

MRRA Monthly Meeting
Tuesday April 8, 2014:

Attendees: Ben Bancroft, Jon Dwyer, Elizabeth Christmas, Rebecca Ruvido, Mary Gail Jagers, Ken Hickey, Dennis McCarthy, Joe Bernard, Erinn McLaughlin, Jennifer Lown, Roland Meijer, Bernadette Johnson, Tim Wheatley, Jay Feenan, Erin Lallemand, Martha McClarney, Katie Courtermarsh, Jason Coutermarsh, Linas Aliskas, Terry Freeman, Wilma Breiland, Denise Bergeron, Brad Vear, Mark Romanowsky, Mike Poreba, Harry Finch, Joe Lafreniere, Bronwyn Chapmans, Dottie Semonian, Karen Scammell (30).

Final Public Showing of Safety Video** 6:15pm

- after this, folks will have to contact safety committee to get a loan of the safety video

Meeting start 7pm

Agenda:

Safety message: The Safety Committee: Joe LaFreniere made a brief presentation showing various options for life preserver/PFD styles at the meeting. Water temperature 40 degrees. Rowers are advised to carry a PFD. Joe emphasized the importance of members using good judgement and being mindful of personal safety.

* Approved Feb meeting minutes: Accepted

* Committee updates:

1. Swim Certificates: UML Pool hours have been M-F and weekends, Need to bring a PDF

Denise Bergeron has forwarded:

Costello Pool Hours:

Finals Week (5/5 - 5/9): Mon-Fri: 12-1:30pm & 4:30-6pm

5/10 - 5/26: Pool Closed

Summer Hours (5/27 - 8/15): Mon-Fri: 4pm-6pm.

Closed on Fri, 7/4 for Independence Day.

2. Membership/Programs - Coaches identified; John Cotter Coach at Thayer academy
Masters Sweep: Coach KC

Masters sculling AM: Mark Lewis

- update on Learn to Sweep advertising- Jody Decarolis and Stephanie Birchenough have been working with a group to determine best way to advertise. Poor out come from advertising in the Lowell Sun.

Intend to set up table at high school regattas in May

Fliers to various locations like local gyms, library, recreation departments

- Members need to complete their online and written paperwork/payments to get OK to row. Dottie Semonian will let you know when all your paperwork is complete. You will find your name in the Logbook once your paperwork is complete and all fees are paid.

3. Safety: Nothing additional, presented the PFD's

4. Rack Policy: The Rack Policy committee has met once, Working on re-writing the policy from 2005. Updates should be available shortly

5. Equipment - 3 boats sold; (2) Fisas and (1) Pienert \$3500 for the 3 boats
Plan is to order (4) Sets of Concept 2 Oars. 2 small grip, 2 large grip
Purchasing Vespoli 2X/2- from CRI (with quick release riggers)
Looking at Wintech 1X, midweight

Note: Open Invitation to Equipment Work Day this Saturday April 5 @ 8am

* Update Boathouse User group meeting: UML, LHS and Junior US Rowing regattas: Every weekend in the month of May. MRRA Members need to be off the water early. If rowing later, must ask permission of the Regatta Director. Rowers must hold at the DCR boat ramp and wait for permission to row to the end of the course. Please be, Respectful of the officials. Members will receive e-mail updates regarding the start times of the regattas and they will be placed on the MRRA Calendar.

*Lightning detector: boathouse has hand held unit available, is locked up, anyone can use

* Dock extension: TRR purchased docks, they will be added to the current docks to widen the space. They will be marked TRR and configured with the UML dock system (docks should be delivered by mid May).

*Launch maintenance and ownership: Discussion about pooling resources between MRRA, UML and LHS. Group to maintain Launches, proposal to share equipment. May purchase wake less launch. Little overlap between programs, should work well. MRRA members with concern about the current equipment, concern about maintenance of current equipment. Consensus was to wait and discuss further with more specifics. Members agree common gas location and purchasing makes sense.

* Boat rental = sharing agreement proposal: Last year MRRA paid UML \$1762 to rent boats. Working on agreement to not pay to rent boats from UML in exchange for experienced UML rowers under the direction of coaches would be allowed restricted use to MRRA Sculling equipment. 1X, 2X, no 4X, No A Boats, no reserving boats, no prime time rowing. UML would be responsible for any damage to equipment. Students would then be encouraged to join the MRRA for \$65 after their season ends.

ERGS: Available MRRA always has access to at least 3 if being used by UML.

*US Rowing and Festival Regatta weekend planning -
Barbara Sherman has agreed to coordinate Volunteers: Members should contact
Barbara if they have requests for specific jobs.

National Learn to Row Day: Saturday June 7, 2014
Plan is to run a morning only program
All members are encouraged to attend, and bring a Friend.
More information to follow.

Meeting Adjourned

Dottie Semonian
MRRA Secretary