

**June 9, 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	X		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 May 2021 Board minutes were approved. (16 – 0 – 1).

**President's Remarks**

Simon treated us to the welcome news that we're close to being able to fully reopen the Club! He urged returning members to follow the remaining restrictions ... even if they think they know better.

He noted that the recent newbie swim felt like old times. That it was great to see all of the smiling faces and to eat Betty-Jean and Al's food again.

He mentioned that he and Kevin W. had been met with the DC regarding their desired expansion but thus far, there is no resolution.

He said the diversity committee has continued to plug away and that we would get a substantive update later in the meeting.

Finally he suggested that this could be the last Board meeting conducted via Zoom. He has his fingers crossed that our July meeting can be in person at the Club!

### **Members Moment**

Suzanne Greva reported that she has received feedback that the current Zoom meeting format (Webinar) is less inclusive than the previous in person meeting format. If the Board continues to meet via Zoom that we consider alternative formats.

Joyce Gagnon noted that the Club is reopening during pride month and urged the Board to consider, as we reopen, how we accommodate non-binary individuals at the Club (e.g., locker rooms, bathrooms, etc).

### **A. DC Expansion**

Miriam Hiser reminded the Board that the proposed Dolphin Club expansion already has multiple years of history. Throughout the process we have been clear about our concerns. There have been a number of agreements in principle to collaborate, but instead the DC unilaterally filed an objectionable site plan with the City. In the last few days, the City has assigned a planner to their application.

With the assignment of a planner, Miriam urged the Board to promptly send a letter to the City and other relevant entities stating our position.

Simon reported that he and Kevin came away with from their meetings with DC leadership with the sense that the DC is prepared to go it alone. That we needed to act to protect our interests.

A draft letter to the City was circulated to Board members prior to the meeting. A motion was offered to promptly send this letter, after incorporating the minor suggestions (we share a single building, protecting our property values, the current unequal division of our single shared lot, etc). The motion passed unanimously (17 – 0 – 0).

## **B. Diversity Committee**

Simon reported how much he has enjoyed his participation in the diversity committee. The committee has met regularly and has been making headway on its agenda. Following the May Board meeting, Simon brought the new Buck Delventhal fund to the committee's attention.

Simon reminded the Board about some of the bleacher meetings he held last year around the BLM flag. While those meetings were challenging, the committee has decided to repeat them. People need to be heard.

Simon has wisely advised the committee to *not try to boil the ocean*.

Lifetime member Roberta Guise continued the presentation. She said the committee has been considering both structure and roadmap.

Structure includes quarterly updates to the membership with the first communique being delivered soon; monthly meetings; defined roles for the committee members (e.g., Simon is the executive sponsor); creating a dedicated email address ([diversity@serc.com](mailto:diversity@serc.com)) to make it easy for members to communicate with the committee.

They have created new language for the Club website emphasizing the Club's commitment to inclusion; flew the BLM flag in February and supported the woman's history month virtual sauna.

They are still researching training options for Board members and she thanked the Board for participating in a recent survey on the subject.

Their continuing work includes ensuring transparency, team building on the committee, coordinating with outside groups and reaching out to Club members.

### **C. Reopening Committee**

Kevin begin by calling out the two long haul members who have served continuously since the committee's inception. All hail George and Fran!

Dr. Jenn Brokaw (chief medical officer for the SFFD) address the Board briefly before her cell phone battery expired. She noted that we're in a good position. There is no time like the present to get into the Club. The rest of the world is not as fortunate but we should use this opportunity to celebrate our good fortune.

Kevin walked the Board through a Power Point deck. Highlights:

The recent members survey netted 346 response. 98.5% of respondents will be fully vaccinated by June 15. 62% have yet to reenter the Club since the original closure. 25% think unvaccinated members should have full access without restriction.

