

## MRRA Members Meeting Minutes

Tuesday May 9, 2017

Location: Bellegarde Boathouse

Attendnace: Terry Freeman, Karen Scammell, Jay Feenan, Sarah Kuhn, Barbara Mack, Andy Hutchinson, Mary Lynch, Bob Lynch, Chur Masor, Mark Romanowsky, Joe LaFreniere, Marcia Beckett, Linas Alinskas, Cindy McGrath, Jody DeCarolis, Dottie Semonian, Tom Barrington, Steven Freund, Mary Theresa Freund, Brownyn Chapman, Carl Popolo,

Meeting opened at 7:05 PM

**Safety Message:** Joe LaFreniere - Be aware of the high water & strong current. It can be much trickier getting off the dock. Scullers might want to push themselves down to the end of the dock. Also, suggested using one of the more stable boats like the Zephyr. Wear a PFD, especially in these early days of the season when the water is fast and cold.

**Accept April Meeting minutes** (posted on website)

Karen made a motion to accept, Dottie 2<sup>nd</sup> – Voted and passed

Programs update -- Terry, Jody, Linas & Andy

- Linas introduced Macia Becket coach for Learn to Scull. 2 people have registered and paid.
- Jody - Masters sweep has started & 15 have signed up
- Terry has posters for Learn to Row & passed them out. She will also send out electronic copies. She asked people to volunteer to set up. It will run 9 to noon.

1. Michelle Lawler will run the LTSWEEP I session
2. Alexis Hutcheon will run the LTSWEEP II and III session
3. Scout Emrick will be the coxswain for the program
4. Unsure at this time if there will actually be a session IV

Michelle Lawler will coach National Learn to Row day.

Get Back to Rowing Day will be May 20<sup>th</sup> Michelle with coach.

Karen reported that Lowell version of Chronicle will be doing a segment on Masters Learn to Row day. Friday, May 19<sup>th</sup> 1:30

**Safety and current rowing conditions:** Joe reported Level 2 - Singles should row in pairs; only experienced go alone; all larger boats are OK.

Experience defined as at least 3 years of significant rowing. If in doubt ask one of the longer term members. Recommend wear a PFD.

**Equipment** -- Andy R/ Bob S

New Fluid mid weigh and heavy weight on order. Have not posted old boats to sell yet, might not have to.

We now have access to one UML launch. \$2500 for Launch Rental. Rental of sweep boats \$2000.

Discussion of kill switch not working on Carolina. Jay will speak to coaches on how to activate & use the kill switch. It is not tied to the key.

June 10<sup>th</sup> Launch training to be led by Joe.

**Other Program**

Brittany Sollinger and Lourenco Martin got scholarship. They are our two Masters Sweep coxswains

**Planning for Festival Regatta and Learn to Row Day** - Dottie and Terry Sunday

June 25<sup>th</sup>

Dotty has been planning. Reaching out for volunteers who have helped in the past.

Need to train some new people for registration.

**New boathouse update-** Karen and Jay

Been doing groundwork. Decided to get formal appraisal. It cost \$1,800 for appraiser.

Owner thinking value of property is \$450,000; assessed by town \$267,000.

Talked about getting an environmental assessment.

On docket to go before Conservation Commission May 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Will need to form a boathouse transition team. Figure out how were are going to get our stuff out of UML boathouse and move to the new boathouse. Asked for volunteers. Nobody offered to serve.

Our lease end June 30<sup>th</sup>, we could extend through November for about \$4800.

**Other new business** as requested.

Tom reported that we have 66 paid members, 55 are cleared to row.

Motion to adjourn at 8:10 PM, passed

**Other note:**

The 2K course will be installed this week. Please be aware of extra buoys, especially on the up-river side.

High School Race Schedule:

Saturday May 6<sup>th</sup> - Novice Challenge: can row but suggest off docks by 8:30am.

Sat /Sun May 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> - Lowell Invitational. can row but suggest off docks by 7:30am

Sunday May 28th - Mass Public School rowing regatta - can row but suggest off docks by 7:30am.

\* The rule for recreational rowing during any regatta is that we are asked to be off the docks at the time of the C&C meeting, or before boats launch for the first race. If you choose to row during the regatta, you must defer to the race director (in this case, Jess Murray or Robbie Walters), dock master and start marshals.

First notify Race Directors that you are going out.

Get permission from Dock Master to launch.

Proceed up river and enjoy your workout above the DCR boat ramp.

When you return, check in with the start marshal and get permission to row down on the south (Chelmsford) side of the river. You must row all the way to the finish line, and return the boathouse along the wall.

Get permission from Dock Master to return to the dock.

See you on the water!

Minutes taken by Tom Barrington