

July 13, 2023
South End Rowing Club
Board Meeting Minutes

Roll Call

Member	Present	Member	Present
F. Hegeler	X	C. Lovazzano	
C. Bump		A. Diaz	X
J. Sale	X	V. Blyth Marlin	X
B. Ip	X	T. Nguyen	X
A. Gower		Z. Margolis	X
J. Li	X	E. Gliebe	X
G. Lazaneo	X	P. Mulvihill	
S. Dominguez		L. Hovden	X
D. Puglisi			
S. Fillipow	X	S. Wintersteen	

Approval of Minutes

The June 2023 Board minutes were approved (12 – 0 – 0).

President’s Remarks

Fran congratulated all of the commissioners and volunteers who made Saturday’s 150th original location swim a success. The event had a great feel. Vanessa said that the rowers who participated described the morning as “electric”.

Fran encouraged participation in the July 22nd Mergames event. The occasion will be used to celebrate the accomplishments of Mina Rhoden and to raise funds for the upcoming MAX 415 Alcatraz swim.

The Bondi are coming. The Bondi are coming. Mark your calendars (August 23 – 27).

The Kiel Lighthouse swim took place last weekend. Our own Conny Bleul was on hand to represent the Club. Judy Irving’s latest film was shown.

Fran warned of road work taking place behind the Maritime Museum.

The boats in the cove will be gone by yearend. Hercules left last weekend. Fran will get the superintendent to come provide another update.

The Save Muni Pier group is contemplating a costume contest on the promenade in October.

Our friend Pedro is recovering from surgery. Thoughts and prayers can be shared using CaringBridge:

<https://www.caringbridge.org/visit/coachpedro>

Pat Cunneen's family invites SERC friends to a funeral mass being held at noon Saturday July 29th followed by a celebration of his life at the Club at 2:00. Pat's unique artwork will be on display. Thierry said that the running community would be renaming one of their runs in memory of Pat.

Finally, the Board congratulated Laura on receiving the prestigious President's Lifetime Achievement Award! She earned the award by way of her extensive volunteer work with the Red Cross.



Members Moment

None.

A. Membership Update

Catherine was unable to attend the meeting but provided this update via email:

- We have approximately 1,728 renewing members (10 renewals in last 4 weeks)

- We have 275 new members for 2023 (56 in last 4 weeks) This is ahead of where we were last year

B. Treasurer's Report

Laura reported that we've taken in about \$600k in dues.

She's hired Sarah Roberts as our new bookkeeper. She and Sarah have reviewed the last few years and found some problems that need to be addressed. She has also engaged a new accounting firm (that Sarah has previously worked with) to prepare our taxes and to perform an audit.

She reports that YTD, the actual budget is looking good. In one notable discrepancy, handball revenue is \$10k over budget! Keep it up handball!!

She's looking to form a committee to guide the investment of Club funds. Right now she has Peter but is looking for one or two more members who are knowledgeable about such matters.

C. Eventbrite Premium

Eventbrite reached out to Zach to see if we wanted to enter into a two year contract to upgrade to their Premium tier of service. In exchange for agreeing to use Eventbrite exclusively, we will receive enhanced customer service, free refunds and protection from future price increases.

There was some discussion about the fees charged by Eventbrite, if they are inline with competing offerings and if we pass through these fees to our members when they book an event.

Zach agreed to talk to Eventbrite to see if fees can be reduced and if it was possible to enter into a 6 month contract instead of two years to give us an opportunity to shop around.

D. Interclub Tri

Vanessa and Josh had just come from an initial meeting with the DC. Diane Walton described the theme of this year's tri to be *more fun – more people!* This sounded good to us.

Its early days with lots of details to be worked out (in no particular order):

- Looks like registration will be handled with a Google form and document (name, club, USMS, etc).
- Lunch will be catered by taco truck(s). No lunch service until first runner crosses the line. Each club should have some snacks for their members who do the earlier events.
- Each club will purchase 2 kegs of beer (4 total).
- Coastal boats will race with the shells (maybe next year they will have their own category).
- They are still considering our request to enter two barges into that event.
- They suggested raising the triple threat bonus to 5 points.
- They suggested the idea of awarding points for volunteers on the water and for a Ft. Mason Crawl (alternative to the Ft. Point run) for 70+ year olds.
- SERC will provide water service at Ft. Point.
- DC to provide a timeline.
- We may want our woodens to help pilot the swim following their competition (of course a priority will be given to rowers who also want to swim).
- Each club will work out its own bus arrangements.

Erika has been investigating special swag for the Tri. She came up with two alternatives: a visor and a patch. Whatever we select, it will be one time swag exclusively for competitors and volunteers. It won't be sold with general Club swag.

She has also come up with a special triple threat patch for those members who complete all three events. This patch will also be useful in future years.

The board votes (12 – 0 – 0) to authorize the expenditure of up to \$6k (instead of the \$2,500 in the original budget) for the purchase of beer, swag and bus transport.

E. Procedure Update

Jing and Josh walked through the initial drafts from the committee (which includes Brenda Austin). They shared four sets of edits:

Powers and Duties: The previous procedures included a short description of each board role (e.g., president, VP, etc) but none for Director at Large. The Board was presented a description of the DAL role which was provisionally accepted with a minor edit.

Rowing: At the time of the original procedure manual the then rowing commissioner prepared a section on rowing. The current rowing commissioner and boat house captain, working in conjunction with Brenda, have edited that section which was also provisionally accepted.

Security Cameras: The current procedures contain a section that specifies a set of policies involving the use of security cameras at the Club. These policies were implemented after the fact when the then building commissioner installed cameras on his own initiative which caused an uproar in the membership. The policies are unchanged in the revised draft but the introductory paragraph was rewritten. At the moment, the cameras are not in operation. After some discussion, it was provisionally decided to keep the revised policies in case a future board decides to reactivate the cameras.

Code of Conduct and Disciplinary Procedures: This draft became the major item of discussion. The draft divides into two sections: code of conduct and defining what happens when someone transgresses. While there was some feedback on the process section (e.g., emphasizing members trying to sort out conflict themselves, striving to ensure consistent application of punishment, etc) the code of conduct was the hot topic. There was feedback that the expectations

described in the code of conduct were too ambitious, that it didn't really describe our club. The committee was asked to lower the expectations of somebody reading this section of the document and to make it look "more like our club". There were also some more specific suggestions such as including entertainment activities that occur at the Club with the list of sports.

Board members were given until July 19th to give the committee additional feedback on these drafts; the Board was told to expect new drafts at future meetings.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned to pizza, salad and peanut butter-chocolate pie for dessert courtesy of Zach.