

# Minutes of the BRCC Board of Directors Meeting

June 2, 2014

Meeting was called to order at 7:26 p.m. by Jill L'Esperance. The following were present: Jill L'Esperance, Eric Suitos, Henry Viets, Helena Viets, Ed Salvador, Paul Kamen, Linda Bonura, Rodger Garfinkle, Thuy Nguyen

## DIRECTOR REPORTS AND UPDATES-

Membership (Thuy) – 7 new members joined since May and 2 more are scheduled to pay their dues soon. There are 173 total members. A decision was made to count the El Cerrito “Rough Riders” under the coaching of Lawrence Pang as members, too. Thuy provided the following breakdown of membership:

*Six new members joined our club in May:*

1. Lisa Poulin
2. Andrea Spinelli
3. Jennifer Walner
4. Barbara Phillips Michel (from Bayer)
5. Paul Michel (from Bayer)
6. Dan Rauer (from Bayer)

*One returning paddler:  
Lu Schloemer*

*Total members: 173 (132 DragonMax paddlers, 10 Bayer paddlers, 11 AT&T paddlers and 20 HS students)*

Treasurer (Eric) - *\*\*Secretary's note- there was very detailed discussion of revenue and expense figures related to fundraising at this meeting. Eric provided graphs via email to help illustrate the flow of funds from and to various sources, and those are attached to the minutes as separate documents.*

Current cash before final accounting of the online ticket sales for BYC dinner dance is \$20,229.88. There is \$608.00 in savings. Anticipated expenses (mostly maintenance-related) are \$4,800.00. The \$1,500.00 check from Paul's Coastal Conservancy grant has not yet been received but is anticipated soon. Discussion pegged the estimate for fundraising revenue at approximately \$25,000.00.

Subsidies – The first subsidy which was issued in the form of a rebate check of membership dues to Ravenna paddlers was funded from existing dues payments. Subsequent subsidies (needs-based and transportation/fees in Ravenna) are being funded through fundraising revenue. Volunteers who worked at the second Title IX event in June agreed to allocate those fundraising monies to the entire team for Treasure Island expenses.

## DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

Champion Boat - The following was received via email from Jill prior to the discussion at the Board meeting. Helena Viets was present at the June 2 Board meeting to share the Cal team's perspective on the use and maintenance of the Champion boat:

*“Henry, Paul, Helena and I met on Saturday to discuss the terms of an agreement between Cal and BRCC. My position in the discussion, much the same as Paul's is that the Champion boat should become part of the BRCC fleet, used and maintained in conformity with*

*BRCC operating procedures and under the management of the Board and Fleet Captain. In exchange, CAL paddlers would become BRCC members with all the rights (dragon boat and equipment access), privileges (keys, small fleet access) and duties (waivers, safety, steering certification) of membership. We discussed the possibility of a reduced or dual membership fee as part of the exchange. The issue of scheduling and the possibility of CAL wanting priority access is still an open topic.*

*I've invited Helena to the meeting on Monday. Hopefully she'll have been able to reach others in her team's leadership to get some feedback on our Saturday discussion so we'll be able to move forward at our meeting on Monday.*

*Please give some thought to the arrangements you like to see in place and any issues that you have concern might surface."*

Pursuant to that preliminary meeting there were three motions brought to the Board. Rodger moved to waive the membership fees for Cal paddlers. It died for lack of a second. Rodger then moved to offer Cal a \$5.00 membership rate per paddler for the summer. Eric seconded. Rodger then amended the motion to extend the \$5.00 rate per paddler to an entire year. Motion was seconded by Paul. Motion carried unanimously with no abstentions.

In summary, the Board position advanced at the preliminary meeting with Cal on May 31, 2014 regarding use and maintenance of the Champion boat (see email above) is now considered policy.

**Bottom maintenance** – A brief discussion followed the vote and dealt with the removal of debris and growth from the Champion (and all) boats and also about how to remove the Champion boat from the water to help retard marine growth between practices. A motion was made by Rodger to budget \$300.00 for Paul to design and build a device to lift the boat out of the water. Paul seconded the motion. It passed unanimously. \*(Paul built the cranes that are now on the dock to facilitate the removal of the boat(s) from the water. The construction costs exceeded the budgeted amount and another motion was made to the Board (by Rodger) via email to increase the budget for the project to the actual costs. The motion was passed unanimously by email voting.)

**Safety Boxes** – It was stated by Paul that we need a new safety box for the Champion boat. Jill also suggested getting GPS systems for all of the boats to help find them in case they are swamped. No action on this item; discussion only.

**RAVENNA SUBSIDIES** – Discussion and allocations (Board members only were present)

DragonMax is offering 3 subsidies to Ravenna-bound paddlers to help offset travel expenses to Italy. The major source of revenue for these subsidies is fundraising, but the rebate of membership dues given to all Ravenna-bound paddlers came directly from membership dues themselves. It was estimated that \$27,000 would be available for the second 2 subsidies (needs-based and transportation/fees) and that a cap of \$7,100 would be imposed on the needs-based subsidy requests.

**Needs-based subsidies**- Rodger and Linda Lee received written requests for financial aid from 5 DragonMax members. The Board decided unanimously that it was unnecessary for anyone other than Rodger and Linda to know the identity of these members and the decision to fund the requests was done with complete anonymity. It was decided that three subsidies of \$1600 each would be paid directly to Renee Brekke-Partridge in her role as travel agent to purchase airline tickets for three members, and two other members would receive \$1,000 each to offset other travel expenses (ie. hotel/partial airfare). Under no circumstances would the needs-based subsidies total more than \$7,100. This was left to Rodger and Linda and the topic was closed to further discussion.

**Participation subsidies**- Registration fees, celebration dinners or ceremonies, and transportation costs (people and paddles) were estimated to be in the neighborhood of \$20,000.00. The distribution of money to the various categories was determined to be best handled by a smaller committee dealing specifically with Ravenna. Jill moved that the fine-tuning of the participation subsidy distribution be delegated to the Ravenna Planning Committee. Linda seconded the motion. Motion was passed unanimously.

4<sup>th</sup> of July- Rodger strongly suggested that the 4<sup>th</sup> of July be considered a mandatory practice. When paddlers are not in the boat they will be volunteering where needed on land. It was the desire of the majority of Board members to have the boats back to M dock by 5:00 p.m. To that end it was agreed that ticket distribution for rides would end at 4:30. Henry requested that he be the sole contact person for volunteers for that day to reduce confusion and possible miscommunications.

**Meeting was adjourned at 9:18 p.m.** Next meeting was scheduled for Tuesday, August 12<sup>th</sup> but was subsequently amended to Wednesday, August 13 at 7:00 p.m. in the BYC Fireside Room.

Addendum: The Penn Yan has been sold! On August 5, 2014, Jill called a one-item online Board meeting and moved that the Board accept the \$1,500 offer to buy the Penn Yan that had been brokered by Ray L'Esperance. The motion was seconded by Rodger and was unanimously passed via online voting.