The key assumption is that SF will lift all capacity restrictions on June 15<sup>th</sup> in line with the CDC and State of Calif. For the first time since March 2020 we will have the ability to self-govern. Members will need to decide for themselves which areas of the Club they are comfortable to be in (there are still risks).

Key recommendations: masks are recommended but not required; eating and drinking only allowed outside; key access between 4:00am and 9:00pm; monitors and preregistration will no longer be required; open indoor spaces (fitness center; sauna, cook shack, handball courts, etc); some remaining restrictions (no indoor social hour, no day use, no guests, no large indoor events).

Four options were described for distinguishing vaccinated and unvaccinated members. The committee recommended option 2 which only grants access to indoor spaces (handball courts,

bar, cookshack and the entire upstairs) to vaccinated members. Signage explaining the restrictions will be prepared but enforcement will be based on the honor system. The current outdoor showers and cabanas will be retained for unvaccinated members and vaccinated members who are uncomfortable coming inside.

New card keys will be available for in person pickup starting June 15<sup>th</sup>. After the last in person pickup date, remaining card keys will be mailed. This mimics the process successfully used last year for distributing the buffs. Each card will come with a one-page handout describing what is and isn't allowed at the Club.

Not surprisingly, this important subject raised many questions.

Should a COVID test be equal to proof of vaccination? No, its too time consuming to keep track of when people have been tested and need to be retested.

What if a member develops COVID? They should stay away from the Club until they have a clean test and should self-report to [reopening@serc.com](mailto:reopening@serc.com).

Are we allowed to have different rules for vaccinated and unvaccinated people? Yes. We've made reasonable accommodation for those who are unvaccinated (e.g., retaining the outdoor showers, allowing access to the downstairs bathroom).

What if a person can't be vaccinated? They will be limited to the unvaccinated areas of the Club.

Can handball resume? Yes. But remember, no guests allowed in the Club. Members only.

Should we keep the current COVID waiver? The Board seemed to favor this (belt and suspenders) but Kevin thought it would complicate the logistics of getting people back into the Club.

Why are we using card keys instead of a smart phone app? The app seemed like a good idea when we evaluated the new card key system. However administering the app has proven to be too IT intensive (the invitation needs to be acted on with 24 hours, no easy way to transfer access when somebody gets a new phone, etc).

A motion was made:

To open key access to membership starting June 15th. Keys will be enabled for entry between 4am-9pm, 7 days a week. Unvaccinated members may access outdoors facilities and the upper and lower boat house including the downstairs bathrooms. Unvaccinated members are restricted from accessing all upstairs facilities (including the day room, gym, locker rooms and saunas) and the cook shack and handball court/bar area. Unvaccinated members must wear masks indoors. Vaccinated members may use all areas in the club. Masks are encouraged but not required for vaccinated members. Large indoor gatherings and day use/guests remain restricted.

which passed (17 – 1 – 0).

Lastly Kevin announced he will be rolling off the reopening committee at the end of the month. Fortunately for us, George is interested in collecting another merit badge and has agreed to step up and chair the reopening committee when Kevin steps away (to have a baby!).

#### **D. Alcatraz Invitational**

Laura reported we have most of the permits and have sold 160 tickets. We're currently limited to 100 people but expect that to be

relaxed on June 15<sup>th</sup> at which time we'll get our final permit from the Coast Guard. Laura expects that we'll eventually sell between 400 and 500 tickets.

She asked Board members to talk up the event with their friends, master swimming groups, etc.

#### **E. Interclub Tri**

The event is scheduled for Sept 19<sup>th</sup>. As we discussed the event, it became clear that we are uncertain whose turn it is to host the event!

Irrespective of who is hosting, the event needs to be talked up amongst the membership so that people hold the date.

#### **F. Aquatic Park Pier Update**

Fran reported that the project is going very well and moving along. The plans have evolved and additional outreach is taking place (e.g., the Chamber of Commerce).

Hyde St. Pier and the Eureka will be in the initial round of funding (2022) and Muni Pier will follow (2023).