

VIRGINIA SCHOLASTIC ROWING ASSOCIATION

P.O. Box 23042 Alexandria, VA 22304

MINUTES of the BOARD of DIRECTORS MEETING February 7, 2012

I. The Board of Directors meeting was called to order by the Vice President, John White at 7:40 pm in the Cafeteria of Thomas Jefferson HSST. Twenty-seven 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 | Ryz Obuchowicz | NCS / St Albans | Traci LaViolette |
| At-Large | Ric Thomas | Oakton | Mike Mulreany |
| At Large | ----- | Potomac | Beneatha Draffin |
| At Large | Mary King | | |
| Briar Woods | ----- | Robinson | Robert Clark |
| Christchurch (Associate) | ----- | Sidwell Friends | Kate Laguarda |
| Episcopal (Associate) | ----- | South County | Adale Tourtellott |
| | ----- | Stonebridge | Kevin Suter |
| Fairfax | Pam Jones | St Stephens/ Ste Agnes | ----- |
| Forest Park | Curtis Hoagland | T C Williams | Ed Emblom |
| Gar-Field | ----- | Thomas Jefferson | ----- |
| Georgetown Visitation | Charles McNamara | W T Woodson | Mark Ramage |
| Gloucester (Associate) | ----- | Wakefield | ----- |
| Hylton | Dorothy Lazor | Washington-Lee | Tim Aiken |
| J E B Stuart | Jenny Kusmik | West Potomac | Mick McKeown |
| James Madison | Ronald Marx | West Springfield | Pete Rafle |
| Lake Braddock | ----- | Western Albemarle(Asso) | ----- |
| Langley | ----- | Westfield | Craig Trumbull |
| Mathews (Associate) | ----- | Woodbridge | |
| McLean | ----- | Yorktown | Chris Walsh |

Non-voting Members:

Coordinators

| | | | |
|-------------------------|----------------|-------------------|-------|
| Course Master | Tim Russell | Trophies | ----- |
| LOC | Ryz Obuchowicz | Web Master | ----- |
| Charlie Butt Dir | Chris Walsh | | |
| Personnel | ----- | | |

Committees

| | | | |
|----------------------|----------------|--------------------|-------|
| Bylaws | John White | Grievance | ----- |
| Coaches | Mary King | Historian | TBD |
| Coach Develop | Ryz Obuchowicz | Nominations | TBD |
| | | Publicity | ----- |

Representatives

| | | | |
|-----------------------|-------|----------------------|----------------|
| Sandy Run Park | ----- | Crew Council | ----- |
| | | USRA Referees | Ryz Obuchowicz |

II. President's Report. John White (Standing in for Mike Mutter):

- A. Walter Mess Regatta on April 7th: As things stand now, the regatta is still on with Fairfax County schools and National Cathedral/St. Albans not coming. That would be a regatta of about 300 participants. A special request has been put in to Bill Curran who will present it to the School Board. A result is expected before the end of the week. Thank you to Mary King for working on this for us.
- B. Alternatives were discussed with much concern expressed about being able to staff the regattas with volunteers and referees. No matter what the Fairfax decision is, the regatta schedule has been moved back a week . March 24th will be the Polar Bear Regatta, March 31st will be the Regional Park Authority Regatta, April 7th will be the Walter Mess and the rest of the season will proceed as planned. This will result in the days for course preparation and set up being moved back to March 3rd, 10th and 17th....It is important to let your volunteers know!
- C. The rules changes presented at the Crew Council meeting were all approved.
- D. The Knights of Columbus unit that has done the parking at Sandy Run in the past no longer wish to do it. Jim Short is looking for another organization to take it over. Please contact him if you know of such a group.
- E. Jim Short reminded everyone of the need to have the Sandy Run Operations Manual signed and also to get the team liability insurance certificates turned in. February 23, 2010 is the Sandy Run Users meeting at 7pm at South County High School.
- F. The following people have been appointed to the Budget & Audit Committee: Curt Hoagland, Dorothy Lazor, Ed Embloom, Craig Trumbull, and Mark Peterson.
- G. There is still some concern about the IRS move to classify all coaches as employees instead of as independent contractors. This will be kept on the agenda for the March meeting to ensure we exchange information.
- H. Tim Russell will do Launch Driver Training on March 4th and March 11th. These are both Sundays and the training will start at 9am at Sandy Run. Tim's plan is to show them and give them practice on different engines. He will stay as long as there are people there.

III. Secretary Report. Fran Phoenix:

- A. The Minutes of the January 10, 2010 Board meeting were approved as amended.
- B. Stone Bridge High School in Loudon County applied for membership in VASRA at the January meeting. Ric Thomas (Woodbridge) moved that we accept the application. The motion was seconded by Ron Marx (James Madison) and the motion was unanimously approved.
- C. Amy Powers and Staci Greenspon from Loudon County High School were in attendance. They have a new program starting up and are looking for a shell and a coach.

IV. Treasurer's Report. Mark Peterson:

- A. The January 10, 2012 financial statement was reviewed.
- B. 100% of the schools have paid their dues.
- C. Bills for regatta fees were given out to the clubs. This year we will ask for 50% of your projected fees now and will bill you the rest at the end of the season. On the initial bills, the April 7th regatta is **not included**.
- D. Crew will not be included in the consolidation of High School Booster Clubs.

