

MRRA November 9, 2015 Board Meeting

Boat House 6:35 PM

Attendees: Dottie Semonian, Terry Freeman, Joe LaFreniere, Bronwyn Chapman, Karen Scammell, Bob Sengstaken, Dave Morley (7).

Agenda:

Discussion; **Nominations for MRRA Officers 2016, close on November 20th.** This allows the club Secretary time to prepare the ballot and post 2 weeks prior to the annual meeting, for absentee voting, per the bylaws.

Presently there are MRRA members running for all offices except Boat Captain.

Regatta Volunteering: **MRRA Membership has a mandatory volunteering component.** Karen will review her list from the Festival Regatta and Pegs from the TRR and NMHR. We know of about 4-5 members that did not volunteer at either. Brief discussion about how best to address this issue.

Prior Board Meeting to address the Open 4+ Men who did not follow protocol for borrowing equipment were given disciplinary action that included payment to UML for the trailer and extra volunteer hours to UMass and MRRA.

Karen has list of the hours they have completed: The four submitted the hours they fulfilled and payments made to UML.

Need to review other members that may also be non compliant

Suggest looking again in January, with a list and note to members missing volunteer hours.

Suggest Email to those members, verify, tell what volunteer work you have done, board reviewing hours, minimal is required. Burden on the member to produce the hours.

Towel wash counts as hours, boat wash at the end of the year, minor repairs to equipment, can be more than just regattas. .

TRR: "Pulling for Polcari" donation, review the donation of the refunds, 50% to cancelled events.

Was offered to anyone that wanted. Of that 50% if want back request by Nov 15 to make refund demand. Carl suggested at last meeting declined money as of Nov 16th. Don't have the amount max less than 5 K would be donated.

Joe L. Supports the donation, from the non accepted and declined money

TRR in the past has been allowed a certain amount of autonomy, purchased docks.

Karen points out Docks Benefit the club, this donation is to an individual, not the same thing.

Karen also suggests the disbursement be reviewed, some money is being taken from each program, UML, LHS, MRRA.

BOD has not had control of the TRR money and how it is spent.

Discussion about better defining the TRR relationship with MRRA

Who makes decisions on how the money is spent.

Bob S: TRR can do what they want, we can only make a recommendation, we as BOD have not been allowed to make decisions.

Joe L. Will make recommendation that TRR Directors will make contribution to Pulling for Polcari benefit. Dave M, other board members do agree that the club support this charity. Have agreed to using web site and agree that individual members can make any contribution they like. The issue is donating a large amount of money that we don't really have authority to donate.

Joe L. Would like a vote from board in support for the donation to Pulling for Polcari.

Motion: MRRA board after discussion is in support of TRR Directors to make distribution to the Polcari in an amount to not exceed \$2000.

Bob S will second motion: Donations would be capped \$2000 or less.

Karen: No

Bronwyn, Dottie and Dave Morley abstain, don't think we have a say in the TRR disbursement. The amount was never discussed at the October Meeting.

Equipment committee:

Bill from UML for \$1000 for launch use by MRRA for September and October.

Chris P. Gave bill to Karen, was not necessarily expected. May be in favor of buying into UML launch pool based on this bill. Karen will meet with Chris later this week, hope to find out what the cost might be for next year. Could then determine what makes most sense.

June, July and August had no Carolina Skiff

Karen had checked with Peter Murray, said fine to use, had not discussed cost then.

M-W Learn to Sweep use of equipment, Masters sweep also used. May need to review cost to program and change fees.

Safety committee met Saturday: Joe L

Discussed: voted to acquire through shared launch pool or elsewhere a Wake less launch. TRR demonstrated safety importance for large platform.

Reducing wakes, coaches launches add to turbulence for scullers on the river.

Joe L will post the meeting minutes.

Joe L says TRR Directors also felt strongly about need for additional wake less launches.

UML intends to buy another wake less launch next year

Karen : We still don't have anyone to care for boat maintenance. Dave Morley took care of Carolina, was not available for much of the season. Karen continues to suggest putting MRRA money into rowing boats and not motor boats.

Will wait to see what the financial options are, strong concern when UML needs all boats, would need to list when MRRA needs.

Karen will meet with Chris P to see how he came up with this amount charged for the launch use.

Need to consider which program should be assessed.

Equipment committee budget didn't spend 13,500 K stays in budget for 2016.

One piece of old business:

Joe L: Motion to review Founding Members Life time membership.

Brief discussion, the August Member meeting Jay F. presented lawyer review of the bylaws.

Discussion at Board Meeting in August, Bylaws committee members Wilma and Kat attended. Felt the bylaws were written specifically to avoid a separate type of membership that is not outlined in the current bylaws.

A few board members were not present. Dave M and Joe L were under the impression the discussion was tabled until more information.

Joe L would like to see the meeting minutes sent each month to BOD.

December Annual Meeting/ Holiday Party, Tuesday December 8th

Joe L suggesting change to format:

Election first, allow candidates running time to address the club, more social time first.

Same format can be followed with the slides, but Karen will have the Chairs of different areas either use old slides or create their own to present.

MRRA typically supports local charity, this year will suggest "Pulling for Polcari."

Adjourned: 7:50 PM