

January 2012 BRCC Yearly General Membership Meeting

Present: Board directors present were Jill and Ray L'Esperance, Rodger Garfinkle, Phyllis Ritchie, Pamela Drake, KatrineThomas, Judy Lee. Also present were approx. twenty-five BRCC members.

WELCOME and Recap of 2011: BRCC President, Jill L'Esperance welcomed and thanked the membership for all that was accomplished in 2011.

Recap of 2011:

- restoration of the Max dragonboat,
- installation of new docking,
- Fundraiser BBQ fun
- New teams possibilities
- Great race season
- Increased membership, more new members than in past years (\$8200 in 2011 membership fees compared to \$5000 in 2010.
- Penn Yan boat: decision to not continue with ownership of this boat. More info under Fleet Captain report.

OLD BUSINESS

BOARD MEMBER REPORTS – 2011

1. Membership (Pamela):

- a. Member info: Currently, total of 93 paid members with 39 active women paddlers and 19 men.
- b. Duties of the Membership board position (see attached report): Pamela is stepping down from the board after serving for 3 yrs. She relayed info on duties of her board position. In summary:
 - Record keeping and dealing with new and on-going members (waivers, dues, roster)
 - Recruiting/publicity

2. Financial – Ray (see attached report). 2011 was a good year due to increases in membership and donations, proceeds from the fundraiser, and a large increased value of our Apple stock.

As of December 31, 2011: in addition to 2 dragon boats, small fleet Penn Yan, lockers, docks and equipment, the TOTAL FINANCIAL ASSETS: Cash: \$4,330 plus Apple Stock \$20,250 = \$24,580

The funds generated in 2011 through membership dues, donations and the fundraiser made it possible to fully cover the cost of the Max restoration, to purchase a new dock and an OC-1, to subsidize race fees for the East Bay Dragons (the San Leandro High School team) as well as pay for basic obligations such as PDBA dues and insurance.

3. Fleet Captain – Katrine:

- a. Dragonboat restoration: A big thanks to all the volunteers who worked so tirelessly to complete the restoration of the Max dragonboat. The board originally approved \$3500 for this but the final cost was \$5,600 due to unexpected expenses. Lessons learned will prepare us for the doing the other boat. The other dragon boat will not

- be done unless there is a budget of \$6000 to allow for any unexpected expenses.
- b. Equipment: This year new docking was purchased.
 - c. Small fleet: a second hand one person OC (good condition, good price) was added to our fleet.
4. Secretary/Communication – Phyllis: It is important for the membership to know what the board members do as well as to stay informed about what the organization does. The Board encourages the members to attend board meetings and to read the meeting minutes. To assist with this the minutes for each meeting will continue to be e-mailed to the membership after approval by the board.
 5. Community Outreach – Judy:
 - a. The Community Outreach Director is now a board member position. Community outreach has always been done by the membership but now it will be more organized and written down. Judy has done a FAQ sheet to better describe community outreach. (see attached)
 - b. San Leandro High School team report (Lisa and Shirley): A very interested great group of kids this year, total of 40 members with 30 active. Last year San Leandro made it to the B division at Treasure Island. Lisa Tarantino (BRCC member) is the coach. They will be back practicing in Berkeley on Wed nights as well as Saturday mornings at 10:30. These practices are open to all high school students i.e. Berkeley and Albany.
 6. Competition Director – Rodger: Good year of racing. There are many new members who show great promise as strong paddlers. We started our men's, and competitive women and practices.
 7. Vice-president - Paul: Paul not present but a report on steersperson certification given from his written report. We continue to need more steerspersons. To be certified, all steerspersons must complete and pass a written test which is open book and help from others is allowed. All steerspersons must also pass the practicum, which is possible after steering practice/experience, and then passing Paul's evaluation of steering abilities. Out of the 23 people who have been certified over the last 12 years, 14 are current paid BRCC members. There are also several steers people in training.

