

MRRA Sept 9, 2014 Monthly Meeting

Location: Boathouse

Start time: 7 pm

Attendees (20): Karen Scammell, Linas Alinskas, Sharon Morris, Mary Gail Jagers, Jason Holden, Bronwyn Chapman, Mark Romanowsky, Stephen Hoff, Bob Sengstaken, Terry Freeman, Jody Decarolis, Bob Sherman, Dennis McCarthy, Joe LaFreniere, Robert Walter, Barbara Sherman, John Breiland and Wilma Breiland, Jay Feenan, and Carl Popolo.

Agenda:

- Safety message
- Accept August meeting minutes
- Update on Boathouse user group meeting
- TRR preparation – Chairs bring your needs; others bring your volunteer choices
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Safety Message (Mark R)

With change in season and temp, be prepared for more fog. Carry a whistle and stay near the shore but no rowing if you cannot see the bridge. Required to have red/green light on the bow. Strongly recommended to purchase and wear white headlamp or white stern lamp on boat. You may not be visible in the dark of the morning and evening...many 8's out and may not see you!

Meeting minutes – TRR – John Breiland returning as Results Chair. (only correction). Minutes accepted with this correction. Motion to approve. Approved with one abstention since not in attendance at previous meeting.

Boathouse User Group Meeting update – Karen Scammell

- Docks – coming out November 8th according to UML, Dave Cormier.
- Carolina Skiff will need to be stored off-site for the winter...anyone have a location? Contact Jay.
- Thanks and Kudos to Linas for cleaning up the area for the launches. New gas cabinet. One plastic gas can for the Brewer, all other gas cans are sturdy metal. Gas cans will be filled for the TRR.
- LHS rowing in the afternoon everyday. UML novice will also be rowing in the afternoon, non-varsity. Varsity rowing in the mornings.
- Carl asked what boat will be available for Masters Sweep?? Also, coaching, launch, etc. – Dave Cormier and KC Lombard to work this out.
- The TIHC classroom has started so no showers after 8 am in the downstairs locker rooms. Use upstairs if needed between 8am and 3pm.
- Keypad to the lobby is changed – now 1144. This is operational during daytime usage hours. Access cards should work 24/7. Eventually, the combination lock to the gate will be changed and a notice will go out to members.
- Accomac is now out on the trailer. Temp racks are on order and will come to the boathouse in next few weeks.

- Coxswains strongly recommended to wear lifejackets as water/air temps start to go down.

Swim Sunday, 9/14 – 10.6K swim from above Tyngsboro bridge starting at 8 am and swimming to the beach...so be on the lookout! There will be a kayak with each swimmer. Karen will send email to members.

TRR – Jay Feenan

Key Club – an extension of youth type Kiwanis club doing volunteer work. Many high schools have key clubs that are willing to work with us. Have key club workers be assigned to various chairs. About 25 students will be willing to help and will not be rowing. This is not “to take jobs” away from LHS but to enhance the volunteer pool. Think about tasks that may help in your area. If you think that this is not a good idea, let Jay Feenan know.

Launches – Mark R/Barbara Sherman reporting: – need them – 4 from UML, 1 from boatclub

Mark will talk with David Grigglesstone

Queen will be the go-to boat in the middle of the course.

Boat from Essex?

Joe L has a canoe that may be useful.

Jay F’s brother has a boat.

Bullhorns: have budget for about 1-2 good bullhorns but need 4 bullhorns eventually. Some cheaper bullhorns are essentially disposable.

JL : can we borrow from UML? If damaged, pay for them.

Dumpster – need volunteer (let Jay know) – email will go out to MRRA members with request. Would cost \$3200 to pay for someone to pick up trash at the end.

Tent staking – Dottie volunteered

Signage – let Jay know what you need and Jay will have them officially made and it is worth it. Looks official. Reuse in future years.

From Jay - List of Chairs and NEEDs where NEED is task looking for MRRA member to help out in addition to Regatta day:

Launches: NEED - someone to go through a checklist and ensure they are all gassed for the day.

