

WJ Crew Board Meeting Minutes

October 30, 2014

Secretary: Barb Biesecker

Attendees: Stephen Pruitt (Chair), Barb Biesecker, Kjersti Lupo, Carlos Gonzalez, Gracel Javellana, Alison Bouquet; Coaches Emma Green and Davis Bales (ex officio). Absent were Stu Bassin, JB Brown, Patty Porter and Eric Voit.

ACTION ITEMS

September Meeting Minutes

Barb Biesecker

Action: The Board agreed to review the September meeting minutes after the meeting and to vote their approval.

Treasurer's Report

Discussion: Deferred until November when we can have a report from Patty Porter.

Action: The Board agreed to wait for a treasurer's report until next month as Patty is traveling.

Financial Report

Discussion: We were denied a second time an exemption from paying Maryland State property taxes. Stephen and Stu plan to repeal. Stu and Patty are finalizing a report on the state of the Crew Fall finances.

Action: The Board anticipates hearing an update on the finances at the November Board meeting.

Coaches Report

Coach Emma

Discussion: The winter conditioning fee will be \$475. Emma anticipates that 60 kids will register. It will be held from Nov. 11-Dec. 20th, starting up again after Finals week, around Jan. 20th and going through to spring season.

We need a parent to tow our trailer to the races. If no parent has a truck, we may have to rent a truck. We need a system for towing the trailer because we are now begging favors and paying other schools to help us.

Fall is wrapping up. Novices are enjoying it. There 74 kids officially on the roster with an even split of girls and boys among the novices and more boys than girls on varsity. There are typically five eights on the water for practice. We are borrowing boats and shifting boats between the teams—Catholic HS is sharing resources. Two are okay to learn to row in but not proper to train in. Several boats are being used for teaching and racing and the big heavy boats and cannot get properly aligned and so do not work to race in. We have some days when a squad cannot go out on the water. We need to retain our members by having enough boats to get the kids on the water.

Stephen asked for a specific wish list for boats that he can take to Stu and Patty to consider in light of our finances. Emma and Davis need to know how much money they can spend to develop a wish list. Their request is to have a fleet of six racing eight shells and four racing four shells. Emma considers this the bare minimum for the spring season. We currently have three racing eights. One that we can get away with for another year. We also have three racing fours and one is on its way out. Emma requests two more eight shells and one more four shell. Davis needs at least one more four. We also need a fifth launch and one set of oars—eight, for about \$3,000.

Stephen asked for more than one option, to consider the various directions we can go. The Board acknowledges that we need new boats and will work to develop a financial plan accordingly.

Davis asked if we could consider getting a used Vespollis that Georgetown University may trade-in. They will put a list together for us to consider.

Emma will meet with Stephen, Stu and Patty to go over finances this Saturday and consider what they can spend. Stephen will ask the Board to purchase three boats if he is confident we have the finances to cover them. We need a payment plan that involves potential rentals if we have to go that course for a year.

Stephen would like to leave WJ Crew with a fleet with a nest egg when he retires.

We have two dead launches that need to be sold. Stephen will ask Rick Williams if he is willing to try.

For winter conditioning, Emma feels we need a few more ergs to fulfill the needs for the team. Emma to look at maintenance over the winter to keep 17 ergs working. She hopes to have Fred on call.

For winter conditioning the coaches plan to split up the group. Boys in early session. Half in gym and half on ergs and then swap them. The same cycle will be used with the girls. There will also a late session on the ergs. 4:30-5:30 or 5:30-6:30 or 7. The coaches all committed to be at WJ across the practice hours.

Old Business

Fundraising Update

Stephen

Discussion: Stephen asked Carlie to take the lead on the auction and the winter sales. The wreath sale is going forward; it should be cheaper than last year and we should make more of a profit. Carlie found Chanukah candles and White House ornaments to also sell. Gracel will help Carlie. Need to arrive at a date for the auction so that we can let people know. We will try to hold it in mid to late February. We still need to pursue corporate sponsors.

Action: The Board endorsed support for Carlie to take the lead on the two main fundraisers. The Board accepted the fundraising report.

New Business

In-School Sponsor

Discussion: Jeremy Butler, history teacher, is the WJ Crew school sponsor. We need to have one to be able to accept donations from WJ Booster Club.

Action: The Board endorsed Mr. Butler's appointment.

Medical Forms

Discussion: Stephen and Kjersti planned to review all the medical forms to insure they are all current and accounted for.

The meeting was adjourned by Stephen Pruitt at 9:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Barb Biesecker
Oct. 30, 2014

Next Meeting: Will be held November, 2014 at the Bieseckers: 5523 Oakmont Ave, Bethesda.

