



ANN ARBOR ROWING CLUB

P.O.Box 3128 Ann Arbor, Michigan 48106 734-930-6462

AARC Board Meeting Jan 9, 2007

Purpose: The mission of the Ann Arbor Rowing Club is to provide and promote a safe, affordable, educationally rewarding rowing experience for residents of Ann Arbor and the surrounding area.

Present: Michelle Nemshak, Sarah Marsh, David Crouse, Kate Herrington, Kristin Schrader, Karen Berna, Tricia Miranda, Margaret Hudson, Peggy Herron, Sally Hilger, Jerry Hoffman, Mike Taft

Absent: All Board members were present

Meeting was called to order at 6:32pm (Margaret)

- 1) Welcome (Dec minutes were approved over email) (Margaret)
- 2) Additions/Amendments to the Agenda (Margaret)

-Review of the Task list ("Monkey list") (Sarah)—In an attempt to be more accountable to each other and to keep projects moving and information flowing, this "to do" list has been created. Sarah will send out the list after each Board meeting and again a week prior to each Board meeting.

(6:40pm)

Discussions/Action Items

- 3) Membership meeting summary (Michelle)—Attached to the agenda was a summary of the general membership meeting for Board review before submitting to the general membership. There were some highlighted points that needed to be filled in. Sarah will email Michelle the missing information. Margaret will also email Michelle some missing information. Michelle will finalize the document to attach to the next weekly email.
- 4) Membership Survey – quick view and plan for analysis (Peggy)—Eric created a quick overview of summary characteristics of respondents. We had a 56% response rate (103 of 183 registered members in the 2006 season). Eric will continue analysis and compile a report for dissemination at the Season Kick-off Meeting (tentatively scheduled for 3/24).
- 5) Director of Sweep Rowing (Kate)—Kate has offered Bill Lockwood the position, which will be very similar to the role of Director last year. He will reply by next week.

(7:05pm)

- 6) Adult Learning Programs 2007 (Kristin)--Nothing is set in stone, and Kristin is seeking Board feedback on LTR.

- a. What's the goal for LTR?—Would like the goal to be set at this meeting

Kristin's sense is LTR is how you get people interested in rowing, and we should consider fun, material, what's emphasized in the curriculum, and if we can get more participants by shortening length of the program. She would like to increase LTR publicity.

- i. There should be some rigor to the class, and we need to find a balance between rigor and fun.
- ii. Would like to just get people out on the water doing more actual rowing (reassess the curriculum). Consider reducing weeks on the barge and increasing weeks in the shell. Perhaps create sessions that begin on the barge and move to the shell.
- iii. We're offering exposure to the river and personal enrichment at the same time

- iv. Sarah—To improve post-LTR retention it would be good to fill LTR instructor positions with as many AARC members as possible; consider a meeting/workshop for members interested in teaching LTR; perhaps using a dedicated coxswain would be good for recruiting potential future LTR instructors as they would become familiar with the curriculum while in the cox'n seat

b. 4 vs. 6 weeks

- i. Include coxing in LTR? Would this keep it at 6 weeks?
- ii. What are the core concepts we feel need to come out of LTR?
 1. Safety—for individuals and physical fitness;
 2. Learning how to set the boat;
 3. Learning how to spin
 4. will poll coaches to determine other core concepts

c Morning LTR

1. Kate—not in favor of it because it gives the false impression that they can continue to row in the mornings
2. Sarah—we've not been able support novice morning rowing in the past, not enough participants, drain on org capacity
3. Sally—three years ago their morning LTR class continued a set boat
4. As of now, we will not have a morning LTR session; if we receive inquiries we'll reconsider this decision and the possibility of adding a morning LTR. At the open house, Peggy will have a card surveying morning LTR interest.

d. Quick Catch—what are the goals for QC?

- i. A public relations tool
- ii. A recruitment tool into LTR
- iii. A separate program we offer whose goal is just exposure, enrichment

Kristin will move forward with this feedback and continue her review of LTR. Kristin will set a date for a meeting for potential LTR instructors. Will present LTR plan at Feb board meeting.

(7:48pm)

Reports/Information Items

7) "Other Function" Reports (*only as needed*)

President/Personnel/HR (Sally/Margaret)—Sally has accepted a job in Portland, OR, and will remain in the Ann Arbor area until her house sells. Thus, she'll not be able to head up the HR function, but will be available for Club projects. Sally will lead a review of the Bylaws and anything else she can help do remotely. Overseeing of staff contracts and wages will be rolled into Finance; coaching recruitment and evaluation was placed back within the responsibility of each program manager.

Finance (David/Mike)—Mike will be working with David as the assistant treasurer. David sent around the 2006 budget workbook to the Board, has collected 2007 budgets he has been sent so far, and will redistribute those for further revision by area leaders. Karen will handle the 2006 tax forms.

Safety & Risk Management (David/Michelle)—Michelle has created and submitted a budget

Membership (Peggy)—Peggy is working on a member handbook; has set the open house date for March 10th and will check on location; Season Kick-off Meeting for current members will be 3/24.

