

December 11, 2023
South End Rowing Club
Board Meeting Minutes

Roll Call

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

Approval of Minutes

The November 2023 Board minutes were approved (14 – 0 –1).

The November 2023 Member Meeting minutes were approved (15 – 0 - 0)

President’s Remarks

Fran opened the meeting, her last meeting of the year. She recognized those who ran the member meeting, Cathy Bump, Catherine Lovazzano, George Lazaneo, Laura Hovden, Pete Mulvihill for their preparation and how well they ran the member meeting. Fran made a special shout out to Cathy Bump who showed skill, patience, and self-resilience. Simon recognized previous board members who showed up and stood by members which helped to reinforce the importance of showing up. Fran gave a plug for people showing up and the importance of continuing to keep it in person for as long as possible as email is not the appropriate forum for these types of conversations. And then there was applause for Mark Welty for the cake he brought to bring some light to difficult conversations! Don Margolis said at the meeting, we need a good volunteer group. When members behave in this way it has a chilling effect. It may put

us in a position where it may be more challenging to find good volunteers and discourage people from being on the Board of Directors in the future.

Fran had been thinking about how to wrap up this amazing 150th year Anniversary. The letter V came to her. There is so much Vitality at the club. V for Vibrant. This club has never felt so good! All our activities; Rowing, running, swimming, handball in full swing. We have 530 new members, which is a tribute to what an amazing place this is. Fran was also thinking about the Visibility we have had and the connections we have made. We are shifting, changing, and moving into a more modernized set of values alongside some long-standing habits. We have built many partnerships including Joan Brown, the induction of the Women's wall by Cathy Bump, Shannon Raintree, Erin Doran, and Erika Gliebe. We honored Diane Major and named a boat after her. MAX415 has been a great partnership. The amount of energy that has organically risen, to seeing participants learn to swim, swim their first Alcatraz, and feel welcome at the club is truly amazing. Pathstar is another example of a wonderful longstanding partnership. We are growing up in a really nice way and yet we still feel like our scrappy salty SERC community. Fran referenced the Visibility with our 150 Banners all over the city which will go on our walls shortly. We have continued to build relationships with other organizations like Bondi over the past 10 years. We are 3 years into our relationship with our Kiel Sister City. And there is a group in Hong Kong who is interested in building a relationship with SERC. Even with the dolphin club, we have come together when we needed to collaborate. Victory of the Alcatraz Invitational for raising so much money. Victory for the Interclub TRI which was not meanspirited. We partied together and it felt really nice. The parties we had. The Gala and the recognition by the politicians. And the Holiday party was a huge success. Some of things we are doing with the courts like the waterfront master plan represents a huge win. We received great expert legal advice. Thank you for trusting us when we said we needed attorneys. We spent resources wisely. The Marina waterfront

is still a key area of focus for 2024. With the Dolphin Club we finally agreed on a plan for their build out and just need to monitor it.

When Fran thinks about the vitality of the club, she thinks about volunteering, she thinks about the village, and she thinks about village leaders and that is all of you (recognizing the Board of Directors in the room). You, the Board, have invested so much. None of this would have happened without you. You are the Bomb! The place feels good because of you. You have mobilized volunteers, and made people feel welcome. Fran felt proud to have served with such an amazing board for this year. The club really got the gold standard this past year.

Members Moment

None.

A. 1873 Fund Update – deferred.

B. Funding for Master Boat Builder

Boatbuilder Jeremy Fisher-Smith has an impressive training and knowledge that he could share with our boat team. In fact, he built several of our Viking boats. We have a lot of boats that get a lot of wear and tear. After a 30-year absence Jeremy is willing to come to boat night and willing to help care for and fix our fleet and pass down learnings on how to care for our boats. He will charge a fee to come attend boat night. There was no ask for funds this evening, but the next Rowing Commissioner and Boat House Captain will be coming back to request some funding to support in 2024.

There are not many boat builders anymore and Jeremy is willing to come and impart his knowledge to our team to carry this on. He will teach us to fish. Teach us how to fix the Murphy and fix it the right way. We would build a skillset that is critical to carry forward for years to come. Boat builders are retiring, and this is a trade that may not carry on. We could pay Jeremy \$10K to fix the Murphy or we can learn from him to build our own expertise. Again, this will be on next

year's board to make this decision. Thierry recommended making a video archive for learning. We have many well-meaning volunteers who want to work on boats, but they need to truly learn and come together to do it the right way.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned with appreciation gifts from Fran for each Board member. That was followed by the Board appreciation gift for Fran for being our President for the last two years. The Board of Directors then departed for dinner at Capurro's.