

Upper Valley Rowing Association  
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes  
August 6, 2012  
Murray Meeting Room, Howe Memorial Library, Hanover, NH

Board Members Present:

Rowan Carroll, Erika Dade, Jennifer Friend, Paul Gross, Dick Grossman, Beth Kelley, Liz Marshall, Louise Moon, Dan Ruml, Janet St Germain

Board Members Excused:

Christopher Bordeau, Kevin Cotter, Rosi Kerr, Win Piper, Daniel Roock

**1. Executive Committee Report**

a. Carin's revised agreement regarding UVRF/Lebanon Youth Rowing – Jen will circulate for review when Carin submits it.

b. A session of learn to row was offered for Prouty organizers

**2. Review of July 2, 2012 Minutes**

Correction: #5 Sweep program update – Junior Tech III and IV were cancelled, not I and II.

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

**3. Membership categories and policies**

Every year there are special circumstances for people who want to use club boats that don't fit into the current categories. We need policies that include everyone and are fair and consistent.

We want to be hospitable to other club rowers. (We don't rent boats but we have programs for use of club boats). Occasional guests do not have to take the swim test and captain's test but we should make sure they meet these requirements and show them the ropes – where boats and oars are, which ones are available for use, etc. Signing a waiver of course is required – no exceptions.

ADD Eligibility requirements:

Guest of member: Adult members who have passed the captains test and received permission of Boathouse Steward [Dan], can bring a guest up to 7 times. No charge but a donation is welcome.

Guest of UVRF – experienced scullers who are not residents of the Upper Valley who want short term (up to 3 weeks) access to club equipment and facilities. Donation is not required but is anticipated for extended and/or repeated use. (Do not have to be member of another club.)

Hopefully there will be reciprocity from other clubs.

Post this policy on web with a little blurb about background, and link to "Donate."

Motion to approve, seconded and approved unanimously.

#### **4. Safety issues (near collisions, other)**

Several weeks ago, Duff (Dartmouth Security) received an email from a neighbor at the narrows, who reported observing near collisions involving sculling boats and kayakers. Duff passed the communication on to UVRF. The log books were reviewed but it did not appear that these incidents involved any of our club members/boats.

However, near misses are a concern. It would be great if we could get together with Dartmouth representatives (perhaps DOC/Ledyard Canoe Club, Dartmouth swim and rowing coaches) for a meeting about these issues. Hopefully in the fall there will be more discussions and we can agree on traffic pattern; life jackets; hazards such as swimmers, and communicate these to the river community.

#### **5. Sweep program update**

Men's four would like to extend the program for two weeks. The fee will be worked out.  
Permission granted by board.

The Adult Novice program has been great. They wanted an extension and ran the extension program with 7, using a sub. Then they ran an additional one-week extension following the 2-week extension!

The programs have had great coxswains – all have been fantastic except for one.

Junior Novice – ran with 4 kids, taught by Rosi and Erika.

Junior Technique I was great. They ran with 8. Junior Technique II (Matt) worked out well in spite of lower enrollment initially. They ran with 6 and plugged in HHS seniors to fill out an 8.

Evaluations: request for feedback about coaches was added to the evaluation.

Fall programs: they are working on these. Fall coaches - Jason is not sure of his plans but he will coach if he is here; otherwise, Matt offered to coach in the fall and to help with other programs as well.

The Fall Junior program takes up to 36 enrollments but they don't have 4 8s. They could go up to 28 unless they use the Northrop or rent an 8 if there is enough enrollment for four 8s.

## 6. Sculling program

Contraction of the club sculling program to September 1 is necessary due to an earlier start of the Dartmouth term (see additional information under **Other** (d.) below).

Five sessions of L2S will be offered

There are happy successful scullers who want to continue with private lessons.

Rowan offered to videotape rowers for about two hours

## 7. Prouty

Prouty was great by all accounts!

