

MRRA Board Meeting Minutes
Monday May 7, 2012

Attendees: Bob Bowen, Mark Romanowski, Joe Bernard, Jason Holden, Jay Feenan, Karen Scammell

- Bob Bowen summarized the meeting of the boathouse user group where the conclusions and observations of Safety Audit that was conducted by the University were presented.
 - There will be located a central first aid kit for use by all in the boathouse. The location of this TBD. Mark R. asked that the safety committee be involved with input on this item and contents
 - UML has purchased several life vests that do not require CO2 cartridges and are always buoyant. These are located in a storage chest near the launch dock and are available for all users
 - Bollards will be placed from the street-side end of the boat bay and along the walkway for about 20'. These will be placed about 4' apart and be removable for regattas and other events. This is to prevent kids on bikes or others who cut the corner when proceeding upriver along the sidewalk.
 - Other items were recommendations that will be further discussed among the boathouse user group such as a certification plan for launch drivers and other items to unify the safety procedures for the various groups at the boathouse
- Karen Scammell presented the Junior Rowing Camp that has been launched under the MRRA umbrella. This information is available on the website and ready for anyone who is a rising high school student to enroll. It is the intention to advertise this to not only Lowell rowers, but the neighboring towns. This program will accommodate experienced as well as learn to row teens.
 - All coaches and volunteers will be CORI checked
 - All coaches will follow normal MRRA coaching requirements such as being CPR certified, and signing all MRRA waivers and procedures.
 - Denise Bergeron is the program manager and Neil Coppinger is the head coach
- The board discussed and then approved a donation of \$100 to Wengers Wheelers in support of Paul Wenger's battle with brain cancer.
- Rowing advisories that have been implemented for the Univ and HS race weekends were briefly reviewed. All agreed this appeared to be working OK.
- Joe Bernard presented an update from the equipment committee:
 - Roland has 3 ergs at his house and will be bringing them back to boathouse after they are repaired and working well. Paul Wenger has on loan an erg from the MRRA
 - The ergs can be stored upright in the vestibule before the NPS classroom, where the UML Mens team ergs are located.
 - MRRA now has 16 sweep oars. 8 that were a swap from UML and 8 new Concept II oars. These will be painted MRRA colors.
 - Other items are on the safety committee meeting minutes as posted.
- Mark Romanowsky presented Safety committee updates:
 - There will be continued discussion on the committee and soon with members of the board on revised rowing advisories – for various conditions with cold water, air, weather, etc.
 - The Safety Committee is holding a FLIP clinic on Saturday June 30th. More details to follow.
 - Karen Scammell requested the MRRA subsidize one more CPR/ 1st aid class, like the one that has held in April. The 3 coaches for Junior Rowing need to be certified and this will be paid for by the MRRA. If we can get 7 other members, MRRA will pay \$24 and the member pays \$36- this is the minimum to run the class. Otherwise, we will have the 3 coaches go to another venue for CPR certification. The board agreed to allow this.

- A member specifically asked for the board to look at the classification of the coaches who are hired by the MRRRA for the summer programs. Coaches are currently considered independent contractors. Bob Bowen, retired controller, and Jay Feenan, indicated that this indeed the correct classification, since they are temporary.
- Jason presented updates that were available on the programs
 - Open Sweep has 6-7 women and 6-7 men right now. More expected during the summer period
 - Masters Sweep has 7-8 women and 2 men. Carl would like to solicit for a few more men so that they can have a mens 4 for competition.
 - Learn to Scull has 7 committed for the June class and 3 for the July class. It is expected that with the advertising and Learn to Row Day we can fill the July class.
 - Learn to Sweep has 3 people right now. Joe Bernard to work with Bob Sherman on advertising and also to get folks signed up on Learn to Row day.
- Learn to Row day is June 2nd, held in conjunction with UML Water Sports Day. Karen and Bob Sherman to work with Peter Murray on advertising. Additionally, the rowers and parents for the Junior Camp are encourage to come to boathouse on June 2nd to sign up for the camps, so this might improve traffic and visibility to our programs.
- No finance update was presented since John Ballantine could not make it. This will be presented at the regular club meeting on Tues 5/8.

Respectfully submitted,
Karen Scammell