8:08pm

Facility & Equipment (Jerry)—has tried to get a handicapped port-a-john down at the boathouse; repairs need to be made to the barge—Jerry will talk to other area clubs regarding sharing labor for those repairs; two Pinerts have some cracks in the center section—repair supplies are on the way; scullers will be asked to not carry Pinerts on their shoulders; Jerry and David will work to update insurance roster for 2007; updated equipment replacement plan will be presented at Feb meeting

(8:16pm)

8) Program Managers (*only as needed*)

Sweep Rowing (Kate)—Kate touched base with 2006 coaches, and this year Kevin, Adam, Billy, and Caroline have informally confirmed interest in coaching next year. Leah and Billy will coach youth. Crystal and Cristin are likely to be leaving Ann Arbor.

Sculling (Sarah/Jerry)—Jerry, Sarah, and Mark Hogan met. Jerry and Mark will be sculling program managers this year and will put together a sculling proposal for the 2007 season. Current thought is to increase the number of coached sessions, and post daily sculling workouts. Will try to have budget thoughts in time for the budgeting meeting

Regatta (Karen)—Karen has now transitioned to regatta manager. Still need a truck for trailering to regattas—Karen will research truck options. Karen will send out requests for regatta volunteers. Feb/March indoor rowing competitions are also being explored—Karen and Mike will work to discuss AARC participation at meets.

MCI (Tricia)—the MCI committee is set: Tricia is the chair, and the committee includes Tom Kraft, David Crouse, Gregg Hartsuff

Social (Rachel)—no update submitted; collecting RSVPs for January 29th chocolate tasting

Youth (Susan)—no update submitted;

Public Relations/Marketing (Kristin)—nothing new to report

(8:38pm)

Winter Training (Mike)—Not much to report; 45 registered January participants; more coaching is being added; Mike will have a review with Adam this week

Adult Learning Programs (Kristin)—see discussion item 6 above

9) Neighbor Rowing Club Reports

OAAR report (Margaret)—OAAR has not met, nothing to report

Huron Representative Report (Tom/Mike) Winter training is going on at the boathouse; Huron is looking at a start day of March 12th for indoor training, on the water in early April

Pioneer Representative Report (Rich)—no report submitted

(8:50pm)

10) Review upcoming calendar (Tricia)—See Club Calendar Below

11) Closing Comments (Margaret)—To make changes to the webpage give content to Melissa 2 weeks prior to when it needs to be live; Margaret will speak with the nominating committee regarding Sally's board position

Meeting adjourned at 9:25pm

Calendar

Board-Only Dates

- Jan 14: Deadline for David to submit full budget to Board for review
- Jan 21: Board of Directors Budget Meeting (*may change, look for email)
- “Weekly” emails
 - Jan 17
 - Jan 31
 - Feb 14
 - Feb 28
 - March 7 begins weekly “weekly” emails

Club Calendar

- Jan 29: Chocolate Making, 7pm Schokolad Chocolate Factory, 110 E. Washington
- Feb 13: Board of Directors Meeting, 6:30pm, 425 S. Main St.
- March 10: AARC Open House, 1pm, *Location TBD by weather* (New Center or Boathouse)
- March 13: Board of Directors Meeting , 6:30pm, Location TBD
- March 24: General Membership Meeting – Season Kick-Off, location TBD
- March 31: Spring work party
- April 1-7: “Season Preview”
- April 9: 2007 Rowing Season Begins
- April 17: Board of Directors Meeting , 6:30pm, Location TBD
- May 8: Board of Directors Meeting , 6:30pm, Location TBD
- May 19: National Learn to Row Day
- June 2: Midwest Masters Sprints Regatta, Columbus, OH
- June 12: Board of Directors Meeting , 6:30pm, Location TBD
- June 27: General Membership Meeting and BBQ, at the boathouse
- July 7: Grand Regatta, Grand Rapids, MI
- July 10: Board of Directors Meeting , 6:30pm, Location TBD
- July 14: Boathouse/Park Clean-Up
- July 21: Michigan Club Invitational Regatta, Ann Arbor, MI
- July 28-29:USRowing Midwest Masters Regionals
- Aug 7-12: Royal Canadian Henley, St. Catharines, Ontario
- Aug 9-12: USRowing Masters Nationals, Tennessee
- Aug 14: Board of Directors Meeting , 6:30pm, Location TBD
- Aug 24: Annual Membership Meeting, Elections & Club BBQ
- Sept 11: Board of Directors Meeting , 6:30pm, Location TBD
- Sept 15: Head of the Thames Regatta, London, Ontario
- October 9: Board of Directors Meeting , 6:30pm, Location TBD
- October 13: Frogtown Regatta, Toledo, OH
- Oct 20-21: Head of the Charles Regatta, Boston, MA
- Oct 27: Speakmon Memorial Regatta, Columbus, OH
- Nov 4: Wyandotte Regatta, Wyandotte, MI
- Nov 4: End of 2007 Rowing Season
- Nov 10: End of season boathouse clean-up
- Nov 11: General Membership Meeting and End of Season Party
- Nov 13: Board of Directors Meeting, final meeting for current board , 6:30pm, Location TBD

Note: On 1/14/07 the Minutes for the Board of Directors were passed via email.

Votes in favor: Karen Berna, David Crouse, Kate Herrington, Peggy Herron, Margaret Hudson, Sarah Marsh, Tricia Miranda, Michelle Nemshak

No vote cast: Sally Hilger, Kristin Schrader

Minutes recorded and respectfully submitted by Tricia Miranda, AARC Secretary.