

MRRA May 12, 2015 General Meeting:  
Boathouse  
7 PM

Attendees: Sharon Morris, Peg Landry, Dottie Semonian, Jay Feenan, Joe LaFreniere, Jennifer Lown, Elizabeth Christmas, David Morley, Bernadette Johnson, Mark Romanowsky, Bob Sengstaken, Chur Masors, Dennis McCarthy, Barbara Sherman, Lina's Alinskas, Tim Wheatley, MG Jagger's, Sue Mathais, Kathy McGowen, Carl Popolo, Bronwyn Chapman. (21).

**Agenda:**

1. Safety Message
2. Accept April Meeting Minutes
3. Board Update on discussion about Wakeless Launch
4. Board decision on Charitable donation inquiry
5. Rack Policy Update
6. Capital Fund
7. MRRA Scholarship Awards
8. Festival Regatta planning

**Safety Message:**

River is low, rocks visible on vesper side. Notice sent to club to expect water levels to drop while flash board repairs are made at the falls. Joe LaFreniere will send out a notice offering the "Flip Clinic." Likely to be held in early July.

Motion to accept April Meeting Minutes: Accepted

**Wakeless Launch:**

Dennis McCarthy. UML getting new launches that we could use instead of purchasing one. Need a meeting to see if we could use theirs or still buy our own. Plenty of room on dock. Need to set date of meeting by mid June so decision can be made. UML is advertising for a new coach, suspect won't make decisions without reviewing with the coach. UML also follows a bid process for purchases.

Joe L is in favor of purchasing the Wakeless launch. Jay voices concern about the cost to the club and the rare use, typically early in the season and for our 2 Regattas. Also boat purchases continue to have maintenance costs that need to be calculated.

**Charitable donations.**

Dottie Semonian \$1000 budgeted

\$250.00 x 2 to Senior HS Student going to college

Previously donated \$ 500.00 to the Water Shed. A club member asked the BOD to consider a donation to an individual pursuing the Olympics. The BOD didn't feel it was appropriate to support one individual, in this case. This lead to a discussion about all our MRRA Members and the many organizations we each support.

Joe LaFreniere had suggested links on our web site. Most members felt this wouldn't be appropriate. Members were encouraged to give recommendations for Charitable giving.

MRRA Awarded Two Lowell high students scholarships. Olivia Joslyn and Jordan Gauthier. Denise Bergeron has volunteered to present the awards at the HS awards night on May 21 st.

### **Rack Policy:**

Joe LaFreniere brought an updated version of the Rack policy to the BOD to review. He had the BOD overseeing. The MRRA ByLaws state the Rack Policy is to be managed by the Equipment Committee. The Equipment Committee could decide to turn the responsibility back to the board if they choose. Joe will make another revision and present to the BOD next month for review

### **Capital Fund:**

Cash in account. Starting a capital fund for investing Money, Jay. Opportunities for club, new bridge and Olympics,, public land opening up, wants people to attend meeting about the above. Joe asked jay to forward info about contacts for these meetings.

### **Festival Regatta:**

Dottie asking for more volunteers, many members present agree to various positions. Need to change course for Festival from current course. Plan 1 and 2 K stars and keep one finish line, Barbara Sherman mentions meeting a family member of a MRRA member. has. Food truck, was selling food at Regatta. Jay Feenan mentions there are rules to concessions on DCR Grounds.

### **Learn to row Day:**

Information passed around by Barbara Sherman. Flyers available, asking members to take and post. Will be Saturday AM June 6 th. Members are encouraged to bring Friends and help on the day.

Meeting adjourned 7:55 pm