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MRRA Meeting Minutes

14-MAR-06

MINUTES

Date	14 Mar, 2006, 7:00 pm
Place	Club Lafayette Lowell, MA
Attendees	Yes
1. Increase utilization of 501c3 status.	<p>a. Prepare materials that stress 501c3 status. b. Check on non-profit mailing status/postage rates. c. Raise funds. Molly agreed to head committee Ashley agreed to assist her Note: Perhaps we still want to find a PR person and have Molly and Ashley cover application for grants etc.</p>
2. Market MRRA	<p>Brochure, Posters, pictures in boathouse, tents for races, banners PR success, programs results, features etc. Designate a Public Relations Person</p>
3. Communication	<p>a. Identify heads of various programs. b. Have a liaison person. i.e. TRR, Festival, Learn To Row, ROW, LHS, UML. Name Assistant Festival Point Person Mike S agreed good idea. Request club member to assist Mike and especially to keep the records and start cookbook and make calendar entries. Name Learn to Row Point Person Tim Dempsey c. Encourage "cookbook" guidelines creation. d. Encourage keeping a calendar of "do by" dates. e. Use Carl's new calendar system.</p>
4. Safety Committee	<p>Add a Safety Captain: Name a Safety Captain Ginny LaFreniere, with help of Bob S and others. 1. Club members to write up any policies they suggest. Members are encouraged not to merely suggest that we need guidelines and policies in a certain area but to submit a proposed written policy. 2. Any club member who has a copy of an existing MRRA or US Rowing policy is encouraged to submit same to Ginny.</p>

Person who has the job of assembling existing MRRA, USRA, USCG, and any other useful safety policies.
Posting same, physically at boathouse and on web with help of the W-E-B-M-A-S-T-E-R

- a. Review and assemble existing rules from rowing entities.
 1. US Rowing;
 2. Present MRRA rules;
 3. Applicable USCG rules.
 4. Create/maintain a register of rules.
 - b. Safety Training for MRRA members.
 1. Design a Saturday training event for MRRA members.
 2. Publish safety procedures.
 3. Publish and post emergency procedures.
 - c. Communicate with other Programs in boathouse.
 1. Identify a contact person with each water-based program in boathouse.
 2. Meet with them and discuss safety protocols.
 3. Establish a contact system to convey river hazards.
 - d. Note: We should convey this information to our members and also to other programs whether they chose to follow our recommendations or not.
4. Encourage membership participation in club management.
 5. Encourage members and club officers to increase use of website.
 - a. Make info visibly available
 - b. Store records for reference/next officer.

5. Equipment

- a. Quad. Make purchase decision. Specify general club use. Voted: Purchase Quad, \$5000 to be paid by MRRA, \$4800 to be paid by TRR. Boat is for general club use and not to be reserved exclusively for elite use. Subject to safety restrictions by boat captain i.e. training required to toe/steer boat. Boat Captain may set limits on range of river rowed by Quad
- b. Docks.
- c. UML Coach Tim says these are being fixed and going in week of 3/20/2006. Tim N stated he believed in and out cost is about \$6000 traditionally split 1/3 each by MRRA, UML and LHS

Note. LHS Coach Jen says she believes LHS paid "large" bill for docks, details uncertain.

7. Address Special Use Permit and Boathouse Use issues

Joe spoke with Susan Hamilton, Regional Director of DCR, who stated that engineering study complete; they are awaiting meeting w/ decision from Commissioner to make final close/stay open decision. No decision on use until then.

8. US Rowing Certification Class

- a. Fund tuition. Discuss number.
- b. Discuss new June date/check US Rowing Website

Submitted by Secretary Carl, Carl@merrimackrowing.org.

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