

Upper Valley Rowing Association
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
December 2, 2013
Murray Meeting Room, Howe Memorial Library, Hanover, NH

Board Members Present:

Rowan Carroll, Erika Dade, Jonathan Edwards, Paul Gross, Joanne Hayes, Rosi Kerr, Liz Marshall, Louise Moon, Carin Reynolds, Dan Ruml, Janet St Germain

Board Members Excused:

Christopher Bordeau, Eric Brooks, Kevin Cotter, Sean Healey

1. Review of November 4, 2013 Minutes

Motion to approve the minutes, as amended, seconded and approved unanimously.

2. Authorization for Rowan to sign checks

Since Dan will be away for approximately four months, there needs to be a corporate resolution to approve Rowan's signature on UVRF checks.

Motion to authorize Rowan to sign UVRF checks in Dan's absence was made, seconded, and passed unanimously.

3. Corporate resolution to sell stock donations

In light of fundraising efforts, Paul recommends that a brokerage account at Mascoma Savings be opened for any stock donations, as well as approval for the immediate sale of any stock donations.

Motion was made to approve the opening of a brokerage account and the immediate sale of stock donations, seconded and passed unanimously.

4. Boat purchase

As announced at Work Day, a men's used Vespoli eight was purchased from Cornell, adding another wonderful boat to UVRF's fleet. This and previous boat purchases (two quads and a four) this year by UVRF and Lebanon Crew add substantial value to the UVRF programs.

5. Fundraising

Fundraising has gone well! As demonstrated by the above Vespoli purchase, there was a fantastic response to the fundraising letter to members of the men's eight, not only by the men but also by the women's team.

Responses from the general fundraising letter have resulted in pledges of \$900 in unrestricted donations and \$2,000 for scholarship funds.

6. Budget

The Equipment Committee has met, and Lebanon Crew will pay for a cox box, a set of sweep oars, three sets of slings, rigger bags, and a cover for the four. For any boat with wings, it is considered essential that there are rigger bags. We should go ahead and purchase them to protect our investment.

The next priority is a small four for women. It is hard to find a used small hull. There are some funds in reserves. If we can find a boat for about \$12,000 we should be able to do it if Lebanon Crew is able to contribute, and hopefully raise additional funds from January to May to replenish the reserves. It was recommended that the board vote now to approve such a purchase, so that we are ready to move quickly and make an offer if such a boat can be found.

Motion was made, seconded and passed unanimously to approve spending up to \$13,000 for a woman's four, half to be paid by UVRF and half by Lebanon Crew. The Executive Committee is empowered to finalize the purchase if a boat is found.

7. Donation for dock use

UVRF uses Dartmouth's dock for a fee based on use of the dock for coaching students. Since we spent below the budgeted amount, Paul proposed that we donate \$3,000 to Friends of Dartmouth.

Motion to donate \$3,000 to Friends of Dartmouth Crew, seconded and approved unanimously.

8. Annual Meeting

The annual meeting will be on February 5, 2014 with the board meeting on the following Monday, February 10, 2014.

Louise will send out a checklist for a more thorough review of tasks prior to the January 6 meeting, as well as a list of the remaining terms of board members. We need to find out who is coming off the board, including anyone who needs to step down prior to completion of his or her term.

Nominating Committee:

Liz
Rowan (in place of Dan)
Joanne

The bylaws require a minimum of nine board members and a maximum of 18. We may want to find more members who are interested in joining the board to help with some of the tasks and/or re-assign some of the tasks.

Janet's work on the web is substantial and she can use some assistance. We can divide into 3 areas – website, registration, membership.

There is a large number of people who will need to take the swim test before the 2014 rowing season. It was suggested that swim tests be offered on the same day as the annual meeting – on Wednesday, February 5 from 5 – 6 pm.

There was discussion regarding members being able to submit absentee ballots/votes via email as well as postal mail. Since this requires an amendment to the bylaws, notice of a special meeting will be sent to the membership. Carin will draft the notice and send to the board for approval. Liz will ask Eric and/or Karen Sluzenski if they can set up a pdf that people can fill in and submit.

Awards:

Awards to be presented at the annual meeting will include all or some of the following. Further discussion on recipients and awards will be put on the agenda for our next meeting in January:

Starzinger (recipients of this award are added to a plaque that Paul made)

Oars on Fire (new award last year)

Lifetime Achievement Award (new award last year)

Best Dressed

Rookie of the Year

Junior Award

9. End of season Work Day on Saturday, November 23

There were many volunteers and things went very smoothly. It worked out great to have the work day on the same day as the high school's and having a men's team to help!

Motion to adjourn at 7:35 pm, seconded, unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,
Louise Moon, Secretary