

VIRGINIA SCHOLASTIC ROWING ASSOCIATION

P.O. Box 23042 Alexandria, VA 22304

MINUTES of the BOARD of DIRECTORS MEETING November 15, 2011

I. The Board of Directors meeting was called to order by the Vice President, John White, at 7:36 pm in Room 110 of Wakefield Senior High School. These changes were due to the lateness of the October meeting and the non-availability of TJHSST for this meeting. Thirty-one voting members were present as follows:

<u>Officer Members</u>			
President	-----	Vice President	John White
Treasurer	Mark Peterson	Secretary	Fran Phoenix

<u>At-Large and Team Members</u>			
Past President	-----	Mount Vernon	Lisa Schneider
At-Large	-----	NCS / St Albans	Mark LaViolette
At-Large	Ric Thomas	Oakton	Mike Mulreany
At_Large	Shirley von Rinteln	Potomac	Dorothy Lazor (proxy)
Briar Woods	John Scherbereshe Rich Schafer	Robinson	-----
Christchurch (Associate)	-----	Sidwell Friends	Kate Laguarda
Episcopal (Associate)	-----	South County	Adale Tourtellott Carla Kopach
Fairfax	Pam Jones	St Stephens/ Ste Agnes	-----
Forest Park	Curtis Hoagland	T C Williams	Ed Emblom
Gar-Field	Ken Morgan	Thomas Jefferson	Dave Applin
Georgetown Visitation	Charles McNamara	W T Woodson	Mark Ramage
Gloucester (Associate)	-----	Wakefield	Merlisa Corbett
Hylton	Dorothy Lazor	Washington-Lee	Wilson D
J E B Stuart	Jenny Kusmik	West Potomac	Mick McKeown
James Madison	Ronald Marx	West Springfield	-----
Lake Braddock	Tracy Shakespeare	Western Albemarle (Asso)	-----
Langley	Lance Fitzmorris	Westfield	Craig Trumbull
Mathews (Associate)	-----	Woodbridge	Tony Wilks
McLean	Doug Hale Robert Wheeler	Yorktown	Chris Walsh

Non-voting Members:

<u>Coordinators</u>			
Course Master	-----	Programs	
LOC	-----	Trophies	Mike Stilwell
Charlie Butt Dir	Chris Wilson	Web Master	Gary Garrison
Personnel	Shirley von Rinteln		

<u>Committees</u>			
Bylaws	John White	Grievance	-----
Coaches	Mary King	Historian	-----
Coach Develop	----	Nominations	TBD
		Publicity	Merlisa Corbett

<u>Representatives</u>			
Sandy Run Park	-----	Crew Council	-----
		USRA Referees	-----

- II. President's Report. John White in place of Mike Mutter who is in California on business:
- A. John suggested that all talk of the rules changes be moved to the Committees portion of the agenda. There were no objections.
 - B. The January 10th meeting is intended to be a strategic planning meeting. Please send discussion suggestions to Mike Mutter at mkm@bskb.com .
 - C. The tenant organizations (OBC, SRS, NVRC, GMU and VASRA) were represented at the Sandy Run users meeting with the NVRPA Board Chair, Brian Knapp, on November 3rd. John reported that there was considerable interest at the meeting in helping the River Rats with course maintenance. We will extend our need for assistance to other members of the rowing community. John feels that Brian is very interested in opening rowing and establishing another rowing facility at the Beaverdam Reservoir site in Loudon County...very exciting!
- III. Secretary Report. Fran Phoenix:
- A. The Minutes of the October 18, 2011 Board meeting were read and approved as distributed.
 - B. Fran asked that people presenting motions please write them down for her to make sure that the correct wording is recorded. What is in the minutes is what will be "sealed in stone" so please help ensure accuracy.
- IV. Treasurer's Report. Mark Peterson:
- A. The October 2011 financial statement was reviewed and approved as distributed.
 - B. Two of the three schools whose Capital Improvement Fund balances were overdue have now paid in full. So now Potomac and Westfield are in good standing. Langley's check is on the way.
 - C. VASRA dues were due tonight. Thirteen schools still need to pay. Please have your Treasurers take care of this debt ASAP.
- V. Vice President's Report. John White:
- A. There was a discussion of the new SRAA weight limit of 160 pounds for lightweight men. A study reports that the average high school female weighs 123 pounds and the average high school male weighs 145. It was decided that leaving the lightweight limit at VASRA's present 155 pounds would serve the best interest of the individual schools' rowing programs. Some felt that VASRA should even go back to 150 pounds for lightweight men. The debate will continue in January keeping in mind that a decision has to be made by the end of January as the lightweight weight program starts on or about February 13th.
 - B. The waiver handout was mentioned. Signing waivers is important and a must. That will become possible and important in January. The form that needs to be sent in to Fran stating that everyone in the individual club has signed is found on the CD with the Representatives' Handbook on it.
 - C. The Judge's sentencing decision in the Lela West embezzlement case is scheduled to be handed down on March 1, 2012 at 9:00 am in Prince William Circuit Court. Her guilty plea was entered on October 20, 2011. There is some question as to her ability to pay the \$150,000 restitution that is part of the plea bargain, however, historically, courts will order a 6% annual simple interest on restitution as incentive to pay this debt.

