage for use of equipment. Worked on By Laws for 2 years and several months of review, never had this issue come up ( about lifetime members)

Karen: Further reflexion added 9 more members to meet quorum

Jay: Other points anniversary party 25 years Celebration- discussed honorary membership to invite prior members to come to events, club functions. "Many gave hours of significant volunteer hours."

Non profit, clause to dissolve, clause won't work with 9 member, automatic

BOD passed the vote and then concern about violating by laws. Legal counsel Jay at his expense reviewed. Article of corporation, by laws. No one may benefit financially from our current by laws. IRS issue non profit. (paperwork copy given to Dottie).

Want to keep the history, legacy going, agree that this is not the way to do it.

Welcome any suggestions. To recognize members  
Could submit names for possible individuals, perhaps invite to annual party

Formal Boat House Commission:

Long time talk about boathouse of our own

Could grow the MRRA, no more space, 4 X on borrowed time

Winter Erg sessions- not been allowed to use boathouse from Dec 1- March 1.

Olympics possible - may have left some buildings

Karen will meet with Senator Eileen Donoghue to discuss possible location

Dave Cormier and Sandra Habe- Westford Rec department, great interest in a boathouse on the Merrimack instead of Forge pond.

Financed, their program is growing. Youth, Masters They would like to be a long term tenant

Will come up with a number.

Dave Cormier is full time rowing director

Westford is attractive- Rec department include other towns in their program

Karen: five year project to form a committee to actively talk with planning board, city counsel try to locate land

DCR: Map will show who owns what along the river

Peter Murray aware we are looking

Karen asking a motion: To form a Boathouse Commission to start talks

form official capital campaign:

Fred seconds motion

Open for debate and discussion

Dennis McCarthy building would be at least 1/2 million, infrastructure,

Club may need 1 million to do

Senator Donoghue, suggest "Dunkin Donut boathouse." May find a sponsor.

Currently \$14,000 to UML plus \$ 2 per head to UML for regattas

Jay Feenan: CRI was poll barn with 5 portable toilets- started very small

Have a Senator that was interested in renovation of this boathouse

Need to get agreements and participants lined up

Convention Center- building, developing relationships

Want to be proactive - don't want to wait and have another community do this.

Need room for growth, not getting kicked out.

Dam- on the falls- new bladder dam is going to start in September

Karen went to meeting ENEL- done in 5 sections- 3 feet lower than Summer normal for a week, then back up, no permanent draw down. Flash boards break and no control

Plan is takes a year and 1/2, finishing Spring 2017. After bladder dam goes in won't have any further draw downs.

Agree in forming a committee: Motion to form Building Commission to form for the next 5 years all in attendance agree

Updates from Committees:

Sunday August 23, Karen offered to host 1X society, looking for venues to row  
MRRRA will host 1 X society, maybe 10 people, meet at 7 AM, go for row, and back for pot luck breakfast

Social committee: May help, Karen may pick up coffee

Everyone is welcome to a group row

TRR: Peg Landry

Jay Feenan:

Carl, discussion, Peg has spreadsheet, volunteer lists

Chair person followed by volunteers

Discussion about online format, seasoned individuals need to spread out and train newbies

Joe L will get notes, talk with Demoulas and City about additional parking areas, gravel there now. These things happen in August.

No events on regatta central yet

Terry Freeman: would like to change the medal for the TRR this year

Peg Landry: had a Festival Hatchet Oar medal made years ago, she still owns the mold

Advertising 2 days event events to be posted

Trailers, schools need to decide and coordinate two day event

Request for Chairs to come forward to volunteer

Members who plan to row must plan ahead. Have to pay for US rowing

TRR one row is covered. Earlier cut off date for members to race, 2 weeks earlier

Motion to adjudge 8 pm