

MINUTES FOR THE NW ROWING COUNCIL

February 2, 2008 at Lake Washington Rowing Club

Council Members in Attendance: attendance was taken and attendance sheet will be attached. A quorum of clubs and organizations was present.

Meeting called to order at 2:40 p.m. by Jenny Simon, President.

Jenny introduced all the Board members: present were Jody Wilhelm, Tom Fuller, Kathy McCormack, Jason Coffman, Margaret Christopher, Karyn Crouthamel, Matt Lacey, Jenny Simon.

Agenda from November meeting approved contingent upon 10 day editing proposal period.

Treasurer's Report: Same funds as we had in November and waiting for checks from US Rowing.

NW Rowing Council Grant Structure: talking about what we want to do and how we want to use it.

Rawson Report: James explained that the finances and costs for the 2007 regattas were delayed and so our check is being delayed as well. A new system is being established to simplify LOC payments prior to the regattas that should make things easier. Also moving to a system where we are voting on locations for regional regattas by September for the next year.

US Rowing Report: Tom Fuller said that US Rowing is working on getting new bylaws approved. A few years ago the Constitution had to be changed for certification reasons and there was a quorum problem. USRA has adopted the Carver Policy Governance Model; create strong chief executive/ED, and everything flows through that position. Board went down to 14 members, members appoint the Board, Board appoints chief executive, everything else flows from that. Proposing a quorum of 10% of organizational members. What the US Rowing Board would like us to do is for one or more member orgs to sponsor Bylaw changes. He asked us to consider contacting US Rowing and having our organization sponsor the Bylaw changes. This is also a good year to vote and get involved in the function of US Rowing.

Tom also explained that he is running against Greg Ruchman for the NW position on the US Rowing board. He asked us to vote for him because he feels Greg does not have the best interests of US Rowing in mind. Bob Cummins indicated he had not received a ballot. Rachel says contact megan@usrowing.org to get voting materials.

USRA Referee Commission: Rachel is the representative, there are 4 people running for her position. Win Rumsey, Andy Everett, Bob Cummins and Bob Willenbring. Voting closes Feb. 10. Rachel encouraged us to vote. Referee Commission was reorganized: now it's the Referee Committee. Down from 9 to 5 members, all the positions except regional representatives are appointed by the Executive of US Rowing. Regional reps are their own group separate from the Ref Committee and will meet once per year.

No list of rule changes yet; Rachel hasn't heard of any being voted on. Thinks there might a lightweight proposal but she's not sure.

Upcoming ID Camps: Ed Maxwell: Men's is starting tomorrow at UW. There will be a Level 1 coaching clinic on Feb. 23. Women's ID Camp is Feb. 16 at LUC.

Other Committee Reports: Youth Committee (Jason Coffman) is discussing transfer rules and lightweights. Masters Committee is discussing possibility of US-Iraq assistance project. It's in the works, no details yet.

MINUTES FOR THE NW ROWING COUNCIL

February 2, 2008 at Lake Washington Rowing Club

ACTIVE BUSINESS

Juniors and Masters Regionals: Rawson reported that PVRA is the LOC for regionals the third weekend in May. Masters regional championships will be at Vancouver Lake and hosted by LUC/PWR and LOCR. Bid packets will be up on the website soon and we'll be asking for bids for 2009. Ed Maxwell pointed out that Masters Regionals is happening a week after Jr. Nationals, which is late this year. Might be equipment problems.

NWRC Grant Structure: Karyn handed out sheet from Rome and the committee that creates a grant proposal structure. Jay Schindler suggested owning a fleet of decent boats and a trailer that could be used to promote rowing in regions where there isn't any.

NW Awards Dinner: Margaret Christopher reported on the NW Awards Dinner.