## 8. Other

a. **BBQ Regatta** – Thursday, August 16 at 5:30 pm; eat by 7:00 pm. Rowan, Carin, and Heidi will organize. Rowan reported that there have been requests for t-shirts. She can get them printed for \$7, and sell for \$10, and have them ready for the BBQ Regatta. She will try to get college kids, novice rowers, etc. involved and will send out rosters.

b. **Slings**: Peggy has a hole in her boat, probably due to moving/pushing slings around her boat. As mentioned at our last meeting, we need to re-institute last year's policy regarding the excess of slings in the boathouse. Now that Prouty is past, it is time to remove privately owned slings.

An email will be sent out to notify members that they must remove their private slings from the boathouse by August 16 (BBQ Regatta). If they leave them there, they will be considered available for public use.

All other extraneous items in the Fuller boathouse will be removed to Fullington storage.

The existing club slings are not very good. UVRF will purchase 3 better sets of slings to replace the existing club slings.

### c. **Dock Monitors** (Janet)

Morning sessions:

There have been some mornings with no dock monitor. Several people who wanted to use the club boats could not. Nancy Carter coordinates the morning dock monitor. We will email her about noticing some absences, and the fact that monitors are not showing up on time. Perhaps we could offer \$10 per hour to membership, Ledyard crew, Hanover students, etc.

Afternoon sessions:

There was discussion about ways to improve the dock monitoring and

working with those who want to use boats in the afternoons. Ideas include: (1) signing up on our website to match monitors with those who want to scull; (2) maybe do by week? (3) Weekly email reminder about need for dock monitors; (4) Limit days we offer dock monitoring – exclude Fridays? If we pay for evening dock monitors, the estimated cost would be at least \$4,000.

**d. Seasonal contraction of sculling equipment**

Everything moves back a week this year. On Labor Day weekend we will contract to our fall space. Club boat users can scull through Saturday, September 1.

There is a question about which trailers have to be removed – Jen will check the Dartmouth contract.

Workday – Sunday Sept 2 at 10 am

Take club *singles* to Fullington.

Dirigo and Blue Bayou go away.

Remove equipment with caravan of car toppers rather than a trailer.

**e. New Dartmouth lightweight coach**

Sean Healey

**f. Fundraising/Donations** (Beth Kelley)

Voluntary contributions – this can be done when someone signs up to be a member.

Additional donor link – there was just one donation and it was Beth's. She did not see amounts of donations.

Board structure – Beth would like to have a committee to help. She needs to understand the club structure and culture. What can we do to help get this going? Liz will help provide information; Paul and Janet will help; Win?

Think of someone who is not on the board who could help?

We can spend more time on this after the rowing season is over.

Info on quickbooks about our donors.

We need a database. Paul will try to generate a report.

When a donation comes through Ronin it is posted. It is hard to get the info. We need to thank a donor right away. Shift to League Athletics?

Sensitivity of issue – looking for big bucks for boathouse and also need for club. Can we encourage donation to both UVRF and Hanover High Crew?

What are our priorities? We hope to have \$15,000 to \$20,000 per year (outside of Prouty).

What are our targeted needs? Upgrade our fleet?

Goal? What segment of the fundraising goal is from the Prouty?

Relationship with Hanover High – completely separate legally but we have an overlapping relationship. We will be tenants of Hanover crew at the new boathouse for storage of private singles and doubles but we can't row before 7 am. There will be more capacity for singles and doubles. We will stay at Dartmouth but some will choose to use Fullington.

Paper letter should show the names of UVRF board members; we should have board members write a note on the letter too.

Beth will draft a fundraising plan. She will invite Jen, Janet, Liz, Paul and Win.

If anyone is interested, it is an open committee. Anyone can join.

Liz and Paul will send numbers; Janet will send past letters.

Meeting adjourned at 7:20 pm

Next Meeting:

**Wednesday, September 5**, 2012, Murray Room, Howe Library

Respectfully submitted,  
Louise Moon, Secretary