

August 9, 2023
South End Rowing Club
Board Meeting Minutes

Roll Call

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

* Jing called in for agenda item F

Approval of Minutes

The July 2023 Board minutes were approved (13 – 0 – 1).

President’s Remarks

Fran wasted no time in thanking Robin Kincade and the rowing community for rallying to make the Board dinner tonight. The process of breaking bread creates adhesion.

She ticked off some of the many things going on at the Club (swims, regattas, handball tournaments, life celebrations, happy hours, etc, etc). Its great to see the Club’s rocking!

She and Catherine attended a recent 1873 Fund board meeting. In addition to getting a general update from the Fund, they discussed the Fund’s desire to make use of the Club’s membership database. There was general agreement to facilitate the Fund’s efforts but to not give away the Club’s database with details to be worked out down the road.

Fran noted that Rec and Park's Marina Green project has the potential to cause changes to our western shoreline. A few Board members participated in earlier public meetings on the project. Fran and Diane Walton have a meeting scheduled with Rec and Parks. Don Margolis has written a letter to Rec and Parks formerly stating the Club's interest in being involved as the process move forward.

Members Moment

None.

A. Election Administration

Josh reminded the Board that each year we need to appoint one or more individuals to administer the Club's annual elections. He made a motion to appoint past election administrator Sue Free to conduct the 2023 election. The motion passed (14 – 0 – 0).

B. Interclub Tri

Thierry, Vanessa, Zach and Josh had just returned from a third meeting with the DC regarding plans for the 2023 Interclub Tri. Most of the logistics are coming along fine but as always the touchy subjects are how points will be awarded and who can compete.

The SERC and DC rowing leadership have come to an agreement. It also seemed that we had agreement on swimming and running but that tentative agreement came apart at the meeting with the DC over age categories and the awarding of finishing position points within category (e.g., women 65 and over) vs overall position (e.g., first and second overall).

The DC wants all competitors to register in advance with no more than 25 people from each club registering on the day of whereas we would like to allow unlimited day of registration.

Josh and Diane Walton will meet on August 10th to search for agreement.

Erika provides an updated budget for the event that acknowledges the \$6,000 approved at the July meeting isn't sufficient. A motion was approved (13 – 1 – 0) to authorize an additional \$3,000 to support keeping the plaque at home on our 150th.

Laura made an impassioned appeal that the 2024 budget include a more realistic estimate of the cost of this annual event.

C. Upcoming Dates

Erika updated the Board on three significant upcoming dates for which we should all be rallying our friends, pods, groups, bands, cliques, units and troupes!

August 23 – 27th Bondi Visit

This includes acclimation swims, happy hour, GGB and Alcatraz swims and post swim BBQ with live band.

September 9th Interclub Tri – **The Plaque Stays Here!**

Mark your calendars because we need to row, swim and run, walk and crawl to victory lest the Dolphins take OUR plaque back to their house on the occasion of our 150th anniversary! This is free and ALL members must participate!

September 23rd Alcatraz Invitational

This is the Club's major fundraiser for the year. We need all hands-on deck to fill the many, many volunteer roles required to pull off this event. All members are highly encouraged to volunteer in some capacity. In the unlikely event that you have friends outside of the Club, encourage them to sign up to do the swim. They won't regret it.

September 17th Diane Major Celebration

Cathy reported that Diane's family was so moved by the celebration for Pat Cunneen that they have decided to honor her contributions to our Club on the 17th.

D. Midyear Building Update

Steve said things are going well with the building. Actual and projected expenses (\$115k) are behind annual budget (\$135k). He's been getting good turn outs for the days of service and while he isn't losing the maintenance battle, it's hard to gain ground.

He then described a series of upcoming projects:

- Steve explained the problems with locking the door leading out of the lower boat house. After much investigation, he has decided to install a programmable door lock.
- The windows and skylights will all be cleaned before the arrival of the Bondi. The WLR skylight will be cleaned, causing a temporary loss of privacy, between 10:00 and noon on a weekday.
- Steve will be going forward with the previously described application of an antiskid material in the MLR. He was hoping to complete the task before the Bondi come but, after some discussion, it was decided to defer this project to post Bondi.
- The company who monitors our alarm systems have informed us that we need to upgrade the alarm system with cellular communication to the central office because our current VOIP phone system isn't suitable for this task. Steve talked to other people including the fire department who all confirmed this. The upgrade will cost about \$1,500 plus an additional \$45/month.

Lastly Steve mentioned recent thefts at the Club. He believes the thefts are perpetrated by people who have snuck into the Club. He doesn't see us hiring a security guard, so like so much else, we're going to have to depend on the membership.

Steve suggests that we plan an information campaign advising people to secure their personal items when at the Club and coaching people

on how to interact with unfamiliar faces. Fran and others agreed to work with Steve on developing the needed messaging.

E. Plaque Ceremony

Thierry recalled attending the 2022 ceremony honoring the numerous South Enders who had completed athletic feats with the updating of the plaques in the dayroom. Thierry would like to do the same thing this year and hopefully do a better job of identifying everybody's achievements. He's thinking about a ceremony in October or November. There was a suggestion that this recognition could also occur at the annual membership meeting that typically happens around the same time. Zach offered to assist with the effort.

F. Procedure Update

Jing and Josh updated the Board on the committee (which includes Brenda Austin) work. The committee feels it has reached the point of diminishing returns and wishes to get any final feedback from the Board and then call it a day.

Since July, the draft procedures include updates from Don Margolis and a new section on entertainment courtesy of Erika. Cathy took the time to critically read the entire document and has supplied a number of small but welcome suggestions and clarifications. Jing explained how the code of conduct language was changed based on feedback received at the previous meeting.

Fran declared herself satisfied and made a motion to approve the new procedures which passed (6 – 0 – 0).

Josh reminded the Board that in the past, we had created a bound version of the Procedures which lived in the dayroom. Did the Board want to do that with the new procedures? Heads nodded.

G. Member Complaint

The Board heard a report from its investigators that addressed multiple complaints received in the last month. After appropriate consideration, the Board acted.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned to a scrumptious homemade dinner of salad, fettuccine with chicken and peas and numerous desserts. Did I mention the flowers on the table? Thank you Robin Kincade and the rowers!