

Lowcountry Paddlers Meeting Minutes

21 June 2021 (in person, Hoke home)
Phyllis Malpas and Jon Flournoy, recording

6:57 Meeting called to order by Michelle Lichtsinn

Introductions: Officers and New Members/Visitors

Minutes from May – Approved on-line

Treasurer Report- Ralph Earhart Currently, \$3,457.27 in the account. Little activity

Membership Update- Ken McDowell 75 members (paperwork to be submitted)

Upcoming Events and Plans

- Club paddles- through September in planning; live on the website once confirmed
 - Question to members to recommend any specific paddles they would like to set up.
- Club Events-

Summer Picnic, Leslie Maple organizing; Details are on the website.

July 31st, 11AM-3PM at Amos Lee Gourdine Boat Ramp and Landing. Lake Moultrie.

- **Short paddle begins at 11 am, lunch at 12:30 pm.** Games after lunch.
- ***If you would like to paddle, be ready to launch at 11 am***
- **Tara Harney will lead paddle.**
- Gorgeous sandy beach, place to launch, stand up paddle board.
- Club will provide hot dogs, hamburgers, and paper products.
- Please bring a favorite side dish to share, lawn chair
- Bring your own beverages.
- **Trip Leader Training- Saturday, July 10th, 9:30 am to 2:30 pm.** Remley's Point Landing. **Must RSVP.**
- Website is updated with details. Take time to brainstorm issues; consider things club has done right, what can be improved; then paddle, lunch or snack break, some rescue practice.
- **Paddle Training:** Bev Coslett provides training on September 11 for 6 to 8 attendees. Review of paddle strokes, and customized training needs/desires. The club will pay \$10/ per attendee. Bev will be the listed as trip leader. The training information will be updated on website as the time approaches.
- Meeting Update at Providence Baptist Church on Daniel Island: Dan Hoke Church is reopening for outside groups. Dan Freemyer will email Dan Hoke regarding the new door code, pending delivery... NOTE: anyone not vaccinated must wear a mask. When open, follow CDC guidelines. No vaccination, wear mask.
- Plan on meeting at Providence Church on July 19.
- **Voting for Club officers on July 19 at meeting**

Other-

Upcoming events:

- June 25-27: Capers Island with Bev Cosslett email her for more details. Bevcosslett4@gmail.com
- September or October fall camping trip and where, anyone for volunteering to plan for additional trip?
- Florida Springs paddle week 11/3-11/10. For more, contact Dan Hoke, 843-291-3141

Presentation: County Park Adventure Sports Program update

Josh Hall, Program Manager of Adventure Sports programs.

Update on paddle sports programs at CCPR

Josh began at Charleston County Parks and Recreation in 1996.

Program now includes 10 full time staff plus 60 additional staff over the summer.

Current and new offerings...

“(Baby) Boomer’s Course” ...Monday through Friday, Ratio of one to four people rather than one to six.

Dragon Boats... Four 10 person boats; goal is begin using them in the fall;

LEAP...Leadership, Environmental, Adventure Program Youth programs, especially for underserved youth. For example, McClellanville, Hollywood...other rural community, On the water paddling...together. Goal is to have 1000 children per year participate...Dragon boat, climbing wall, junior master naturalist program. Charleston County Parks Foundation funds these programs and provides pro bono services.

Dragon boats, just getting started...short sprints in James Island County Park lake; Leadership program...children return as mentors and leaders. Lifeguard competition.

Update on County Parks...CCP Foundation will be selling little disks/pieces of the Folly Beach pier, which is being redone. Telephone pole pilings, cutting them into mementos...\$60.00 including shipping and handling. Pier coming down was build post Hugo (1990’s).

John’s Island County Park on John’s Island which includes Mullet Hall Equestrian Center...new dog park; archery static range 10 to 50 yard; 3D Range-like miniature golf.

Weekly *Essentials of Kayaking* and *Stand-Up Paddle Board Class* and *Beyond Essentials of Kayaking*

-classes are full and wait listed. Rescue classes...students range in age, but are 40 + some in 50’s and 60’s.

Park staff push attendees to Meet Ups and Lowcountry Paddlers Club...

Kayak Symposium...Outdoor Sports...Symposium which are separated from outdoor adventure are currently cancelled. Question...What will that look like in the future? Not sure quite yet. Decisions will be made in the next few months in this regard. Many ideas. British Canoeing...some programs in New England and West Coast. Moved away from specifics...youth development of trip leaders. Coaching up to the level of Olympic hopefuls. Core coaching. Develop a consistent foundation. Day Trip Leader...multiple crafts at once. Generalist then at higher levels separate into two. Outdoor Alliance-major dominance of recreational kayaks. Most (many) people are getting You Tube education...do not see a reason for paid education. Perception is that there is not so much to learn; Recreational kayakers...very controlled water, short average time out on the water.

Question for Josh...Should Low Country Paddlers be seeking the recreational paddler for the Club. Diversify...?

Response...Club members trained by masters of paddling; Embrace the recreational paddlers...then grow 10% of them into sea kayakers. *Good news*...People streaming to the outdoors...exceeding revenue.

Question for Josh: Additional suggestions for Low Country Paddlers...Volunteer for LEAP Program. Support youth in Community.

Upcoming trips include...Isle of Palms to Goat Island, Ken will lead; North end of Lake Moultrie...Russell Landing...Twelve Bridge Challenge, Ralph as Trip Leader; Follow website for up-to-date paddle information.

Low Country Paddler Officers, 2021-2022

Election upcoming at July meeting

President (**open**) Michelle Lichtsinn stepping down.

Role: regularly active, meetings, events, team effort, delegation, great support

Vice President (**open**) Jim Brown stepping down.

Vice President, main role. Support President and-sets up speakers, gives input to speakers.

Variety of education

Secretary: **Michelle Lichtsinn, nominated**. Phyllis Malpas and Jon Flournoy stepping down.

Treasurer: **Jon Flournoy, nominated**. Ralph Earhart transitioning to Trip Planning and Coordination

Membership Manager: Ken McDowell, continue

Safety Manager, club appointed: Bev Coslett Leslie Maple stepping down.

Web Master: Billie Self