- V. Vice President's Report. John White:
- E. The VASRA Operations Manual has been changed to reflect the decisions made at the January Board of Directors meeting and it is posted on the VASRA web page. John said he has a hard copy if anyone wanted to see it. Changes include: Out of Season rowing; addition of Stone Bridge; revenue sharing suspension; income from parking, van services, and penalties are separated from T-shirts and concessions; T-shirt and concession income will be applied to the Capital Equipment Plan; further CEP assessments are suspended.
 - F. The waiver signing on the US Rowing website (<https://rosters.usrowing.org>) is straightforward and is the only waiver you should have to do this year.
 - G. Coxswain Clinic scheduled on February 18, 2012 had to be cancelled. We will try again next year. Mary Whipple (Women's Eight 2008 Olympic gold medal winner) has indicated she is willing to come as the featured speaker next year.

VI. Representative's Reports.

- A. Crew Council. Noel Deskins: Not in attendance
- B. USRA Referees. Ryz Obuchowicz:
There is a Referee Clinic on March 10th. Please encourage parents to become referees....Ryz gave each club the goal of providing one person; referee numbers are not increasing at the same rate as the rower numbers. Minimum age for a referee is 21 and they have to be able to pass a swim test.
- C. Sandy Run Park. James Short: Reported above (IIE)

VII. Coordinator Reports.

- A. LOC. Ryz Obuchowicz:
Each booster organization needs to supply one full-time person. This job may be shared with one other person. This year there is no LOC organizational meeting, but the LOC training will be done in three different groups depending on the school's assignment. The schedule of meetings will be sent out soon.
- B. Charlie Butt. Chris Walsh:
Chris is working on permits, a plan for getting the course in, and having restaurant vendors at the regatta on April 28th. He has a meeting soon with the U.S. Park Service about these and other details.
- C. Personnel. Shirley von Rinteln: Not in attendance.
- D. Publicity. Merlissa Corbett: Not in attendance.
- H. Trophies. Mike Stilwell: Not in attendance.
John reminded us that trophies from last years' winners are due to be turned in at the March BOD Meeting. Some clubs find it difficult to find engravers who can match the font style and size and there is a concern that the trophies might be ruined. It was suggested that VASRA come up with a listing of engravers who work to the same standard to which they go and get their trophy engraved. John will discuss this with Mike.

VIII. Committee Reports.

- A. Budget/Audit. Budget Committee: Nothing to report.
- B. Bylaws. John White:
John asked for volunteers for the Bylaws review committee. Courtney Baldrige, Dorothy Lazor, and Fran Phoenix volunteered.
- C. Coaches Committee. Mary King: Done during the Walter Mess Regatta discussion.
- D. Coaches Development. Ryz Obuchowicz: Nothing more.
- E. Grievance. Harry Heim: Not in attendance.
- F. History. TBD
- G. Nomination. TBD: This committee will be appointed at the March BOD meeting.

IX. Old Business.

- A. The VASRA Goals Summary motion was to be made by Courtney Baldrige, but she was not present and John had not followed up with her prior to this meeting. This item is deferred to the next VASRA BOD meeting on March 6, 2012.
- B. Craig Trumbull asked if there was anything new on the Finish Line Tower. Ric Thomas responded that he was just given this job and has not had a chance to do much. At the moment he is trying to locate the original architect (Steve Ware and Chris Gordon) drawings. So far we have found only 8.5 X 11 copies and posters...neither of which have the required detail/specifications on them. Permits are needed and clearance from someone is also needed as the Occoquan is part of the Waterways of America. Then the rebuild will be put out for bid. It was noted that some repairs must be made before the 2012 season begins.

X New Business.

- C. Referee Clinic on March 10th. Try to get at least one parent to attend.
- D. John is working on the parking passes and coaches' credentials, and needs to know the coaches' names. There will be one parking pass per 20 athletes with a maximum of 5 per school
- E. Lightweights must be identified by the week of February 13th. Mary suggested that the clubs could use an off-season "green" day for this requirement.
- F. Jules Verster is the new Course Master and Tim Russell will be working with him this year to set up the course. However, Tim will not be at the regattas.

XI. Announcements.

- A. 1/1 USRowing Organizational dues for the 2012 calendar year should have been paid.
- B. 1/31 The Safety Plan update is on the VASRA Web Site.
- C. 2/13 Lightweight programs initiated. Body fat measurements obtained this week.
- D. **2/18 Coxswain Training Clinic has been cancelled.**
- E. 2/20 First day of on the water practice
- F. 2/23 Sandy Run Users' Meeting, South County High School, 7pm
- G. 2/25 Occoquan Work Day- Course preparation on land, 9am-1pm.
- H. 3/4 Junior Women's ID Camp, Sandy Run Regional Park, 9am-3pm. Register, www.regattacentral.com

- I. 3/6 Board of Director's meeting, 7:30pm TJHSST.
 - J. 3/10 Referee Clinic. New referee trainees welcome! 8:30am, 8110 Gatehouse Road, Suite 100 East, Merrifield, VA 22042
 - K. 3/11 Junior Men's ID Camp, Sandy Run Regional Park, 9am-3pm. Register www.regattacentral.com.
 - L. TBD- LOC organizational meeting. See VII.A. above.
 - M. TBD- Potomac/Anacostia Safety Meeting, DC Harbor Police HQ, 550 Water Street SW, Washington DC.
- XII. Adjournment. The meeting was adjourned by the Vice President at 9:04p.m.
- A. The next BOD meeting is Tuesday, March 6, 2011 in the TJHSST Cafeteria.

Fran Phoenix
VASRA Secretary
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