

MRRA July 8, 2014 General Membership Monthly meeting:

Attendees:

Karen Scammell, Jason Holden, Bob Sengstaken, Joe LaFreniere, Sue Mathias, KC Lumbard, Anne Russell, Sharon Morris, Wilma Breiland, Jennifer Lown, Bob Lynch, Bronwyn Chapman, Mary Gail Jagers, Chur Masors, Doreen Jennings, Kathy McGowen. (16).

Safety: Joe LaFreniere reporting:

Incident with the National Parks Boat. National park service gives evening tours, uses the same dock. One evening in June, boat was leaving the dock, almost hit an 8 at the dock. Masters Sweep. (Captain was made aware, some discussion about having him toot horn before leaving dock.)

Members need to be aware. Look for boats.

Suggestion to bring an air horn if in a larger boat, cox could bring along.

Jet Ski traffic and Kayaking (kayaks can be silent, need to look often).

Expect increase in boat activity on the river during Summer months.

Accept June Minute Meetings:

Motion to accept, approved by all

Two primary agenda items:

Snap shot of the Two Regattas:

NEMA Regatta on Saturday about 300 Entries

Festival Regatta: 176 Entries

Festival Regatta: Income \$9292, expenses \$4500, Made \$4800, expected, typical income.

Ran as expected, many positive comments by participants.

Review of expenses:

Food:

One difference from prior year had Catered lunch, instead of pre made bag lunches, paid more, was it worth the extra cost?

Membership response:

Food was here, ready, thought was wonderful, thought money well spent.

UML collected \$ 1338 from parking. Suggest holding 10-15% to off set the added food cost.

Shirts: (Used for both regattas)

Regatta tanks bought 70, Karen Scammell can can order more if someone did not get one and wants one to contact her directly. Need to let her know size requirement.

Extra \$500 what are the thoughts?

Membership:

Taking care of volunteers, think expense was OK.

Tents and Portable toilets:

Paid for by NEMA, used two days. \$10 per cost to clean before Festival Regatta, decrease cost to Festival this year.

NEMA Regatta: \$10,000 budgeted

Review of expenses:

Lowell Regatta Rowing Association: gets \$1000 for the course rental

Estimate of Income from both Regattas Just over \$9400.

Some additional expenses still being calculated.

There will be costs for Launch Repairs:

1. The Brewer was found late Sunday night, downstream at about the 1500 meter area. Karen Scammell accepts full responsibility, may not have been properly secured after the Regatta. There appears to be pontoon damage.
2. UML Whaler, skiff has some damage from removing trees (large debris that was caught at the start of the course).
3. Karen's Brother's boat failed on Sunday, also requiring repair.

Looking for MRRA Member Feedback:

98% participation in members volunteering, outstanding turn out from members participating in some capacity over the two days.

Members of the LOC thanked.

Member discussion:

MRRA could bid for the NEMA Regatta again next year. Would we bid it higher?

Would have to have Stake Boats if ran again, did not work well with aluminum boats.

Brief discussion about running the race from the 2K to boathouse. (line already available to attach Stake boats, or would it be worth investing in a second cable at the 1K (cost about \$1000)?

Discussion about the date, agree earlier in June would have been better, conflict with the African American Festival, July 4th the following weekend.

If club wants to run again would apply for Permit in February for June 2015.

Do members think worth doing NEMA/Festival again?

Agree, to Festival Regatta.

Could we discuss at the Annual Meeting? Add to the Ballot as a question to the membership?

Discussion about setting up a survey:

Looking for feedback: Favorable comments, everyone really enjoys Festival Regatta.

Much more stress with US Rowing Masters Event.

Discussion about US Rowing not being as familiar with our dock set up, think our members have done a better job with launching, retrieving.

Also would have set up vendors in a different location.

Registration was limited to protect us, weren't sure how many would attend. How would we want to address in the future?

Second Item:

Drawings for the National Park Service New Dock, at the meeting available for review by members..

Nation Parks new boat is 50 ft long 12 ft wide, gives tours, will be able to use for TRR.

Dock is 120 feet long, current dock is 70 feet, spaces for UML, LHS and MRRA launches

New dock will have a gangway.

Pilings will be on the outside, dock is 12 inches high off the water, won't be able to launch sculls from this but, potentially could add our docks to the end for TRR for singles.

Barge will be coming in early November to begin construction, after the rowing season is completed.

UML may have a Regatta the first week of November

Would not have access to the inside of the dock

MRRA will need to clean up areas where staging would be done, fenced area behind boathouse, we have been storing trailers, barrels with wood for signage.

Program Update:

Learn to Scull tonight: 7 participating. Coach: John Cotter, several interested in LTScull 2

Learn to Sweep: 8-12 participants: Coach: John Cotter

Intermediate sculling: coaching a couple days per week, Coach Mark Lewis, and Marcia Beckett.

Boathouse user review:

Please make sure to replace tennis balls on the singles, cover gates, especially important on the wall side of the rack. Protects boats above and below.

The newest sculling oars are rigged "heavy" suggest use for the 4X.

Bob Sengstaken, Boat Captain has repainted MRRA oars.

Says he will label the heavy vs the regular oars.

Reminder to members, for new members to be aware:

Fluid mid weight 1X

Fluid 2X

Need permission from the boat captain to row these shells.

Boat Captain wants to see, "10 stokes on the square off the water."

Brief discussion about limiting use of Advanced Boats by only rowers of Advanced level.

Lastly with UML and LHS coming back very soon:

Suggest:

Discussion with user group, flag system to determine who is out on the water?

Adjourned:

8:10 pm