

Upper Valley Rowing Foundation
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
December 10, 2008
Oberlander Lounge

Board Members Present: Jen Friend, Win Piper, Elizabeth Glenshaw, Deb Dufty, Brenda Sirovich, Kristen Laine, Buzz Congram, Peter Kermond, Dick Grossman, Bob Haynes
Board Members Absent: Peter Davenport, Dartmouth rep.

Call to order 5:54pm.

The board approved the November minutes with a correction noting that Bob Haynes was present at the November meeting.

Win Piper provided an update on executive committee activities. The committee met once in November to discuss programming and preparation for the upcoming annual meeting. Items discussed included division of labor between board members, need for yearend financial review, coaching options for the upcoming season, and creating a sorting session at the beginning of programs to group rowers with similar abilities.

The board discussed the annual meeting date. The bylaws call for the meeting to be held on the first Wednesday in February, however several board members are not available. Change in meeting date will require notification by US Mail to the membership. Brenda Sirovich will poll the board for available dates. Bob Haynes will contact the Black Center to find out when it is available for rental.

The board approved expenditure of \$900 for the purchase of riggers, seats and foot stretchers for two racing singles. These boats will then be usable for the 2009 season.

Kristen Laine sent a draft appeal letter out to the board for review. Win thanked her for preparing the draft. He and Elizabeth will make final edits and get the letter out to the membership.

Brenda Sirovich presented the board nominations for 2009. Board members will be assigned to specific slots. The board discussed the proposed roles and agreed that:

- Legal did not require a dedicated board slot, and would be combined with the slot dealing with land issues.
- Insurance can be incorporated with finance
- Effort should be made to have some overlap with the HHS board to ensure coordination of efforts in support of the rowing community.
- Dartmouth should remain a voting member of the board.

Several board members raised questions about their potential assignments. Brenda requested that board members email her with their preferences and with any additional recommendations for board members.

The board discussed equipment needs for the upcoming season. Needs will depend on number of programs offered and how they are scheduled. Jen Friend said that the number could range between 6 and 9 depending on how we set up the program schedule. The board discussed the quality of the boats that were likely to be available and whether enough top quality shells would be available to the competitive programs. Deb Dufty reported that a member of the competitive program had asked her whether the club might consider trading the Resolute for two boats of slightly less, but still high quality. Kristen Laine suggested this might be problematic for some of the donors who contributed to the Resolute fund. The board discussed the quality of the Resolute, relative to the best boats the club was able to rent from Hanover. The team didn't appear to see an appreciable difference between the Drew (Vespoli) and the Resolute. Some found the Resolute more difficult to row. Buzz suggested this might be due to the rigging. The board agreed that before taking any action, equipment needs would need to be determined, and finances reviewed to ascertain whether the purchase of another good quality 8+ would be feasible this year. Peter Kermond said that he would find out what HHS would have available. Dick Grossman will check with Dartmouth to see what boats they might be turning over. Buzz will email the ECAC women's programs to see if any plan to turn over equipment this year.

The board discussed sculling needs. Better quality recreational singles were identified as a clear priority, with the purchase of a quad as a second preference.

The meeting adjourned at 7:19pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jen Friend
Secretary.