SYC Opening Day: Gretchen Frederick reported that the Seattle Yacht Club no longer has a rowing team. The old SYC crew is now the Montlake Rowing Club. The Yacht Club handles the masters races only; Bob Ernst runs the rest of the races (juniors/collegiate/open). As in past years, a survey will go out to the Region where you indicate what boats you can send in order of priority. Year by year it changes and previous years are taken into consideration. To contact Gretchen, please email her at glhaas@comcast.net. Entries have to be in early so that the information can go in the program. Every rower must be part of your club, people have to be regional rowers who you row with on a regular basis (no composite boats from California, for example). Committee Members are Gretchen Frederick, Mark Holden and Mari Jalbing. They want to keep it divided by age categories 30+, 40+ and 50+, and younger rowers should consider rowing Open, but they are considering new rules that will affect younger masters rowers. From Bob Ernst: NO STRAIGHT QUADS.

Vancouver Lake Rowing Club: Rawson reports that the club has received tremendous support and is back on the water, but they still need help. Jenny Simon reported that we will be donating the profits from the NW Awards (\$500) to the Vancouver Lake Rowing Club but that we should discuss giving more or lending money to the VLRC. Discussion ensued.

Motion to find out what VLRC needs and suggest they apply to grant program. Seconded, approved.

Motion to donate profits from NW Awards to Vancouver Lake. Seconded, approved.

Pocock Outreach Program: Juliane Zimlich spoke about the outreach programs run by the Pocock Foundation. There's a need in the community for giving access to more junior rowers. Transportation, ability to pay program fees, ability to swim, lack of knowledge about water sports in the home, etc. Now they are creating an after school program to help kids overcome these barriers and get more of them on the water. They are looking for a host boathouse. Also looking for committee members. Looking for equipment donations. Handout provided by Juliane with details. Discussion ensued.

Board Elections:

- 1. Masters Representatives: Tom nominated Kathy and Margaret. Accepted.**
- 2. At-large Representative: Matt nominated Greg King. Accepted.**
- 3. Collegiate Representative: Tom nominated Jenny Simon. Accepted.**

Vote: All were approved. The new Board members are listed above.

MINUTES FOR THE NW ROWING COUNCIL

February 2, 2008 at Lake Washington Rowing Club

ANNOUNCEMENTS/CALENDAR CONFIRMATIONS

Calendar and Web Site Updates: Kathy says the calendar is up to date and hopes it is complete. Kathy also suggested that if you want to send out an announcement you can just email council@rownw.com.

WENATCHEE: Kathy reported that there is a rowing and paddling club in Wenatchee that wants to create a full program for juniors and such. They want some mentoring on how to become a rowing club. James James Rawson and Margaret Christopher volunteered.

Peggy T. reported that there's an interest in preventing conflicts and doubling some weekends so that people can come for two days of racing. The clubs are working together to make this happen in '08. Matt Lacey reported that they have started a new regatta in Portland, the Fall Classic, on the first weekend of November and they are going to try to open it to everyone for 2008. So, the first weekend in November 2008: Portland LO/OP on Saturday and Fall Classic on Sunday.

Next Meeting: Proposal to have the November 2008 Council meeting at the Portland Fall Classic. Tom suggested that it be held on Saturday, rather than Sunday.

Motion that we hold the fall NW Rowing Council meeting on first weekend of November in Portland on Saturday. If it turns out that the event cannot happen, then we will hold it after HOTL in Seattle. Based on Nick Haley's report the Board will make the decision. Seconded, approved.

COUNCIL MEETING ADJOURNED AT 4:13 p.m.

Notes from Masters Section:

Masters Regionals: Date is third weekend in June. Optimum limit on racing is 4 events, with option to add more when there are open slots in a given event. There will also be a limit on the entries for events on a first come, first serve basis. The 4 came from looking at the entries from last year. Of the 873+ entries last year, 171 people did 6+ events, 148 did 5 events, and 624 did 4 events. So, 4 would be a good limit. Having referees at the regatta is a concern, so we'll try to have a racing schedule as of April 1. Jeanne says if we're going to have to volunteer for a slot at the event we need to know our racing schedule.

LOC: Can't always have PVRA as the LOC. Good to know that other orgs can jump in and still host at the same venue.

Medals: Plaque for Regional champion. Medals for crossing the line. Plaques will be kept by the winners.

Fees: Going up, will be same as SW Region prices. A buck or two a seat per race.