



Upper Valley Rowing Foundation  
Board of Directors (Zoom) Meeting Minutes  
December 7, 2020

**Board members present:** Liz Marshall, Elizabeth Glenshaw, John Tunnicliffe, Michael Stafford, Martha Beattie, Susan Brighton, Mickey Elsberg, Terry Harwood, Elizabeth Jones, Jenny Lynn, Carin Reynolds, Dan Ruml, Peter Swanson.

**Others:** Margie Elsberg, scribe

**Call to Order:** Liz called the meeting to order at 5:47.

1) **Approval of November board meeting minutes:**

Liz recommended striking the reference to an Annual Meeting vote on officers since there will be no such vote. Michael noted that the November financial report should be attached to the minutes. (Jenny offered to attach the report and Liz will send approved November minutes with the financial report attached to the board for review.) Michael said he did not say the Finance Committee would support paying a Director of Rowing \$10,000 and asked that the sentence be stricken. Michael also said the tax due date was November 15 and should be corrected. *Mickey moved to approve the minutes as amended. The motion passed w/1 abstention.*

2) **Committee Reports**

a. **Finance** (Michael Stafford)

- i. **Overview of finances:** Michael reported that UVRF will have a year-end surplus of \$6,600. He said he will have an up-to-date report at the Annual Meeting.
- ii. **Federal taxes:** Michael said he filed UVRF's federal taxes on time, adding that the accountant has been paid.

b. **Membership** (Liz Marshall)

- i. **USRowing Membership:** Liz reported that she renewed UVRF's USRowing membership at a cost of \$3,275, the fee for a "Large" organization, (one with 151-500 individuals). "Individuals" include dues-paying Adult and Junior members, coaches, other staff and volunteers, including parents of juniors. Liz said she had not purchased USRowing's general liability coverage but after a brief discussion, the consensus was that we should consider this option.
- ii. **Club Membership:** Liz asked the Board to set 2021 dues and fees. She pointed out that moving the membership year to January 1 means that Juniors who turn 18 before January 1 (rather than by March 1) will now pay Adult dues. In 2020, Adult dues were \$125; dues for Juniors 14-19 were \$50. *Martha moved that 2021 dues should remain the same as in 2020. Carin seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.*

- iii. **Equipment fee:** Liz said member invoices for 2021 will not include an equipment fee as it is too early to know what programs will be offered. The Board agreed.
- iv. **Comped memberships:** The Board felt that 2020 program and equipment fees that were paid by rowers who never rowed should not be returned or credited toward 2021 dues. Rather, those who paid fees but were unable to participate in the related programs should be encouraged to convert the fees to donations. The Board agreed, however, that dues could be comped for members who contribute pro bono services for the club.

c. **Programming:** Martha Beattie

- i. **Pricing models:** Martha suggested the following fees for Winter Erg sessions:
  - ii. There is no charge to 2020 members for live and recorded virtual Erg workouts, MWF at 6:30 am, w/Linda Muri for three weeks in December. Donations are encouraged.
  - iii. Fee for two 10-week Erg sessions with Linda Muri that begin in January and run through the end of May. (Boats will go in the water June 1.)
    - One session: \$150/members; \$175/non-members
    - Both sessions: \$275/members; \$325/non-members

Martha said her committee hopes the Communications Committee will publicize the 10-week Erg sessions. Broader awareness of the sessions, she believes, likely will increase participation and fee income, and will attract new members.

**Approval of fees for the 10-week Erg programs was unanimous:**

**One session: \$150/members; \$175/non-members**

**Both sessions: \$275/members; \$325/non-members**

Liz said program registration forms will go out in January. Those who pay will get the link to videotaped erg sessions.

d. **End of Season Summary:** Dan Ruml

- i. **What's where?:** On November 21, members took their boats from Kendal to their homes or to Fuller, where college-authorized people loaded on racks. About 55 boats are stored at Fuller; 4 private boats are at Brooks. The club trailer was moved to Brooks and Dartmouth's coaches have returned the club boats that they borrowed (the coaches are enormously appreciative of the loans). A Maas Aero, damaged while on loan, will be fixed at college expense.

Terry and Dan took the Kendal aluminum boat racks to have them rebuilt so top racks will not be too high for tall rowers to reach. Dan will build an additional rack for the new boats that Carin has ordered from Vespoli for next season.

- ii. **Gas at Kendal** - Liz offered the leftover gas at no cost. Terry accepted.

e. **Launch and Trailer Updates:** Dan Ruml, Michael Stafford & Terry Harwood

- i. Liz said the club received Registration renewal notices for launches and the launch trailer. Michael said the club now has six launches.
- ii. Carin asked Michael to handle all launch and trailer registrations. She said inspection of the trailer is not required but is a good idea.

- iii. Terry said the new launch must be inspected. He plans to get it inspected in the spring when inspectors are in the area.
  - iv. Liz said it is important to update the club's equipment list.
- f. **CRew:** Carin Reynolds & Susan Brighton
- i. **Participation:** Carin said there are 23 CRew participants involved in a 5-day/week erg and strength training program. There are 5 volunteer coaches working with enthusiastic participants who are showing up regularly and having fun.
- 3) **Old Business:** Liz Marshall
- a. **Annual Meeting** – to be virtual, on Zoom
    - i. **Slide Deck:** Liz said she and committee chairs have prepared and edited the slides that will be shown at the annual meeting during the Treasurer's and committee reports. Carin will show a brief video about the Junior program.
    - ii. **Agenda:** Liz said the agenda will include the Treasurer's Report and reports on Programming; Kendal, Brooks & Fuller; Leb Crew; CRew; and Safety, with time for questions and comments. The results of the officer and board member elections will follow, and Awards will come at the end of the meeting.
    - iii. **Donations:** Elizabeth Glenshaw asked that donation categories (Leb Crew, Director of Rowing, Unrestricted, etc.) be made part of Financial Reports in 2021. Michael said he would separate Leb Crew finances from UVRF finances at the Annual Meeting, and that donations will be included in Treasurer's report.
    - iv. **Voting:** Liz said 39 election votes have been received so far.
    - v. **Awards & Recognition:** Various members agreed to present awards, including an award to CRew participants; a "Smackdown Meisters" award; an "Oars on Fire" and "Starzinger" award; as well as "Virtual Virtuoso" awards to the winners of the virtual Head of the Charles and Head of the Fish.
    - vi. **Door Prizes:** The board agreed to skip giving out door prizes.
    - vii. **Dry run:** Presenters who want to practice may meet with Liz at 8 am Wednesday.
- 4) **New Business:** Liz Marshall
- a. **Winter Board Meetings:** Board members agreed to continue holding meetings on the first Monday of each month, at least for the first few months of the new year.
  - b. **Board retreat:** The Board agreed not to schedule an in-person retreat. Elizabeth Glenshaw suggested scheduling 1 or 2 special meetings on special topics. Liz said she may present a list of topics for special meetings at the January Board meeting.
  - c. **Donation to Friends of Dartmouth Rowing:** When Liz asked if UVRF should continue making donations, Dan explained that donations were in thanks for the use of college docks for sweep programs, but that has ended. There was no further discussion.
  - d. **Annual Meeting Reminders:** Liz said she will send reminders to all members.

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 7:03.

Respectfully submitted,  
Margie Elsberg