

MRRA General Meeting

Tuesday October 14, 2014

Attendees: Linas Alinskas, Bob Lynch, Dennis McCarthy, Jason Holden, Karen Scammell, Dottie Semonian, Sharon Morris, Bob Sherman, Doreen Jennings, Joe LaFreniere, Chur Masors, Carl Popolo, Mary Gail Jagers, Barbara Sherman, Jay Feenan. (15)

Safety: Joe L. Brief safety message, river even lower. Not rowing above the Mother Rock until water higher. Warm next couple days, River Water temp is 60 degrees, be cautious and safe. Be cautious, weather may be cold soon. Suggest: Novice rowers have PFD and row with a buddy.

Approve September meeting minutes: Approved, one member abstains

Planning for End of Season: Docks come out November 8th. No Chair person for equipment committee, Denise McCarthy has volunteered to chair.
Last day of rowing: Sat Nov 8th, go for a row, back by 9 AM, wash boats, inventory, bring in outdoor racks. Will hold if cold, washing boats not as important as inventory, repair list. Want members to come and help even if the weather is cold.
Joe L. Recommending Inventory the more significant piece. Check Oars.
Pot Luck Breakfast, Coffee will be planned.
Carolina Skiff needs to be pulled out and stored for the Winter. Needs to go to MRRA member home or space if available. Will verify trailer has lights, registration.
Chur T. has room to store, has volunteered her yard.

Planning for Elections: All positions are open

Monthly meeting the first Monday of the Month typically

Board Members also oversee a committee

President:

Vice President:

Treasurer:

Secretary: Must be MA resident

Boat Captain:

Directors/Trustees:

Jason Holden seat open 3 year, completes this year, seat open

Bob Lynch cannot complete term, has 2 years remaining, seat open

Denise McCarthy continues his board seat until 2016

MRRA Secretary will get nomination site prepared.

Absentee ballots per the By Laws will be available 2 weeks before the election.

Must be in the hand of the Secretary by the December meeting. Members can review the ByLaws states mail or scan, email to Secretary.

Need Members to step up:

Jay Feenan will be stepping down as TRR Director.

Club needs Regatta Directors: Festival and TRR

MRRA Makes money running regattas:

Karen Scammell To confirm with US Rowing holding Masters Regional again.

Discussion was that club would run the regional event for three years.

Discussion about Co Directors for TRR, dividing the work load may make the position more appealing to two members

For Masters Nationals had LOC still required a Director

Need to have Club agreement on volunteering to run regattas, large commitment of time. Need to distribute the work load more evenly if possible.

Planning for December Annual Meeting

Will be held Tuesday December 9th:

Fletcher Club last year, worked well, Dottie Semonian will arrange

TRR Recap: \$ 71.6 K, expenses about \$ 30K, hope to net about \$40K, still getting some bills, receipts from members who purchased supplies.

Quick look:

Regatta Central: Payment pending

Venders \$1600 and Dave T Shirts \$5000

Team tent sites: \$3000

Parking \$ 17,000

Debits:

Police \$1000

Volunteer shirts and bags \$1000

Programs: \$300

DCR \$1000

Daves Septic: \$1700

Trash,Dumpster: \$1500

Dock \$ 1700

770 Entries, up 10% from last year

Please Send Email to Carl with any comments, suggestions for 2015.

New Launch site: Joe L, thought it was a great success, launched 65-75 boats, first year, suspect will grow.

“Every one there was thrilled with the drop off, parking across the street.”

Lost Masters scullers due to congestion, catering to the small boats worked well

Joe L thinks could double the number next year.

Next year may not need to rent docks, to decrease dock rental expense.

Possibly borrow docks from HOOR.

Comments:

80 feet of dock would have been better, traffic cones needed

“Goal to make the area nice for the clubs, small boats to launch”.

Registration numbers at the small dock area? That was the only complaint.
Racers had to go to boathouse to obtain registration packets.
Vee Platzer asking if we would consider taking reservations for boat trailers.
May ask for RSVP to trailers at the Small boat area

Report from the Beach: Jason Holden

Beach launch dock was long and narrow (140 feet)
Launched 3 8's one on one side, tight, launching continuously.

Trailer Space: Parking: Jay Feenan

Trailer space was stressed, late arrivals. Invest in man power by the end of the boulevard. Need traffic, trailer director on the street.
One complaint from neighbors, parking on the side roads, will need to post on the one way, No Regatta parking, emergency vehicles could not pass on these streets.
Noise complaint, music testing at 5:30 AM, City hall assistant manager called, No Noise until after 8 AM is the law.
Next year: Maybe encourage politicians to come down, especially pre election
Used to give trophies, metal ceremony in the past.
Team Trophy, Wenger Trophy, add to PR.

Discussion about adding more Orange buoys, Linas, intends white bleach bottles

**Will ask the membership to vote on club participation in NEMA/Festival and TRR/
US Rowing Regattas:**

Plan to add to ballot this December
I Will Volunteer! check box.

Agree need more volunteers for LOC, again regattas are how the club makes money for boat purchases, equipment maintenance and to run rowing programs.

General discussion is that, Not much more work for 2 day vs one day regatta
Costs for course, port o john's, tents, pay once use twice.
TRR demographics have changed, used to evenly spread between juniors, open and Masters, now more juniors, fewer colleges.

Two day Regatta would allow events to be more spread out, allow lunch break. Easier flow. Could separate junior races and Masters events
Benefit for trying the TRR and US rowing event next Fall would be to test changing the TRR to a 2 day regatta the following year. If club doesn't accept the Fall US Rowing Masters event, where will it go? Possibly close by and may disrupt TRR?

Carl plans to take \$1000 for a paid internship for research, would approach HS students about 20 hours to work on building a bio for the coaches and clubs.
Develop a detailed Regatta Map where all the signage needs to go, tent locations, parking, etc.
Could also send a survey about where boats launched.

Carl will post job description.

May also look at UML student, business management sports management student to help with research.

Meeting adjourned 8:15 PM