

WJ Crew Board Meeting Minutes

April 14, 2015

Secretary: Barb Biesecker

Attendees: Chair: Stephen Pruitt, Members: Stu Bassin, Barbara Biesecker, Alison Bouquet, Kjersti Lupo, Carlos Gonzalez, Eric Voit, and Carlie Williams. Coachs: Emma and Davis. Absent- JB Brown, Grachel Javellana and Patty Porter.

ACTION ITEMS

March Meeting Minutes

Barb Biesecker

Action: March Minutes not yet circulated, vote to approve postponed.

Treasurer's Report

Stu Bassin for Patty Porter

Discussion: Report differed to next Board meeting. Move toward a financial report of knowing where our money is and planning for the future. Goal for next year is to be able to have the figures for CFC and corporate. We discussed identifying another member to do payroll and to identify another financial planner. This would allow Patty time to focus on larger financial planning issues.

Action: Patty will complete a treasurer's report and submit it at the next Board meeting.

Legal Report

Stu Bassin

Discussion: Stu gave an update on personal property tax on the boats. In Maryland charitable organizations are exempt. We have to be educational and charitable to qualify. The Baltimore office has a history of assessing personal property taxes regardless. Stephen and Stu attended a meeting in Baltimore accompanied by the team captains. While the outcome is not known, it did not appear to go in our favor. If not, we will appeal to the Maryland tax court. The amount of money on the table is substantial.

Action: Stu will keep the Board posted on the outcome.

Alumni Yard Sale

Stephen Pruitt

Discussion: An alumni yard sale is planned for June 6th. Stephen asked that we start packing up our garages and basements. Organizational meeting scheduled for April 15th at the Marshacks.

Philosophy of coaching and rowing

Stephen Pruitt

Discussion: We agreed the discussion was important but that we would leave it until after the spring season. Revisit this at the June Board meeting.

Coaches report:

Coach Emma

Discussion: \$3,000 had been allocated for oars and only \$800 spent. Emma proposed to purchase a new cox box and repay Cameron Meier for the cox box he purchased. These purchases will equal \$2800 and will be covered by the \$2200 in savings, plus an additional \$600.

Action: There was a unanimous vote in support of the purchase.

We are one third of the way through our racing season. Booster making a recommendation to support the entry fees for all spring racing events. Novices will all race in Novice Regatta. Most regattas upcoming do not allow double rowing. We need to talk with novice rowers and their parents about how this has been an unusual season. Annapolis was a good experience. Girls will also scrimmage with Churchill.

Action: Coaches will finalize spring events and novices will be made aware of entry rules.

Spring break went better than in the past. More kids were here and participated. They were able to hold a double-regatta at the end of spring break. We have a set a new standard for serious rowing over spring break that Coach Emma intends to continue.

Competitive club awards night is coming up on April 27th and it is important to show appreciation for our Booster Club support by having a good turnout for the event. Audrey Adamson is turning over WJ Crew Booster Club Rep to Anne Salzburg. The Board will take care of the planning: Finalizing the roster, making certificates, communicating with the team and parents.

We need to officially name several boats. The "Dark Knight" for the black Vespoli to accompany the Batmoboat, the honors boat. We have to paint the names on the boats. An eight and a four have proposed names. Latin for Killer Duck. New Four and new Eight need to name. Perhaps we can paint the names on for the End of the Year Party. There was a proposal for an Alumni weekend to be held in August when the boats with their new names may be christened.

Action: Eric Voit and the two coaches will discuss further approaches to naming the boats.

We need to plan the end of the year rowing party—we need a location and date.

Action: June 7th was selected for the tentative target date for the End of the Year Party. Locations were discussed but not selected.

Old Business

Recruitment report:

Alison Bouquet

Alison has contacted North Bethesda and Tilden to arrange for visits at the end of the school year.

Fundraising report:

Carlie Williams

May 2-3rd the Plant Sale is scheduled. It will be advertised on the WJ electronic sign and in the WJ morning announcements. The plants have been ordered using past sales as a guide. Carlos picked up plant sale signs. Parents will be asked to sign up to help sell plants.

Plans for the erg to pay the person who won it \$500. The committee is now considering holding two raffles a year—one in the Fall and one in the Spring. We will keep the erg with the spring raffle. Meeting of the auction group will occur soon after the financial report is finalized. We will likely eliminate the wreath sales. Instead, in the Fall the raffle off a high demand item for less effort and higher pay-off.

New Business

Head Coaches:

Eric Voit

Discussion: We should discuss further how to recognize our head coaches. We want to keep our coaches feeling appreciated.

Action: This will be discussed further in a closed session in June.

Safe Rower Item:

Coach Emma

Stu is working on a safe rower item that differs from our safety guidelines reviewed by Les Biesecker.

Action: We will hear more on both in the future.

Stotesbury Regatta Coordinator

Discussion: We need a Stotesbury Regatta coordinator for May 2015. We have our hotel reserved but the details of the trip need to be planned. Barb Biesecker has offered to mentor the new coordinator

Action: Please let Barb Biesecker know if you are willing to coordinate Stotesbury.

Stephen Pruitt adjourned the meeting at 9:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Barb Biesecker
June 26, 2015

Next Meeting: Will be held June 26th at the Bieseckers house: 5523 Oakmont Ave, Bethesda 20817

