

Upper Valley Rowing Foundation
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
September 24, 2009
DMS Conference Room

Board Members Present:

Jen Friend, Paul Gross, Dick Grossman, Heidi Lange, Brenda Sirovich, Liz Marshall, Karen Sluzenski, Deb Dufty, Peter Davenport, Win Piper, Bob Haynes

Board Members Absent: Buzz Congram, Elizabeth Glenshaw, Steve Perry

Call to order: 5:55 PM

1. **Executive Committee report.** The EC met yesterday. Issues included those on the agenda today. Issues resolved and decisions made since the previous Board Meeting (August 2009) include:
 - Dick Grossman engineered a potential sweep shell trade deal with the women's varsity and board members endorsed pursuing the arrangement;
 - rack space was arranged for a Dartmouth undergrad / U23 athlete upon the request of our host institution, and without compromising the position of any sculler's indoor boatspace or position on the wait list;
 - the EC approved a junior program run by Buzz Congram to be run out of the Chieftain under UVRF auspices, using HHS equipment, with registration through Ronin (with Buzz paying for the transaction fees and for gasoline);
 - the outstanding debt of a member was fully resolved.
2. **Work day.** Discussion of our agreement with the fledgling Lake Sunapee Rowing Club to donate dock parts and the Perry and Stetson led to a planning discussion for a second club fall workday. Liz gave update about sculling docks – these were ferried over to @ Wilson's landing the previous Saturday morning, with Lake Sunapee members waiting, a successful operation. Our club still needs Workday Part 2 – to transfer the docks tied together at Norwich property. Arrangements were made tentatively for Saturday October 3 at 9 AM for this operation. Buzz and Nancy and Liz will start at Norwich land; others should gather at Fullington Farm / Wilson's landing. Note that the dock loan to Sunapee is recall-able, should we need the docks.
3. **Minutes.** Minutes of the August meeting were moved by Peter Davenport, seconded Paul G, and approved unanimously.
4. **Equipment –**
 - **Sweep equipment.** The proposed boat swap was reviewed. Three Dartmouth boats (Fight , Grace, (2002, 2003), Kakela (ultralight, 20 lbs more, good club boat, 1994 or 1995) would be traded from the Dartmouth varsity women for the Resolute, the type of shell to which the women's program is planning to switch. Feedback was solicited by Deb Dufty, Fundraising Director, from all donors who contributed in any amount to the Resolute campaign. The largest donor responded extremely positively. Minor concerns were voiced by 2 or 3 members and these were addressed. Importantly, it was pointed out that the purchase of the Resolute should not be viewed as a mistake; it was intended as an investment of

resources in a boat that could be used by the competitive women, with the understanding that needs could change over time. The proposed deal could proceed tomorrow morning if approved. The Dartmouth women need a shell to get them through the fall, so there would have to be some “sharing” of boats. Dick will help Brian rig the boat. Include in newsletter announcement about. Karen S moved to approve the deal, Deb D seconded. The MOTION carried unanimously.

- **Sculling equipment.** Apollo shells (2) have been on hand for tryout. Scullers enjoyed the shells, but close examination showed poor workmanship, and they are probably not good club boats – that they would not be able to take a lot of abuse. Instead we plan to look at mid-level rec boats, which we have none of at present. It was discussed – and agreed upon – that this was the direction we want to go in. Craftsbury has “club reinforced” boats for sale at present. They are Maas 24’s, a good match for our needs. Our current budget is about break even, including \$9,000 allocated for Resolute repayment and \$7500 allocated to two club rowing shells. We can the Craftsbury shells with a deposit. Jen has reviewed row2K, nothing appropriate is available. Karen S moved in favor of purchase of two Maas24 singles from Craftsbury, authorizing up to \$6500, and contingent upon favorable inspection by at least one Board or Club member. Win seconded the MOTION and it passed unanimously. Liz Marshall will being negotiations.
 - **Club inventory.** Carin Reynolds has the sculling inventory. Jen Friend has the insurance inventory; a copy of this should be placed at googledocs. We might want to specify which boats (singles, doubles) are better for which rowers. Inventories (and insurance policy) will be updated to reflect the new purchases. Current inventory includes four club doubles, one of which (Dirigo) was originally rigged as a pair, and could be again (possibly this fall).
5. **Programming.** 16 women and 7 men are enrolled in competitive programs this fall. Many coxswains are on the roster, all of whom getting paid the usual stipend. For women, it was made clear that HoCR entry fee was not included in the program cost. This was not made clear to men, however. In the future, race costs (except Masters Nationals) will be included in program costs. A discussion of covering the HoCR regatta costs (up to \$1500 total) ensued. The following motion was put forward: The Men’s HoCR entry fee costs will be covered by club (offset by donated coaching time), the women’s competitive rowers will cover their own entry costs except in the case of hardship. The MOTION was seconded, and passed 5-3 with 3 abstentions (due to potential conflict of interest).
 6. **Safety.** Discussion of ongoing safety issues and concerns was abbreviated. We will get lights for all boats and launches. All rowers have passed a swim test.
 7. **Mission statement.** The club’s mission statement no longer matches the club’s missions; in particular, the club capital improvement plan has for the past 2 years been specifically focused on building a fleet of boats for the use of members, rather than the pursuit of an alternative site or a boathouse. Revision of the mission statement was initiated last year; Liz M. will send last year’s updated mission statement for further suggestions / revisions.
 8. **New business.** ead of the Schuylkill offered package for one Ronin clients. It is unlikely that any UVRF rowers will participate.
 9. **Norwich Land.** Jen F spoke to insurance agent, who had contacted us regarding insuring the railroad crossing. He provided us with the following cost estimate: \$8000/year liability, excess liability.

10. Fullington Farm. FOHC has asked for help answering questions from Selectboard specifically about who UVRF is. Win is writing up with text provided by Jen F. Additional relevant information was provided to Win regarding the history of UVRF and that it is a community club not a private club. UVRF is not a party to FOHC's dealings with the town of Hanover.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:56 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Sirovich
Secretary