

Saint Louis Rowing Club
Board of Directors Meeting
December 10, 2018

Board Attendees: Laura Muhr, Patrick O'Neal, Deb Small, John Guest, Tom Albert, Kristy Heffernan

Non-Board Attendee: Tim Franck
Meeting called to order by Mr. O'Neal at 7:30 p.m.

November Board Meeting Minutes:

Mr. O'Neal shared Minutes from November 13, 2018 regular Board meeting.

Mr. Guest made a motion to approve Minutes. Ms. Small seconded the motion. All approved.

Boat Financing Meeting Minutes:

Mr. Dedrickson reviewed the previous meeting to discuss the prospective purchase of new Midweight 8 King boat for junior program. A Special meeting of the SLRC was held on November 28, 2018 and discussion at it focused on the financial components of such a purchase. At the meeting, an agreement was reached to pursue the purchase of the boat contingent upon:

- King agreement that the \$5,000 deposit would be refundable if the purchase was not made
- SLRC would need to raise an amount equal to 50% of the purchase price by January 1, 2019 in order to move forward on the purchase
- the order would be canceled on or before any deadlines imposed by the manufacturer should the 50% not be raised.

At the conclusion of that special meeting, a vote was held on the move forward plan. There were 6 votes in favor and 1 abstaining. Those votes were recorded and the plan moved forward.

Upon review of the Minutes from that meeting, Mr. Dedrickson made a motion to approve Minutes. Mr. Guest seconded it. All approved.

Boat Purchase Strategy:

The Board re-opened the discussion of the prospective boat purchase and reviewed updates since the 11/28 special meeting. Subsequent to the special meeting, King rejected the SLRC proposal and a new agreement on the purchase plan and strategy was reached by the Board by email.

Specifically:

- Standard deposit of \$8,000
- Deposit may be held for a different purchase if King is notified by 1/1/2019
- Flexibility to delay delivery from the projected normal lead time for up to an additional 60 days, and to store the boat at King's facility at no charge
- The monthly payment stream on the 12 month/0% schedule would not start until delivery
- Stipulation to raise 50% of the cost through fundraising before moving forward the with the remainder purchase

Mr. O'Neal reviewed the strategy to raise money for purchase of King boat. The Board renewed its determination that the purchase would only move forward if sufficient fundraising completed by 1/1/2019 to make purchase feasible. The Board agreed on a fundraising strategy that would include:

- fundraising letter to parents of Junior Program members (letters had already been sent on 12/7/2018)
- follow up emails to letter recipients by 12/13/2018
- direct solicitation of targeted fundraising sources (Junior Program parents)

Board Retrospective

Members acknowledged 1 year anniversary of current Board constitution and shared thoughts on best practices and opportunities. Identified opportunities included:

- improvement on strategic planning
- clarity on roles and responsibilities for Board members
- development of calendar
- establishment of working group related to priorities, and
- discussion of the viability of more frequent Board meetings moving forward.

Members acknowledged accomplishments in by laws and policy development and enhancements.

Use of Boathouse by Junior Program members

The Board discussed a plan for moving forward related to junior program members and access to the Boathouse. The Board reviewed the situation in which junior members were utilizing space and equipment during times other than their practice times.

The Board determined that junior program members could only be in the Boathouse:

- during their own practice times
- during other teams' practice times as long as they did not interfere or in any way limit the other team's practice and they were in a group of two, or
- during time when no team was practicing only if they had an adult with them.

In any event, junior program members can only be in the Boathouse from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

A motion to approve this approach was made by Mr. Albert. Mr. O'Neal. All approved.

Bylaws:

Ms. Heffernen led a review to the proposed revisions to SLRC By-Laws. A review of changes to the following areas were discussed and agreed upon by the Board:

- honorary members
- volunteer/assistant coaches
- junior program coach requirements
- head coach requirements and authority
- member rights and dues
- committees
- parent membership on Scholarship Committee
- special meeting requirements
- place of meetings
- open meetings
- liability waivers
- written communications, and
- Nominating Committee

The Board discussed next steps in the finalization and execution of changes.

Junior Program :

Ms. Muhr provided an update on the Junior program. She and Ms. Barr had met 12/9 to capture updates for Board. Those included:

- new volunteers for junior program
- Lisa Ferbert identified as new Travel Coordinator for regatta season
- registration for Fall 2019 regattas (Cincinnati, Oak Ridge, and Midwest), and
- need for review of Head of the Hooch participation

After the update, the Board discussed the Hooch opportunity and recommended a two night stay for the regatta in 2019.

Fundraising:

Mr. Dedrickson led a review of the fundraising efforts and strategy. The conversation focused on the 2019 Ergathon and the optimal time to hold it. Board consensus that the Ergathon was one of the major events in the SLRC year and a need identified to fully leverage it. The Board settled on a date of 2/16/2019 for the event and committed to a more focused communications strategy around it. That strategy would include a letter from Mr. O'Neal and the creation of a template for junior program members to use in fundraising efforts.

In addition to the Ergathon, the Board also discussed opportunities to utilize the web site for fundraising moving forward.

Volunteering: Members discussed the topic of volunteerism and agreed to the need for a policy to help encourage participation and clarify goals. Initial thoughts include:

- 20 hours per year for adults (10 hours each season for junior program rowers)
- Should be able to electronically tally participation
- Buy outs are a type of fee and therefore should be able to be set by the board

Action Item: Patrick to draft an initial Volunteer Policy and bring it to the board for review.

The meeting closed at 9:25pm based on a motion from Tom Albert and a second from Patrick O'Neal. All present voted in favor