VI. Representative's Reports.

- A. Crew Council. Noel Deskins: Unable to attend meeting.
- B. USRA Referees. Ryz Obuchowicz: Unable to attend meeting.
- C. Sandy Run Park. James Short: Unable to attend meeting.

VII. Coordinator Reports.

- A. LOC. Ryz Obuchowicz: Unable to attend meeting.
- B. Charlie Butt. Chris Walsh:
The paperwork is in and the date of the regatta is April 28th. More later.
- C. Personnel. Shirley von Rintel:
Shirley will need your best estimate of the number of rowers participating in each regatta so that she can assign each school their fair share of volunteer positions. She can wait until the January 10th meeting when a decision will be made as to whether or not there will be revenue sharing this year. It was mentioned that the numbers on the regatta schedule can change but where your club is rowing cannot change.
- D. Trophies. Mike Stilwell:
Nothing to report except that clubs will soon be asked to return the trophies they won last year.
- E. Webmaster. Gary Garrison:
The new site is up and running. Please go online and check it out. Gary feels it is up to date with the information that he has been given. Also any broken links have been fixed. Please send him your suggestions: hhgarrison@gmail.com .

VIII. Committee Reports.

- A. Audit. TBD:
- B. Ad Hoc Committee on Budget/Revenue Sharing. Curt Hoagland:
 - 1. Curt read the goals of their committee:
 - 2. The VASRA Budget committee will examine all aspects of VASRA's budget accounts, including Operating, Building and Capital Equipment accounts over both the short and long term. It will look at all options to fund the regular operations of the association and make recommendations to the BOD for adoption.
 - 3. The committee will put out a report to the membership before the January meeting so that the members of the BOD will be ready to make decisions on January 10th.
- C. Bylaws. John White: Nothing to report
- D. Publicity. Merlisa Corbett:
Merlisa would like each school to identify a person at their school to "feed" her publicity. You can send her information at merlisa@aol.com.

E. Coaches Committee. Mary King:

1. Please check that the schedules are correct both for the regattas and the dual and triple meets. The schedule cannot be changed once it has been presented to the Crew Council.
2. An extensive discussion was led by Mary and Tom Moulen about the desired rule changes and the structure of VASRA. Discussion resulted in two motions:
3. It was moved by Mark LaViolette (National Cathedral/Saint Albans) and seconded by Robert Wheeler (McLean) that:
We table the vote on the rules until the January 10th meeting until the member organizations have a chance to consult their booster organization, their coaches, and their Athletic Director.
The motion passed: 28 (Yes) to 3 (No).
4. It was proposed by Carla Kopach (South County) and seconded by Ric Thomas (At-Large) that:
It will be open for consideration at the January 10th meeting that the coaches' representative be granted a seat on the VASRA Executive Board and a vote on the VASRA Board of Directors.
The motion passed unanimously.

F. Coaches Development. Ryz Obuchowicz: Unable to attend meeting.

G. Grievance. Harry Heim: Unable to attend meeting.

H. History. TBD:

I. Nomination. TBD:

IX. Old Business. None

X. New Business.

1. The possibility of using Wakefield for future VASRA meetings was proposed by John White, but there was no discussion and the topic was dropped.
2. We need someone to manage the Coxswain Clinic on February 18th, 2012. Contact John White if you are interested or know of someone who should be asked.
3. Coaches names are needed to prepare regatta credentials. Please submit your coach rosters to John White as soon as possible, but not later than January 10th. Submit changes anytime!

XI. Announcements.

- A. VASRA dues of \$100.00 is now overdue. Mail to Mark Peterson
- B. Launch Driver Plans are now overdue. Email plan to Mike Mutter.
- C. US Rowing Convention is Dec. 1-4 in Hartford, CT. Tell John White if you are interested in going.
- D. Go online at: www.rowobc.org for information and an application for the Julia Scheu scholarship sponsored by the Occoquan Boat Club.
- E. Dec 3 – Referee Clinic, 9 am, 8110 Gatehouse Road, Merrifield, VA
- F. Jan 1 – USRowing Organizational dues are due for 2011.
- G. Jan 24 – Volunteer Coordinator Meeting, TJHSST, 7:30 pm, cafeteria.

XII. Adjournment. The meeting was adjourned by the Vice-President at 9:30 p.m.

- A. The next BOD meeting is Tuesday, January 10, 2012 in the TJHSST Cafeteria.

Fran Phoenix

Fran Phoenix
Secretary