**November 14, 2018**

**South End Rowing Club**

**Board Meeting Minutes**

**Roll call:**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Member** | **Present** |  | **Member** | **Present** |
| S. Dominguez | X |  | J. Kogel | X |
| F. Hegeler | X |  | P. Moran | X |
| J. Sale | X |  | R. Moore |  |
| A. Lapp | X |  | K. Bailey |  |
| C. Merryfield | X |  | O. Gajda | X |
| N. Mortimer | X |  | S. Glazer |  |
| P. Cunneen | X |  | K. Prebil | X |
| B. Wygant |  |  | S. Blew | X |
| C. Lo | X |  |  |  |
| J. Bock | X |  | S. Wintersteen | X |

**Approval of October Minutes**

Motion to approve: Board approved without revision (13 – 0 – 0).

**President’s Remarks**

Thank you to everyone for keeping going.

Talk up the December 1 holiday party with your fellow members. It’s going to be great. Hope all Board members will attend.

We’ll celebrate 2018 by going out immediately following the December Board meeting. Please let Simon know if you will be able to attend and if you will bring a spouse ($25 for spouse).

In the future, please don’t hang streamers over the room heaters lest we burn down the Club!

We should encourage members to participate in the Club by filling a commissioner position in 2019.

**Members Moment**

No member wished speak.

1. **Formation of committee to update bylaws**

Susan reported that no bylaw updates would be brought forward at the Membership meeting because changes weren’t ready for approval. She suggested that the Board make this a 2019 work item and get an early start on the task perhaps by forming a committee at the January meeting. The committee could be staffed with a mix of Board and non-Board members. The committee should include people who have been through previous bylaw updates so that we have the benefit of institutional memory.

1. **Installation of video cameras**

Jim reported that the office was broken into three weeks ago. In response he has install two cameras in the office that retain 7 days of video. The video may be reviewed by the President, Vice President and Building Commissioner.

The video committee is still looking at a strategy for addressing all of the Club’s access points as well as retaining the video for longer periods of time. The Dolphin Club is in discussion with SFPD about installing a video camera at their front-door. Jim is monitoring that process and we may or may not follow suit.

1. **Increasing the Club initiation fee**

Josh walked the Board through the proposal to increase our initiation fee (currently $100 + $5 key deposit). The basic rationale is that current members all paid a $130 assessment for the building project but even with the assessment and fundraising we still have $510k in loans and the debt service makes it harder to fund the Club’s other capital projects. Increasing the initiation fee would allow new members to help pay for the benefits of the expansion.

There was extended discussion about how much our Club costs compared to the Dolphins (initiation + dues), the YMCA, etc. Our Club is currently less expensive than the alternatives and would continue to be so even if we raised the initiation fee by $100. Some members expressed concern that by raising the initiation fee by $100 we might make the Club cost prohibitive to working people.

After considering a $100 increase to the initiation fee, a motion was made to raise the initiation fee by $80. The motion also authorized the Treasurer to transfer the incremental funds generated by this increase from the Special Fund to the General Fund for the duration of the current loans. This motion passed (9 – 2 – 3).

We will need approval from Recreation & Park before the higher initiation fee can take effect.

1. **Capping membership**

This item was not discussed because Kathy was not present.

1. **Membership meeting agenda**

The agenda was approved with the elimination of item L (Calendar review) and the substitution of Lynn Cullivan for Kevin Hendriks.

1. **Vessel Traffic Services follow-up**

Simon felt that a number of the open items should be taken up at the swimmers meeting. This item will reappear on the January 2019 agenda.

1. **December holiday party**

It’s going to be great! Please come. Bring your friends.

1. **Loan of cookshack to SF Maritime**

Jane reported that the cookshack would be used from December 10 – 13 to prepare food for the employees and volunteers of SF Maritime. The food will be served on the Eureka.

1. **Cohost 24 hour swim**

Susi Dods made a presentation on the 24 hour swim now in its third year. 65 swimmers came together last year to swim for 24 hours in teams. Many of the swimmers are South End and Dolphin but others come from around the country.

This year the swim will take place over the first weekend in February. The event begins with a lasagna dinner on Friday night and the swim portion starts Saturday 09:00.

Suzie asked us to cohost the swim with the Dolphins. The swim carries its own insurance and promises to cleanup the club at the conclusion of the swim.

A motion was made to cohost the swim with the Dolphins and to allow use of the kitchen and cookshack. The motion is contingent on the Dolphins also agreeing to cohost the event. No guest fees will be charged to the participants of the swim. The motion passed (14 – 0 – 0).

1. **Treasurers report**

The bulk of this agenda item was spent discussing three capital spending requests:

* For a new inflatable boat and accompanying motor and dolly. There was a motion to authorize this purchase not to exceed $12,000 which passed (14 – 0 – 0).
* For new oars (including a spare) for the South End barge plus a “safe saw”. There was a motion to authorize this purchase not to exceed $7,500 which passed (14 – 0 – 0).
* For the purchase of two FISA double boats. This item was the subject of a lengthy discussion. Generally the arguments seemed to fall into (pro) US Rowing is making a renewed commitment to Coastal Rowing and we should be in on the ground floor & these boats can be acquired at a discount now because they were used in the recent competition in Canada & that because of their stability they can serve as a bridge from woodens to shells for new rowers. On the other hand (con) the acquisition of these boats represents a change in the mission of the rowing program and its not clear if there is consensus on this change within the rowing community & the current lite boat that we have had on lease (and which is similar to the FISA boats) has been only litely (sorry I couldn’t help myself) used & the discount pricing doesn’t justify making such an important decision in haste & concern about where they boats would be stored in the boathouse & that we shouldn’t purchase new types of equipment without first having a trial use.

Three rowers (Bryce, Janie and Eli) came to speak to the purchase. Two of them suggested that the Club purchase one FISA boat and another Maas Aero (which are popular and heavily used). The other spoke to advantage of FISA boats for newer rowers.

Ultimately there was a motion to purchase a single FISA boat. The motion failed (5 – 5 – 4). Oliver was encouraged to return to the rowing community and try to gain consensus around FISA boats and then return to the Board for reconsideration.
1. **Membership report**

Did not happen in Kathy’s absence.

1. **Calendar review**

Jane walked us through the calendar for the remainder of 2018.

**Naming the black inflatible (not on agenda)**

Josh reported that the Pilot Committee met and decided to name the unnamed “black boat” after Bob Roper. The official unveiling will occur in February.

**NPS Police coffee (not on agenda)**

Niland reported on the coffee that NPS recently held and which he attended. He said they express deep appreciation for the dinner and refuge that we provide them every July 4th.