

**May 12, 2021**  
**South End Rowing Club**  
**Board Meeting Minutes**

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

**Roll Call**

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

**Approval of Minutes**

The April 2021 Board minutes were approved. (16 – 0 – 0).

**President's Remarks**

Simon declared that tonight's meeting would be a love fest!

He thanked the reopening committee for moving us so far so quickly. He previewed that capacity has been increased and that showers and handball have been added.

He also indicated that after skipping the Invitational in 2020 there is a possibility that it can occur in 2021. Under the current pandemic rules, we would be limited to 100 swimmers and the event doesn't pencil out at that size. Laura has put a lot of work into the AI and will keep the Board updated.

Under the category of *you can't keep a good woman down*, Susan Blew has retired as treasurer only to become our swag manager. She has some new swag which can be ordered now and picked up on May 22 and 23.

Simon indicated that he is making plans for a Board get together.

There will be a virtual sauna this coming Friday (don't get over served) and June 5<sup>th</sup> will be the newbie swim.

### **Members Moment**

Victoria Stein, Peter Allen and Ken Stupi shared a members moment to describe a \$10,000 fund that they've created in the memory of Buck Delventhal. They noted Buck's history of championing diversity at the Club, particularly in the fight to include women, and felt that the fund should be used to promote diversity at the Club.

While there are still many details to be worked out, they envision partnering with existing community groups ("no need to reinvent the wheel") to bring underrepresented constituencies into the Club.

They see this as a pilot program. When the funds have been expended, they hope the Board will take on responsibility for continued funding.

The money is currently burning a hole in Ken's checking account and he would like to get the money into a dedicated South End account as soon as possible.

They've asked Naji to join the committee and will coordinate their efforts with the Diversity committee.

The Board thanked them for their generosity and helping us to keep Buck's wonderful memory.

### **A. Appointment of Rowing Commissioner**

Simon introduced our new rowing commissioner Diane Caliva. Diane works for Lucas in the Presidio. She has been a member for 3 or 4 years after being recruited by Mary. She started as a rower, took to swimming, has become a pilot and is serving on the reopening committee!

The Board voted (16 – 0 – 0) to approve her as our 2021 rowing commissioner and wished her all success.

### **B. DC Expansion**

Miriam Hiser, Joe Butler and Dan McLaughlin briefed the Board on the proposed Dolphin Club expansion. The DC has asked for a letter of support (or at least a letter of non-objection) for their plans to create a new gym with a roof deck. Unfortunately, their planned roof deck would compromise our westward views from the dayroom.

The committee reminded the board of the fairly lengthy history around this expansion (in 2019 100 South Enders attended a 3-1-1 meeting at the DC and roundly condemned their plans) the seeming bad faith on the part of the DC (they promised to try to work out a compromise with our committee but instead filed their plans with the City) and asked for direction from the Board.

Dan reported on a phone call he had a couple of hours before the Board meeting where he was told the DC was examining his suggestion that they relocate their proposed new deck from over the gym to over their handball court. If true, this seems like a positive development.

The Board seemed unanimous that there was no way we could write a letter of support or even a letter of non-objection to their current plans.

A motion was made to write a letter to the DC expressing our displeasure with their current plan and expressing our hope for a better, less impactful proposal. The letter will indicate the Board's

intention to take the matter up again at its June meeting and that if progress isn't made in the next month, we may have no recourse but to send a letter to the City enumerating our problems with both the plan and the process-to-date. The motion also directed Simon (along with other individuals of his choosing) to meet informally with our Rec and Park commissioner and staff to bring them up to speed. (10 – 3 – 2).

### **C. Budget**

Laura had previously distributed a balanced budget with revisions based on the April 28 budget work session.

The budget contains \$5k in guest use fees and the reopening committee was asked if they thought opening the Club to day use in 2021 was realistic? They responded maybe.

Betty-Jean asked if she could take a reservation for a wedding in Sept or Oct? She was advised against doing so.

The budget was approved (16 – 0 – 1).

### **D. Reopening Committee**

Kevin said that when people ask him “when’s the Club reopening” he responds “it is open! Signup and come use the Club.”

He reported that exciting things are happening at the Club and thanked Fran for being the point person for our latest submission to the City. Based on the recent approval from the City:

- Maximum allowed capacity has increased from 17 to 50
- Solo handball and singles from the same family are now allowed
- The gym, locker rooms and showers are now allowed subject to area specific capacity limitations
- We will be moving to an integrated (swimming, rowing, handball, gym, kayaking, piloting) calendar.

Kevin was quick to add that we needed to define and implement protocols for each new area and train up volunteers to monitor those protocols.

There will be a trial of the new integrated calendar in the coming weeks and it is scheduled to go live on May 22<sup>nd</sup>. He invited Board members to stop by the Club after the 22<sup>nd</sup> and provide feedback.

Kevin pointed out that because of the continued limitations and need for monitoring, Club use needs to remain focused on the sports. So no hanging out in the dayroom, no guests and no sale of swag in the building.

Dennis mentioned that one of the challenges associated with spooling up the rowing program is that the wooden boats have dried out and are no longer watertight. He has begun the slow process of rehydrating them. Anybody who is interested in helping with this process should reach out to Dennis.

There was a spirited discussion about what role vaccinations should play in the reopening. As we expand the reopening, should we require members be vaccinated? Be vaccinated prior to using certain parts of the Club (e.g., gym, locker rooms and indoor showers)? Or be neutral with regard to vaccinations? This is an important, potentially lose-lose (i.e., either way some members will be upset) topic which will probably need to be discussed further in the future.

There were questions about how we compare to the DC? Kevin pointed out that the comparisons are hard because of the differences in the facilities and the fact that they have five paid staff members who can support monitoring.

Baiting his hook, Kevin noted that they are looking to fill two roles:

Calendar Manager: George is handling this for now, but we need to identify a replacement.

Reopening Committee Chair: When Kevin accepted this position it was with the understanding that he needed to stand down at the end of June when he becomes a daddy! He said he hoped the position would be filled by one of the elected members of the Board.

Adele reminded people that out IT folks need a little notice when changes to Club access are needed. The reopening folks should give IT a few days warning.

Simon concluded the meeting with the admonition to have patience. We will be successful. We will get there!