

Upper Valley Rowing Foundation
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
February 8, 2010
DMS Conference Room

Board Members Present:

Brenda Sirovich, Jen Friend, Elizabeth Glenshaw, Bob Haynes, Peter Davenport, Heidi Lange, Dick Grossman, Karen Sluzenski, Dan Ruml, Liz Marshall, Paul Gross.

Board Members Absent: Dartmouth Rep, Win Piper, Buzz Congram.

Call to order: 5:48 PM

1. **Executive Committee report.** None.
2. **Introductions.** In honor of the seating of the Board for 2010 (albeit with only a single new member at this time), all members introduced themselves to the group.
3. **January Board Meeting minutes.** Elizabeth moved approval of the minutes from the meeting of January 11, Dick seconded. Dan Ruml and Paul were not present at the previous meeting and abstained. Otherwise the **motion** passed unanimously.
4. **Officer nomination / Election** – Elizabeth proposed the following slate of officers proposed by the Nominating Committee; she had previously circulated the proposed slate to the full Board via email:

President	Jen Friend
Vice President	Heidi Lange
Treasurer	Paul Gross
Secretary	Brenda Sirovich

It was noted that we will need to start the recruitment process (to Board Membership) earlier in the year this coming year. Furthermore, the Nominating Committee should not in the future overlap with the Executive Committee.

5. **Resolute loan repayment.** The Board had previously allocated \$9000 to repay the second portion of the Resolute loan this past year (2009). Given the club's asset balance and cash on hand, we could pay \$9000 as we had specified, or the full remainder of the loan, \$15,000. A **motion** to repay \$9000 at this time was made and seconded, and unanimously passed. The Board also discussed the need to revisit the equipment acquisition plan. This should reside with the Finance Committee; Paul Gross, the new Treasurer, will take charge of this. We will also need to include a plan for depreciation of sculling boats.
6. **Additional issue: Other finances.** Dick Grossman requested clarification on whether we have an automatic policy related to repair of motors; it was agreed that we do, i.e. no Board action is required for the yearly allocation of funds for motor repair. Dick will bring in the motors this week (to River Edge in Ashland). Buzz has typically picked them up. A request by Carin Reynolds on behalf of HHS was raised: the High School would like to use the Kakela and a set of oars (if needed) for the spring in exchange for storage of UVRF boats in Fullington over the winter and spring. Elizabeth so moved the loan provided the High School insure the boats and provide repairs if necessary. Karen Sluzenski seconded. The **motion** passed unanimously.

7. **New meeting date.** Results of the doodle poll to determine the meeting date for the 2010 Board were reviewed. Wednesdays were the clear winner; the first Wednesday of the month was superior. Meetings will be the first Wednesday of each month – the next meeting will be Wed Mar. 3.
8. **Job Assignments** – Considerable discussion was devoted to Board member job assignments. The Executive Committee job descriptions were first reviewed. This year's President will be in charge of Operations. The Vice President, who is this year also the Programming Chair, will be responsible for outside hiring. It was pointed out that we should populate a Hiring Committee with members of the Programming Committee, as the hiring job is important and should not be shouldered alone. This should be formalized. It was proposed that Brian Conley (women's comp coach) could be helpful in this capacity. Brenda will communicate with Dartmouth regarding representation on the Board.

Board members were queried about satisfaction with their current positions and responsibilities. Karen S proposed that Communications & Membership should perhaps be combined and have co-chairs, so that there was always backup. Dick, who essentially shares Safety and Sweep Equipment with Buzz, is satisfied. The Board does need to return to a Safety PFD discussion. Dan R has a graduate degree in finance; he does need to complete Conflict of Interest form, as he will likely also do work for the Club. It was agreed that Dan R will do Finance. Liz Marshall will move to a new Programming Co-Chair position, to take primary responsibility for Sculling Programming and Development. (She will assist with Membership until that need is filled.) Win will take on the new position of Community Relations, including serving as the liaison to FOHC (which Paul G had previously done). Elizabeth G volunteered to take on fundraising, beginning by connecting with FOHC fundraising to discuss / coordinate. A new Board member, to replace Deb Dufty, who stepped down for personal reasons, will be recruited – whether to focus that effort on filling the Membership position or to assist with Fundraising was not settled. The question was asked whether there is a community member non-rower who would serve on the Board. Bob H will approach one in particular. Members were asked to send Karen lists of committee members for the website. A contact list will be compiled.

9. **Fundraising.** It was pointed out that we need members to take ownership – just like the high school kids do, with the rowathon. The Board needs to encourage among members volunteers and an expectation of paying back to the club. Sign up sheets at the Annual Meeting yielded no volunteers. This year we will plan to pilot a requirement to donate or volunteer at time of registration via Ronin. Other ideas were raised including: Silent auction, previously deferred; the Board can set out a challenge; a monthly donation option through Ronin.
9. **Friends of Hanover Crew.** Today's discussion was proposed to define the issues & questions as a starting place. Paul has been to most committee meetings regarding FOHC approvals and notes that there has been much confusion regarding distinction between FOHC and UVRF. Thus far, FOHC has explicitly mentioned UVRF as a potential facility user / renter. After extensive discussion, it was agreed that relationships with both Dartmouth College and FOHC at Fullington Farm might help the Club meet its members' needs. The Club is extremely supportive of the efforts of FOHC to obtain town, state, and other approvals to move forward with a rowing facility at Fullington Farm; UVRF believes that this would provide a benefit to the Upper Valley community at large and would help fulfill the mission of the Fullington charter. However, the relationship of UVRF with Dartmouth has been solid and provides many advantages to the Club, which has no intention of pulling back from that relationship at this time. Win Piper was nominated as the spokesperson for UVRF in dealings related to FOHC.

10. **Committee Reports.** None.

11. **Deferred / Continuing business for next meeting.** Includes: Fundraising. Finance committee report and decision re: pay structure. Dartmouth contract. Programming. Challenge Quad. Additional Board member nomination. The following meeting, we will plan to invite FOHC regarding whether we need to take any position.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:38 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Sirovich
Secretary