

Upper Valley Rowing Association
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
January 9, 2013
Murray Meeting Room, Howe Memorial Library, Hanover, NH

Board Members Present:

Rowan Carroll, Erika Dade, Jennifer Friend, Paul Gross, Beth Kelley, Liz Marshall,
Louise Moon, Win Piper, Dan Ruml, Janet St Germain

Board Members Excused:

Christopher Bordeau, Kevin Cotter, Dick Grossman, Sean Healey, Rosi Kerr

1. Review of December 3, 2012 Minutes (Louise)

Motion to approve the minutes, seconded and approved unanimously.

2. Budget (Paul)

Paul submitted a report of UVRF financials through 12/31/12. We will end the year with a net surplus. The board reviewed the information and discussed allocation of the unreserved cash. These include putting an equal amount into both the Sculling Equipment Reserve and Sweep Equipment Reserve accounts, and a portion into a new Property Reserve account to start saving for eventual development of the Norwich or some other property.

Motion to approve the recommendations submitted by Paul in his email of January 7, 2012, seconded and approved unanimously.

3. Annual Meeting on February 6, 2013 (Louise)

The annual meeting is on the first Wednesday of February (per bylaws). The format and tasks for the annual meeting, as well as the draft of the agenda and details to be posted on the web, were reviewed. Tasks were assigned to board members per the spreadsheet submitted by Louise. The same format will be followed as in previous years, with dinner at 6 pm, and the meeting starting at 6:30 pm. All board members are expected to be there to help before and after the meeting. The Black Community Center is reserved, starting at 5 pm.

A "Save the Date" email should be sent to the full membership 4 to 6 weeks prior to the meeting and official notification of the annual meeting must be sent to members at least 14 days prior to the meeting (by January 28).

The slate of members is complete but the nominating committee still needs to nominate officers for 2013. Jen Friend, Dick Grossman, and Win Piper are leaving the board; Paul and Dan are up for re-election. The proposed new members – Brent Anderson, Eric Brooks, Jonathan Edwards, and Joanne Hayes – should be put on the ballot along with Dan and Paul.

Jen will email the nominees to request a bio and brief writeup with a cc to Louise. Louise will forward the candidate write-ups to Janet so that they can be posted on the web. Louise will also prepare the paper ballot to copy for the meeting and send a pdf to Janet to make available on the meeting webpage.

Awards will be (presenters in parens):
Starzinger – Dick Grossman (Paul)
Lifetime Achievement – T. Swayze (Liz and Louise)
Oars on Fire – Peggy Sadler (Liz and Louise)
Rookie of the Year – Dave Muller (Jen)
Best dressed – Chuck Nagel (Jen – with slides of Chuck)

It was decided to make or purchase a plaque for the Starzinger Award so that the recipients can be added each year. Paul will take care of this.

Door Prize winner will be one non-board member who will have a choice between 3 prizes: one season of rack space, one year of UVRF membership, or one sweep program.

Erica has a slide show from the previous year that she will bring to display at the meeting.

Liz will bring a membership list.

Other details per task list.

4. Fundraising

It was decided by the board that a fundraising priority is to reduce program fees to make the programs more affordable and accessible. One way to implement the goal is to back out fees for equipment reserves and raise money for equipment through fundraising rather than program fees.

We will implement the reduced program fees in 2013 and see how it goes.

It was proposed that we send out three letters, but especially in the fall and talk about *specific* items we need. Almost 100% of money raised goes into programs, not to pay administrative costs.

There should be more transparency. We are building a program and want to meet the needs of everyone – accessibility for all – and to promote a culture of contribution, whether in money, time and/or community.

Beth may step down from the board but is willing to serve as a consultant and do some solicitation if someone will go with her. Win might be able to help in the future with donors as a non-board member.

5. Other

a. Sweep program (Erika)

They are trying to find an eight and quads for the sweep programs, as well as sweep riggers for the quads

b. FLIP program for tanks (Rowan)

Rowan requested a second 7-8:00 time slot and Matt and Liz were willing to coach, but they didn't get the okay to use the room until yesterday which is too late. Next year we should offer 6 -7 am, 7- 8 am, and 12- 1 pm slots.

c. Thank you to Win and Jen for all their work on the board (Dick was not able to attend so the board could not offer a personal thank you).

Motion to adjourn at 7:20 pm, seconded, unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,
Louise Moon, Secretary