Dumpster: NEED ordered & area staked/coordinated

Boathouse Docks: Carl & Dottie

Bathouse Docks: Jason H

Boatramp Docks: Joe

Shopper: NEED - 'list of standard stuff we get at "costco"'

Marshals: Mark R & Barbara S

Parking: UML Katrina

Vendors: Bernadette

Club tent space rentals: Dottie

Ambulance: NEED - EMT and ambulance arranged
Course: NEED MRRA point person work with UML Linas is filling this gap now, need someone new
Start: Karen
Announcing: MG Jagger's- *
Registration: Wilma
Results: John B
Distribution: Bob L
Medals: Terry F- *
Finish Line: Erin L- *
Refs: Howard R- He's hoping to bring 4-6 refs
Create cell list: NEED - this will be a last minute task - publish/laminate area phone numbers
PR: Terry F.
LHS: Denise
Signage: NEED - work with day to go through signage in 'inventory', need, order
Staffing/round up: Peg

- **Audio – Steve Hoff – needs help!!** Need an assistant due to schedule conflicts on Sat/Sun with set-up on Thurs/Fri evenings – 5 – 7 pm with pre-meetings before Thurs to plan. Steve's email is: shoff.eng@verizon.net
- Bibs coming on Sept 19th.
- Entries – 312 currently – have cap of 800 entries.
- Two changes requested by Katrina – parking \$10 at all the lots. Will discuss later. Two buses got stuck and last year it cost \$500 to get one un-stuck! Review the traffic pattern to avoid getting stuck in the field. Avoid having them park in the field. Is another paved lot available? How many buses are we talking about? Put the buses in the higher part of the lot and where they do not block the view according to the police. How about buses at the Elks club or something similar and have them shuttled to the venue? Joe L and Mark R will pursue other lots.
- Rourke Boat Ramp – Joe L reported that there is a good amount of parking there. There will be a dock delivered on a trailer. Will need help to unload and set up the dock a week before. This ramp is primarily for singles and doubles and some 4's. After TRR, will need to dismantle. Can we do a remote announcing site there – request for Steve Hoff. Karen cautioned that someone will need to make sure that cars do not park on the street near the ramp area. Joe L is putting together a crew for this area. No trailers with 8's can be here. An 8+ cannot comfortably launch here. This will be a type of SADL launch area like at the HOCR and this will be a trial for these boats only. Carl pointed that many singles may still want to launch from boathouse right after the coach/coxswain meeting since their races are early in the morning. Bob S. pointed out that registration is still down at the boathouse. So, we need to address the logistics around using this ramp area for launching.
- Safety – need the breakdown lane “coned” and trailers need to be safe and told where and when they can park. There is an event at the pavilion on Saturday until 2 pm and so officially parking is available after 2 pm.

- Permits done.
- Docks for Rourke ramp (JL) – need about 6 strong people. We need tallies for each of the launch areas. JL recommends keeping the bow markers to find out which boats launch there. Need ref and safety inspection here as well. It will be a lot like the beach.
- Course – Linas – Has anyone counted the buoys? Linas will count them and let Jay know because order needs to go out this week if more are needed.
- Ambulance setup – Dottie did last year and will likely take this on again this year.
- Capping Entries – three levels – Total 800, plus some of the events and then a number per club/event for some events (for six highly subscribed events).

Home page for MRRA needs Festival swapped out for TRR webpage.

Last registration date for members – Sept 14, two weeks prior to registration deadline.

Results and Medals – John Breiland recommends moving results board and medals tent closer to the boathouse rather than at the far-end of the vendor area. It has been too far away. Some changes recommended to change protocol for when results are official and avoid transmission problems.

Age classification – Wilma recommends going with USRowing/FISA rules for calculating age and will email wording to Carl to include on the TRR website.

USRowing – bringing more refs this year. There will be 6+ refs this year.

Course – Is someone willing to help Linas set up the course? Barbara Sherman indicated that Dave Cormier agreed to provide the labor for the course. The course needs to be set up on Thursday. Last year, it was set up on Saturday but that was too late. Tues/Wed – inflate buoys. Thurs/Fri – set up course. Sat.- final tune up on the course. Jay will speak with Dave Cormier.

Volunteers – get t-shirt and drawstring backpack according to Carl.

Motion to adjourn at 8:26 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Wilma Breiland