COMMITTEE REPORTS – 2011

1. Fundraising – Phyllis: (see attached report) In 2011 the BBQ Picnic fundraiser made a profit of \$2,889 which was shared equally with DragonMax. This was \$1287 less than the profit from the 2009 BBQ event. Over the last 3 years BRCC has had this annual BBQ Picnic netting a total profit of \$10,330, with \$8,885 going to BRCC. The profit (and attendance) from this event has steadily decreased even with increased advertising last year.

NEW BUSINESS - WHERE ARE WE GOING IN 2012

1. Membership – Pamela: The website needs to be up-dated. Emily would like to work on the web site but needs a knowledgeable person to help. We need an up-dated website to attract new members as well as continue to look for ways to recruit.

2. Safety Issues – Paul: There have been some safety concerns for using the small fleet boats. If you want to use the boats, please get approval from Paul, Gary, or David. Also, do not use the small fleet boats outside the marina or after dark. The board will be reviewing Operating Rules for the small fleet.
3. Community Outreach – Judy: This year we will focus on our usual yearly events: July 4th, and the Bay festival (April 14) with a table at each and dragon boat rides. Would like to plan a cancer survivor day on the boats as well as promote the high school teams. Also, would like more active committee help/co-chairs to assist.
4. Fleet – Katrine. For this year:
 - a. Keep lockers and equipment clean and organized
 - b. Ruby dragonboat: Haul out and bottom painted soon, with plans for restoration next fall. Gary recommends that the seats be done in the summer so they will dry faster.
 - c. dragonboat maintenance: bottoms of both boats need to be brushed weekly. Anyone can do this before or after a practice.
 - d. 2012 is the year of the dragon. Would be nice to have new heads and tails for the boats. To order from manufacturer for our type of boats = \$2500/set. Pamela, Christine and Warren feel we can come up with something less expensive and will explore options.
 - e. Be sure to talk with Katrine before doing anything with the fleet, dock or equipment.**
 - f. Regine requested to take the tails off for practice to reduce problem of hitting anything.
5. Competition – Rodger.
 - a. Races fall into 3 categories:
 - Out of town: We race our best but have fun. All who come are given equal opportunity to race with any of the crews
 - Just for fun races (lake Merritt): mix the crews so all get the same experience
 - CDBA races: local races, more competitive, best crews are assembled. Sometimes race with other crews as well.
 - b. Practices will continue, alternating every other Sat with men's team and women's competitive team. Need more men to show up for practice.
 - c. Up-coming races: Please respond quickly to Linda's e-mails for sign-up and paying for races. Next race is Tempe on March 31 - April 1. If you are going, let Linda know right away. Need more men. Some paddlers will be going to Boracay/Hong Kong races April 26-28, May 6 to race. Treasure Island race will be Sept 15-16. Dates for other local race TBA
6. Budget/Funding Proposal for 2012 – Ray. In the coming year, BRCC will have to actively fundraise to be able to pay for the restoration of the other dragon boat. In 2012 BRCC would like to raise at least \$2500 from fundraising.
7. Fundraising – Phyllis: Fundraising is esp. important this year as we want to be able to restore the other dragon boat. She is reorganizing the fundraising committee again this year so please sign up. We may be putting on two events: bingo coming up soon, and another BBQ picnic with some changes to make it a little different and not so work intensive. Both events will need innovative ideas for advertising to improve the attendance. Will keep members posted about dates.
8. Open Discussion- other issues:
 - a. A Thank-you dinner: Warren suggested that the board approve some money for a thank-you dinner for all the volunteers, board members, coaches and steerspersons who put in extra time for BRCC. The board will discuss this at the next

board meeting.

ELECTION OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS: All current board members with the exception of Pamela Drake,(Membership) agreed to continue in their board positions for another year, ran unopposed, and were unanimously elected again to the board. Lora Batiste was elected to replace Pamela as the Membership Director. Judy Lee was elected to the new board position of Community Outreach.

Board of Directors for 2012 are: President - Jill L'Esperance; Vice-President - Paul Kamen; Treasurer – Ray L'Esperance; Secretary – Phyllis Ritchie; Fleet Captain – Katrine Thomas; Membership – Lora Batiste; Competition – Rodger Garfinkle; Community Outreach – Judy Lee

ADJOURNMENT