

MRRRA Members Meeting
September 12, 2017
At Bellegarde Boathouse

Attendance: Tom Barrington, Tony Szczesiul, Terry Freeman, Katie Swenson-Gullotti, Rosemarie Mazzone, Linas Alinskas, Wilma Breiland, Chur Masors, John Breiland, John Murphy, Dennis McCarthy, Steven Freund, Cindy McGrath, Jody Decarolis, Amy Elizabeth Uebel, Peg Landry, Bob Sengstaken, Bob Lynch, Mary Lynch, Carl Popolo, Sarah Kuhn, Christine Leary Ruhmann

Meeting Chaired by Tom Barrington, Karren Scammell and Dottie Semonian are out of town and send regrets.

Called to order at 7:07 PM

Safety Message – Rocks after Mother Rock off Vesper Island has been close to the surface. A rower recently hit one. UML to be asked to place buoys. Please be cautious and row more to the center of the River in this area.

It is getting light later and dark earlier; Rowers must use lights if on the water before sunrise or after sunset.

Mark Romanowsky is attending the Lowell City Council meeting tonight in regards to banning jet skis on the Merrimack River in Lowell. (Please see his emailed report below)

Minutes for the August meeting were accepted. Motion by Dennis McCarthy, 2nd by John Murphy.

UML User Agreement: Karen reported that she has met with Peter Murray and Chris Puccella. No agreement has been reached to date. Chris has linked the UML user agreement to the TRR agreement and wants more money from MRRRA.

The Learn to Sweep program ended after three sessions. It was suggested by Karen to end the LTSWEEP as she was having ongoing discussions with Chris regarding the UML user agreement. Terry reported that the participants wanted to continue and were disappointed.

TRR Preparations

All volunteer questions should be forwarded to Jessica Murrey at : trr@merrimackrowing.org

Listing of TRR committees and committee heads:

Medals - Terry Freeman and Jody Decarolis

Results - Terry Freeman

Start - Karren Scammell

Finish - Erin Lallemand
Registration - Wilma Breiland
Timing - Here and Now Jen Lown
Results – John Breiland
Docks – Carl Popolo
Course – Jess Murray & Robbie Walters
Clean up –
Saturday - Dottie Semonian and Jess Murray
Vendors – Bernadette Baird
Parking – Jess Murray
Trailer Parking – Jess Murray
Equipment – Lynches
Communication – Robbie Walters & Jess Murray
PA System – Steve Hoff
Referees – Lysa Howard

If anyone from MRRA is racing the deadline for free registration is September 15th. If anyone is racing they must contact the Boat Captain to reserve a boat.

Dennis McCarthy made motion to adjourn at 7:50 PM – Passed

Mark Romanowsky sent the following report about the banning of jet skis from the Lowell City Council

As the head of the safety committee I represented the MRRA at the City Council in Lowell tonight supporting the ordinance to ban jet skiers from the Rourke Bridge to the Dam. The Council was unanimous in approving the ordinance. The Lowell Police have appointed a Harbor Master, Sargent Pappas. They plan on having a stronger presence on the river to enforce the ban as well as other rules and regulations. Good news for all users in the Basin. Please let the membership know.

Link to the full ordinance:

<https://www.lowellma.gov/AgendaCenter/ViewFile/Item/3140?fileID=11134>

Minutes taken by Chur Masors, typed up by Tom Barrington