

Upper Valley Rowing Association  
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes  
February 10, 2014  
Murray Meeting Room, Howe Memorial Library, Hanover, NH

Board Members Present:

Eric Brooks, Rowan Carroll, Erika Dade, Jonathan Edwards, Paul Gross, Dan Haedrich, Terry Harwood, Joanne Hayes, Louise Moon, Carin Reynolds, Dan Ruml (via FaceTime)

Board Members Excused:

Christopher Bordeau, Kevin Cotter, Sean Healey, Annette Kennedy, Janet St Germain

**1. Review of January 6, 2013 Minutes**

Motion made to approve the minutes as amended, seconded, and approved unanimously.

**2. Vote to allow proposed new board members to serve until the rescheduled annual meeting**

New board members are normally elected at the UVRF annual meeting and officers are elected at the first regular board meeting after the annual meeting. Since the annual meeting was postponed, approval is required for the proposed new board members to serve until the rescheduled annual meeting.

Motion made for new board members to serve on the board until our annual meeting, seconded, and approved unanimously.

**3. Introduction of new members and current board**

Brief introductions were made by all present.

Joanne is stepping off the board because she will be out of the country for a year.

**4. Reschedule annual meeting and swim test**

Louise will call the Black Recreation Center to find out when the multi-purpose room is available for our annual meeting, and will notify board members so that we can set a date for the meeting. We are required to give two weeks notice to the membership.

Once a date is set, Janet will send out notification to the general membership. Jonathan will contact Dana Metes to reschedule the swim test.

**5. Assignment of job responsibilities and subcommittees (handout from Louise)**

Job responsibilities were reviewed and some reassignments were made. Louise will send out a revised list for review prior to our next meeting. This will be discussed further at our next meeting.

## **6. Kendal dock repair**

When the dock at Kendal was taken out last October, it was discovered that there was significant damage from its installation by the Chieftan. Many of the connectors were stripped, making it impossible to reassemble. We need to replace the “float blocks” and hardware sets and will order quite a few extras to make sure we have enough for installation of the dock on. We can return and get a refund for any we don’t use. Carin talked to Becky about a month ago and said that we (Lebanon) were willing to take on the responsibility to purchase these parts. Hanover might pitch in some of the cost toward the dock since they will need to use it for the Hanover Invitational. If Kendal decides to sell the dock in the future, we will have first option to purchase. In addition, Kendal will not charge a fee for use of their facilities this year. Lebanon and Hanover crews are the only ones allowed to use the dock.

Dan Ruml is working with the High Country Aluminum company to negotiate the price. We need the approval of the board to purchase those pieces so that we are ready to move forward in the spring. We have the funds to pay for this from capital reserves.

Motion was made to approve up to \$5,000 to pay for the parts needed to assemble the dock, seconded and approved unanimously. A three-week lead time is needed on the order. Kendal will put the dock together with Carin’s and others’ help.

## **7. Programming for upcoming rowing season, meeting with Dartmouth representatives, and fees**

Someone has to negotiate the Dartmouth contract since Dan isn’t here. We lease Fuller and use of docks. In the spring, the apron will be empty so we hope to put a trailer there for the men’s eight and some of the private boats, doubles, etc. We may have to move our trailers out of Fullington in the spring because they need those parking spaces so we really need the space. That is okay with Richard Whitmore but we need to specify the dates. We would like to start club sweep and sculling programs before Dartmouth graduation – preferably June 2. Rowan and Carin can meet Dartmouth representatives next week or the following week. Dan will send a copy of last year’s contract and notes on what needs to be added or changed to Carin and Rowan.

Private sculling normally begins as soon as Duff gets the safety dock in and we get our sculling dock installed.

## **8. Budget**

Paul attempted to send the budget report to board members prior to the meeting but the email failed to go out. He reported on major bill payments made, and balances in various funds.

Fees were discussed, with a question of lowering some. We have lowered fees a lot over the past ten years. It has helped membership, and enrollments for the programs are higher, but we also have to cover our costs. We would like to recruit younger rowers and will find out from Rosi who is interested.

#### **9. Swim tests**

Jonathan worked with Dana to schedule swim tests just prior to the annual meeting. Since the annual meeting was postponed, the tests will have to be rescheduled. Jen Friend offered to help but Jonathan could use additional assistance at the pool.

Liz has information about who needs to take a swim test this year. Jonathan will contact Liz to get the list and will send out a notice, once we know when the tests are rescheduled.

There will be future opportunities to take the swim test, one of which will be when Carin administers the test to high school students. She will open it up to members as well.

#### **10. Policies and Communications**

We should come up with a clear doubles policy such as we have with the quads, make the policies accessible in one place, and indicate who people can get in touch with to advance.

Carin, Rowan, and Jonathan will come up with a draft, and Dan Haedrich will make the bulletin board a better place to post policies and notes. We can also use Listserv or Google Groups to help maintain club connections and create a fun venue for communicating, such as selling rowing items, finding out who is interested in going out on Saturday morning or rowing in a double, quad, etc. We can use them to send out annual meeting and other notices. Eric will look into setting up a group and Janet will send out an email to membership if it is set up.

#### **11. Boat purchase**

As discussed in previous board meetings, the next priority for a boat purchase is a lightweight women's four. The board approved \$13,000 for this at the December 2, 2013 meeting, with the hope that we could find a used four. That has not happened and it would be very difficult to find. The preferred boat is a Vespoli and the price quote for a new one is \$18,850 with wiring put in for free. We would like to purchase the boat soon so that we can get it by April 1. There is money in UVRF sweep reserves for half of the cost so another \$9,500 needs to be raised by Lebanon Crew by April 1. Carin has pledged for \$4,000, leaving \$5,500 to raise. UVRF does not borrow money. Carin and Erika will commit to pay any remaining balance needed for the purchase as a backup in the event the money required is not raised.

Motion was made to order and purchase a new Vespoli ultralight coxed four for \$18,850 with half to be paid from sweep reserves and half from current pledges from Lebanon Crew, seconded and unanimously approved.

**12.** Erika is putting a JL store online. It will be open for two weeks and will be just for our club.

**13. Next board meeting on March 3 - change of location**

The Murray Room and Rotary Room are not available at Howe Library for our next meeting on March 3rd. Therefore, the location will be changed to Coldwell Banker Redpath, 8 West Wheelock St. Parking is available at the back of the building.

Motion to adjourn at 7:35 pm, seconded, unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,  
Louise Moon, Secretary