

Saint Louis Rowing Club
Board of Directors Meeting
March 26, 2019

Board Attendees: Kristi Heffernen, Patrick O'Neal, Deb Small, John Guest, Tom Albert, Steve Dedrckson, Roxanne Barr, and Laura Muhr, Carolyn Buselmeier

Additional Attendee: Tim Franck (Head Coach)

Meeting called to order by Mr. O'Neal at 8:05 p.m.

Refund Issues

Mr. O'Neal shared with Board the request for a regatta refund from the family of Andrew Howard. Andrew Howard is a junior boys member who was injured prior OKC but after the cutoff date. Mr. O'Neal made a motion to approve the refund of OKC regatta fees. Mr. Albert seconded the motion and the Board approved unanimously.

Mr. O'Neal shared with the Board the request for a refund from the family of James Schulte. This junior rower elected to not row the Spring season but did not inform the Club until after the season started. Mr. O'Neal made a motion to deny the request in alignment with the club's Payment Policy. Mr. Guest seconded the motion and the board approved the motion (rejected the request) unanimously.

Coach/Conflict Issue

Mr. O'Neal shared a concern raised by one of the coaches for the novice girls program. This coach, Carrie Bryan, is considering accepting a full time role as a representative for a boat refurbishing company. She would like to remain as a coach with the club and wanted to make the club aware of this new role and confirm there was not a conflict. The Board discussed and agreed unanimously that there was not a conflict present.

Minutes from Special Meeting on Boat Purchase

Mr. O'Neal reviewed the previously shared Minutes from the special Board meeting, held on Feb. 26, 2019. At that meeting, the Board considered and approved the purchase of the King 8 boat. Those minutes reflected the agreement by the Board to purchase the boat, the terms of the purchase, and the means by which the money was obtained by the Club. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Mr. O'Neal and seconded by Ms. Heffernen. The Board approved the motion unanimously.

Regatta Travel Policy Review

Ms. Buselmeier reviewed a revision to the previously approved Regatta Travel policy. The revisions addressed the process for invoicing and collecting regatta fees from Club members. The revisions require invoicing one week prior to the regatta with payment in full due one day prior to departure. The changes also address the preference for electronic payments. Ms. Muhr made a motion to approve the proposed revisions and Ms. Heffernen seconded the motion. The Board voted unanimously to approve the motion.

Boat Naming Opportunity

Mr. Albert shared a proposal to name 2018 King lightweight 8 in honor of Ned Wood. This acknowledgement would require an exception to the standard boat naming process which allows boys and girls squads to name a boat at the same time. Mr. O'Neal made a motion to make an exception on the ground that neither the boys or the girls squad was naming the boat for Ned; instead this was a Club action. Ms. Bulsemieir seconded the motion and the board voted unanimously to approve the motion.

Annual Meeting

The Board reviewed the calendar to determine the best date for the Club's annual meeting. After discussion, it was agreed the annual meeting will take place on May 11, 2019 at 2:30 p.m.

Sculling Program

Tim Franck shared that Steve Giddings intends to resume coaching Advanced Sculling, starting the weekend of 3/29. The Board briefly discussed the overall sculling program and the need to work with current coaches for a broader vision of the program. The goal is to start these conversations in Q2 of 2019.

Oklahoma City Regatta Review and Discussion

Ms. Muhr and Ms. Barr reviewed the recently completed trip to Oklahoma City by the junior program. Two major issues were reviewed.

Food Tent

Ms. Barr shared a determination made prior to the start of the season by the Junior Program Coordinators along with the coaching staff to streamline and make more reasonable and healthy the food tent that is maintained during junior program regattas. That decision was shared with the volunteer food tent coordinator, and based on that direction the coordinator developed a comprehensive food tent plan. In spite of this,

several junior rower parents determined that the food tent approach was not sufficient and arranged for the delivery of several egg casseroles and cinnamon rolls to the food tent on the morning of the OKC regatta.

Ms. Barr shared that this was frustrating and counter-productive to the coordinator who had arranged for the tent. In addition to issue of large amounts of wasted food, the issue could also lead to the coordinator's departure from this important role. The Board reviewed the food tent approach and agreed to maintain it in the regattas moving forward.

It was determined that a communication would be developed and sent to Tim for him to send to all junior program rowers and parents prohibiting this behavior moving forward.

Bus Assignments

For this regatta, the Club had reserved one large and one smaller bus for transporting the rowers to Oklahoma City. Due to the sizes of the teams going, it was determined by the Junior Program Coordinators that the Girls team would go on the large bus and the boys team would go on the smaller bus. Assignments were made based on this decision. The large bus had a restroom on it and the smaller bus did not. Several parents of Boys team members insisted on their sons having a restroom available and said their boys had to be on the large bus. These negotiations and demands were done in a disrespectful way on the morning of departure and the assignments were compromised as a result. Due to the bus company being provided a passenger manifest before the trip, such a change also posed a safety risk.

The Board discussed this issue and determined that it was unacceptable for assignments to be changed on the day of travel.

Room Issues

There were issues with some junior program members not being present in their rooms for room check (rowers were in other rooms visiting friends). The Board agreed that Coaches and Chaperones need to communicate directly to team members that they are required to go to/stay in their rooms immediately after dinner.

Treasurer Updates

Ms. Buselmeier confirmed that for personal reasons she would need to share many of the duties of Treasurer to Ms. Small in March, 2019. The two of them would work together as much as possible to continue providing this important service.

Ms. Buselmeier shared the financial status of the Club.

Nominating Committee

Mr. Guest provided an update on the efforts of the Nominating Committee to identify and recruit Club members to serve on the Board of Directors. Per the terms of Board, three members are transitioning off of the Board in May, 2019. The Nominating Committee has been working to develop a slate of at least three individuals to be presented as candidates to the entire Club membership at the annual meeting.

The Nominating Committee has proposed three members: Diana Rollins, Stacy Wistuba, and Vicky Cochran. The three of them will provide bios to the Board so they can be shared for the vote.

Board Roles Moving Forward

At the time of three new members being elected to the Board, the Board will have the opportunity to realign and take on new roles on the Board. Those possible configurations were discussed.

Call for Open Items

The Board acknowledged the need to identify coaches for the Adult Learn to Row workshops this summer. Mr. Franck committed to exploring available coaches as well as to developing a pipeline of possible coaches.

Mr. Frank inquired as to whether coaches should be paid in the event the club suspends operations due to weather (or other acts of God). After some discussion Mr. Albert made a motion for the club to pay coaches per their regular coaching schedule should the club suspend operations for a short period. This motion was seconded by Carolyn and approved by all board members present.

Mr. Franck requested approval from the Board to sell the Greensfelder boat in order to make room for the new King mid-weight 8+. Mr. O'Neal made a motion to sell the Greensfelder. This motion was seconded by Mr. Albert and approved by all board members present.

Close

Mr. O'Neal made a motion to adjourn the meeting . This motion was seconded by Mr. Albert and all present voted in favor.

Meeting closed at 10pm.