

MRRA Board Meeting
May 9, 2016

Attendees: Karen Scammell, Joe LaFreniere, Jay Feenan, David Morley, Terry Freeman, Dottie Semonian.

Rack Policy: Jay will send out link to policy, has marked some changes, would like to get this completed, updated.

Equipment Damage:

Discussion: incidents in the past, board decision if negligent or accident, would determine whether or not the member was responsible for paying the deductible.
Costs have increased.

Insurance deduction is \$1000, Bronwyn looked into some other insurance coverage.
Nothing is available for lesser amount. Prior incident member paid the damage cost out of pocket if less than \$ 1000.
The club budgets \$2000 annually for equipment damage.
Would it make sense to add an additional charge to membership, self insure to cover the liability? This could limit the member cost to about \$ 200.
Damage to an 8, with 9 members in the boat, divided is more reasonable. The larger cost is to the single damage, covered by one member.

MRRA value about:
90 K of boats, have borrowed boat insurance, Travel has been covered. Transportation costly.
If raising the deductible to \$2K.
As it is now member has to pay \$1000 if damaged. Insured for replacement cost.

Motion: Members liability for 2016 for equipment damage is limited to \$500 per incident.
Document will be updated, date needs to be updated on the Web site.
All agree

Karen will reach out to Jebb regarding insurance premium if our deductible is \$2K
Future 2017: Jay: Participant will pay a fee toward self insuring.

Festival Regatta:

Jay will verify the waiver coverage for membership and regattas
He suspects we may need different levels of waiver depending on the level or participation in the club:
Example:
1. General membership
2. Participant
3. Guest
NORA waiver may be sufficient (Florida uses this for regattas)
Comment from Dottie: Most MRRA Members are paying for the US Rowing Waiver to be able to row.

Parking Permits- will be filled
DCR permit is filled
Environmental Police, filled, call the day before
Will also reach out to Lowell Police, Joe can contact Chelmsford

Parking: Early Morning: Charge \$5 for Festival Regatta- Finish collecting around 11 AM
Joe L has talked to Lowell Motor Boat Club
Teaches class there. Has instructed boaters to run by sweeps and sculls on plane to avoid wakes.

Committee updates:

Membership / Programs:

Master's Meeting 11 people showed up, watched safety video
Can send out a club note to see if anyone one sculling, wants to sweep

Melinda Neale: Chair person for Open Sweep Women
Ladies 8 Masters
Men 3, need a fourth, will ask at general meeting if anyone is interested in joining this group.

Learn to Row Day: Annual Saturday June 4th

Fliers being posted.
Will bring more to the meeting tomorrow, asking members to spread the word, hang up posters.

Social:

Some scheduled bowling night
Will get more full moon rows, group rows planned as members return for the season
Will help with the Learn To Row Day refreshments.

Safety:

Jay and Mark, with current conditions, rules, policies, when do they go out to row.
Other clubs vastly different rules, not related to temperatures, more related to experience.
Educational driven, thinking about people understanding the risk and taking on the responsibility
Also with discussions with liability, the more rules written, the more rules to enforce.

Joe: Thinks the rules have been a good standard to follow
OK to Row was not posted by Boat Captain, members were frustrated, trying to find out when it was clear to return this season.
US rowing, "don't row alone"
1:10:1 hypothermia rule is most important- David Morley reviewed at last meeting the importance of personal safety, and cold weather, water preparation.

Posting advisory: Water temp is recommended bring PFD, phone, etc
Want safety to be followed

Safety committee will discuss more after we are on the water

Equipment committee:

Launch is equipment, need to put more care into launch and other equipment.

Good group this year

Cox boxes and cover for Accomac ordered

Rack waiting list to be reviewed

Invoice: Ashley and Jess high storage \$50

Weather Station: Jay, Chris and UML spoke, put together a set of recommended equipment, Looking to coordinate with a UML Grad student. Jay Feenan has offered to donate \$500 toward the project, suggest UML cover the remainder, then would become property of UML.

UML would be responsible to implement and install. Aware with state, likely restrictions on the work order, who can do the work.

Would want the weather station to monitor:

Wind direction, water temp and camera for viewing the dock, bridge area.

Computer logbook can upload. A Grad Student will be involved in July.

New Lap Top Computer: Logbook Locked with a cable

Bracket needs to be modified.

Rack: LHS bay, may be available for 3 singles or a single and a double

Equipment will view the space available and make a determination.

TRR:

Program Manager needed

No Director has come forward, need to understand all areas of Regatta and how the pieces link together.

Alex, Robbie and Jess running HS Regattas- would they be a group to approach?

Don't want to loose with revenue

Past 47 K out of Regatta, LHS expect 5-6 K UML 10-13 K, MRRA 10-13 K

Leaves money outside, investing into regatta equipment

Create an LLC, single member, benefits to tax practices, owner

Joe L concern about making another entity stronger, risk of loosing control of the TRR.

Contract with corporate structure will allow MRRA to own.

MRRA holds the TRR in trust.

Will be brought up to the club members at the meeting tomorrow night.

Ideally need 3 people to work as Directors for this large regatta. Many members have knowledge, understand the history and would be useful in guiding the new group.

Meeting adjourned

8:17 PM