

February 10, 2020
South End Rowing Club
Board Meeting Minutes

Note: This meeting was conducted via Zoom because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Roll Call

Member	Present		Member	Present
S. Dominguez	X		V. Waik	X
K. Whalen	X		B. O'Malley	X
J. Sale	X		J.C. O Campo	X
B. Ip	X		A. Gower	X
M. Montgomery	X		B.J. Jaurique	X
M. Riley	X		F. Hegeler	X
K. Buckholtz	X		V. Cornwell	X
B. Wygant			L. Hovden	X
D. Puglisi	X			
G. Lazaneo	X		S. Wintersteen	X

Approval of Minutes

The January 2021 Board minutes were approved. (17 – 0 – 0).

President's Remarks

Simon said that he had received new Dolphin Club expansion plans from Diane Walton. He will share them with the Board and he expects Diane to attend our March meeting to answer questions and seek support. We should send comments to Joe Butler who is working with the DC. He also noted that Diane has been replaced by Ward Bushey as DC president. Simon will invite Ward to the March meeting.

Members Moment

Cy Lo noted that 2021 membership renewal provided a mechanism for members to donate money to the Club for the purpose of aiding members financially impacted by COVID. He thought this was great but that it would be even better if we could expand the pool of

potential donors. He reminded the Board that his spectacularly successful face shield project was substantially funded by a GoFundMe promoted on FaceBook. He suggested that we consider a similar approach for the Club.

He also suggested that we consider organizing a virtual chicken poop bingo contest.

Simon thanked Cy for his ideas and suggested that he find a Board member interested in working with him on these ideas.

A. Club Insurance

Dave Santos joined the meeting and explained each of our policies, what we paid last year and how the policies have changed in 2021. Because of COVID, our total insurance costs will be reduced from \$56,292 to \$51,661. The Board voted (17 – 0 – 0) to authorize the renewal of the various policies.

The Board thanked Dave for his hard work and watching out for the interests of the Club.

B. Emergency Dock Repair

About a month ago members noted problems lowering the dock. Initially they thought the problem was associated with the counterweights but upon further investigation, it was determined that corrosion in the cables and spool was the source of the problem. George, working with Scott Elsworth, determined that the best course of action was to replace all of the related hardware. The repairs will be done using in house labor over a weekend. With the new hardware, the dock should be good for another 15 to 20 years.

George will have a specific funding request at the March meeting.

There was a question about using this as an opportunity to replace the current human powered wench with one powered by electricity, but George indicated that such an undertaking would substantially expand the scope of the project.

C. Reopening Committee

Fran noted that Joyce Gagnon has assumed leadership of the committee and is doing a stellar job. Our application to the City is being revised to allow expanded hours of operation and co-piloting. Fran also sang the praises of the Club members who have stepped up to be regular monitors: Joanne Sakai, Danielle Ruymaker, Naji Ali, Bridgett Boylan, Alix Marduel, Zach Margolis and Ian Adams. Thanks to each of them for their generosity.

D. Diversity Committee

Simon noted that the committee now has its full complement of members and had its first meeting with all of its members. Simon stated that he felt very good about the committee members and has high expectations. In recognition of the fact that the committee's work has elements of both a sprint and a marathon, they are establishing both short- and long-term goals. It's important to do things "right" and that can take time.

The committee has talked to their counterparts at the DC and at other clubs and have learned some good things from this outreach. They've created a special email address (diversity@serc.com) so that members can communicate with the committee.

February is Black History Month and Simon wished that the committee had started a bit earlier so that we could better embrace this occasion. Nonetheless, he promised that the committee would be finding ways to celebrate BHM.

He was asked about Board training. The committee has been looking into options. They've also discussed sharing this training with the DC board and opening it to the SERC membership.

He was asked about the new language for the website and the front door. He said they were working on both of these items and were close. This raised the question about the relationship between the committee and the board. Does the committee have the authority to

make decisions on their own or do they make recommendations to the Board? After some discussion, it was agreed that this committee, like other Board committees, makes recommendations to the Board.

E. Membership Update

Adele reported that membership stood at around 850 members. This is down about 16% from the same time period last year. Adele and her support group have been calling and emailing folks regarding renewal and she expects more renewals in the coming weeks.

The transition to the new Google email accounts should now be complete. Board members with questions about the new system should reach out to access@serc.com for help.

F. Bridge-to-Bridge Regatta

Virginia reported that, COVID permitting, the rowing community plans to hold its annual bridge-to-bridge regatta on September 11. Betty-Jean asked Virginia to send her a short blurb so the event can be added to the Club calendar.

Virginia also reported that the rowers may also row to Open Water Rowing in Sausalito to participate in one of their events.

G. Swimming Update

Fran noted the challenges of running the swim program and exclaimed that she couldn't do it without the support of Erika Gliebe, Zach Margolis, Vanessa Lea and Suzanne Greva. She also singled out Joyce Gagnon for her support from reopening and Kevin Buckholtz for organizing the virtual saunas.

While the year is still young, there have already been a number of events (The great snivel, landmarks virtual sauna and the dreaded 9th). Black History Month swims, virtual saunas on hypothermia, swims gone bad and piloting are on the horizon.

H. Membership Engagement

Kevin B. described his goals in creating the virtual saunas: have a topic, but allow people to talk as they might in the sauna. He has ideas for the first several events and will monitor participation. The great snivel drew 70 people and landmarks pulled in 38. He will review the program in a couple of months.

I. Aquatic Park & Pier Project

Fran reviewed the history of this long-term project for the area. She reminded the Board that the Club played an important catalytic role with its early donation of \$25k to the vision study. Since then \$150k has been raised which was matched by NPS.

Congress passed the \$9.5b Great America Outdoors Act and Muni Pier is likely to receive funding (approx. \$100m). Redevelopment of Hyde St Pier and Ft Mason are also likely to receive funding. So Fran's message is that "change is coming and soon".

The Aquatic Park & Pier project has organized virtual meetings for Feb 9th and 11th to explain what's being contemplated and to solicit input. Fran encouraged all SERC members to participate in one of these meetings.

J. Member Complaint

Simon walked the Board through a complaint by one Club member against another. The Board felt the matter warranted investigation and two Board members were appointed to review the complaint and report back to the Board.

Treasurers Report

Laura urged all commissioners to get busy on their 2021 budgets which will be reviewed at the March meeting.