

Upper Valley Rowing Association
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
July 2, 2012
Murray Meeting Room, Howe Memorial Library, Hanover, NH

Board Members Present:

Kevin Cotter, Erika Dade, Jennifer Friend, Paul Gross, Dick Grossman, Rosi Kerr,
Louise Moon, Dan Ruml, Janet St Germain

Board Members Excused:

Rowan Carroll, Beth Kelley, Liz Marshall, Win Piper, Christopher Bordeau, Daniel
Roock

1. Executive Committee Report

a. We decided to purchase another boat. Dan started shopping for a four, six months ago. Princeton posted a midweight Vespoli ("HOG 2") which we have now purchased. It has never been wrecked and appears to have been well taken care of. We have acquired a good boat and just under budget. It will be picked up in 3 weeks or they will bring to Worcester.

b. Someone took the swim test and failed because she had anxiety attacks and kept having to hold on to the side of the pool. She requested that she still be able to row in an eight. The request was denied – passing the swim test is mandatory and having a panic attack on the water can risk the safety of others who are trying to help.

2. Review of June 4, 2012 Minutes

Correction of Erika's last name and deletion of incorrect begin date for novice program.

Motion to approve the minutes seconded and approved unanimously, with corrections noted.

3. Closing of dock – who makes decision, conditions necessitating close, etc.
A sign was posted in the previous week, advising that the sculling dock was closed. No one is sure who did that but we suspect it was the dock monitor. It was pouring rain and there may have been a threat of a storm.

There was discussion about who should make the decision to close the dock and the role of the dock monitor in making safety decisions.

Decisions of the Board:

a. The dock monitor should not make the decision to close the dock but we should give the monitor a tool to say no to club rowers in certain weather conditions.

b. The dock monitor can control the use of club boats and we should provide guidance for making these decisions, such as a checklist of unsafe rowing conditions

c. Unsafe conditions: The dock monitor can refuse to allow club boats out if there is thunder and lightning unless it has been at least a half hour since the last occurrence; if white caps are visible from the dock; and/or the flow rate is higher than 15,000 cubic feet per second

d. We will ask the monitors to write down if they hear thunder and the times that they hear it; 30 minutes after the last thunder clap, they can allow rowers to go out.

This information will be shared with Nancy Carter so that she can talk to monitors.

4. Guest memberships

Every year there are people here for a limited time who want to row. We have a procedure for a guest of a member but not for a general unknown person.

We would like to be hospitable and at the same time not put ourselves at risk.

Board's decision on Guidelines:

a. Payment:

Ask for contribution – use donate link on UVRF website

b. Conditions for approval:

1. Sign a Waiver (this includes a statement claiming that the rower can swim)
2. Must have a sponsor who meets them at the boathouse for the first time and shows them boats, procedures, etc., and who knows the rules (rules are on website and in notebook at boathouse)
3. They must be experienced rowers
4. They must be from out of town
5. They must notify us by emailing UVRF

Motion to approve, seconded and approved unanimously

5. Sweep program update

Masters – 17 women and 4 men are signed up

Adult Club – 13 enrolled

Adult Novice – 11 enrolled

Junior Novice – 3 signed up – may have to cancel

Junior Technique II – 9 (min is 10)

Junior Technique III and IV were cancelled

Club Rowing Extension (Club/graduated Novice rowers)– 7

The club now has three fours

We honor the high school swim test even though they don't require a 50-yard swim test

We need to insure Loretta's four and Tom's Swift

We need more men for Cambridge invitational

We may need to get a fall coach – Matt?

6. Sculling program

4 L2Scull clinics are being offered

Some signed up to do S2S clinics

Carin and Rowan did some for Leb kids

We need evening dock monitors

We have loaned JDL to Northfield, Mass High School (Bob Englehardt is the coach) as is.

Slings in boathouse:

They are multiplying – we need many for the Prouty, but after that event, we need to remove some of them since they are getting in the way. If they are in the boathouse, privately owned slings are considered to be in the public domain for use at the boathouse, but not for taking offsite.

7. Carin's agreement re UVRF/Leb crew

Carin provided a revised handout of the agreement.

Discussion focused primarily on making the relationship between UVRF and the Leb crew clear to parents.

There was agreement to have an organizational meeting twice a year – March and September – at which there should be a representative from the UVRF Board. The March meeting would allow incoming and outgoing board members to share and review information, and agree on accounting of funds, depreciation, etc.

We should put information on our website about the Lebanon crew so that the relationship is clear, i.e., it is a UVRF junior program, not a Lebanon High School program.

Determination of realistic annual depreciation allowances on all equipment will remain the Executive Committee responsibility, with input from Lebanon.

The agreement should be reviewed annually.

Carin will amend the agreement following our discussion, and circulate for review.

8. Prouty

There will be music at the 10-mile area and someone will be playing the piano on the Ledyard Bridge for a couple of hours
Signup Genius is available for volunteer signups

9. Summary of membership and program registrations

Liz sent a summary since she was unable to attend the meeting. There are about 130 people using the club in one way or the other right now. Most are members in sweep programs but some are rack holders and some are L2S non-members. It takes a lot of time and effort to monitor members' compliance. She had to send out 36 individual emails to people who were missing one thing or another.

Because we do not keep our members in a database, the swim test information does not carry over from one year to the next. If a person forgets to make a note of it when they register, Liz has to either look at past years or ask the person for clarification or to just get the test. This will be one of the advantages of switching to the League Athletics system for registration. Another advantage will be that we can prevent anyone from registering for a program without becoming a member first. Many people "forgot" their membership this year – a lot more than usual.

The next task will be to piece together a Ronin report about the racks, and chase down the people who have not yet paid their memberships or rack fees.

10. Other

a. Kevin received a request from a Dartmouth student to scull and get credit for independent PE credit.

(Captains test is in sculling log)

It was agreed by the Board that the student has to become a member and register for club boats

b. Offer a flip experience (Dan)

Might be able to get Mike Van Beuren to help

Meeting adjourned at 7:50 pm

Next Meeting:

Monday, August 6, 2012, Murray Room, Howe Library

Respectfully submitted,
Louise Moon, Secretary