

**VIRGINIA SCHOLASTIC ROWING ASSOCIATION**  
P.O. Box 23042 Alexandria, VA 22304  
**MINUTES of the BOARD of DIRECTORS MEETING April 10, 2012**

I. The Board of Directors meeting was called to order by the President, Mike Mutter at 7:40 pm in the cafeteria of Thomas Jefferson HSST. Thirty-four voting members were present as follows:

| <u><b>Officer Members</b></u> |               |                       |              |
|-------------------------------|---------------|-----------------------|--------------|
| <b>President</b>              | Mike Mutter   | <b>Vice President</b> | John White   |
| <b>Treasurer</b>              | Mark Peterson | <b>Secretary</b>      | Fran Phoenix |

| <u><b>At-Large and Team Members</b></u> |                     |                                |                   |
|---|---------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------|
| <b>Past President</b>                   | -----               | <b>Mount Vernon</b>            | Lisa Schneider    |
| <b>At-Large</b>                         | Ryz Obuchowicz      | <b>NCS / St Albans</b>         | Mark LaViolette   |
| <b>At-Large</b>                         | Ric Thomas          | <b>Oakton</b>                  | Mike Mulreany     |
| <b>At_Large</b>                         | Shirley von Rinteln | <b>Potomac</b>                 | Beneatha Draffin  |
| <b>At Large</b>                         | Mary King           |                                |                   |
| <b>Briar Woods</b>                      | Rich Schafer        | <b>Robinson</b>                | Robert Clark      |
| <b>Christchurch (Associate)</b>         | -----               | <b>Sidwell Friends</b>         | -----             |
| <b>Episcopal (Associate)</b>            |                     | <b>South County</b>            | Adale Tourtellott |
|   | -----               | <b>Stonebridge</b>             |                   |
| <b>Fairfax</b>                          | Pam Jones           | <b>St Stephens/ Ste Agnes</b>  | Courtney Baldrige |
| <b>Forest Park</b>                      | Curt Hoagland       | <b>T C Williams</b>            | Ed Emblom         |
| <b>Gar-Field</b>                        | Ken Morgan          | <b>Thomas Jefferson</b>        | Dave Applin       |
| <b>Georgetown Visitation</b>            | Charles McNamara    | <b>W T Woodson</b>             | Mark Ramage       |
| <b>Gloucester (Associate)</b>           | -----               | <b>Wakefield</b>               | Leslie McClintick |
| <b>Hylton</b>                           | Dorothy Lazor       | <b>Washington-Lee</b>          | Tim Aiken         |
| <b>J E B Stuart</b>                     | Jenny Kusmik        | <b>West Potomac</b>            | Mick McKeown      |
| <b>James Madison</b>                    | Ronald Marx         | <b>West Springfield</b>        | Shari McClellan   |
| <b>Lake Braddock</b>                    | Cynthia Maltenfort  | <b>Western Albemarle(Asso)</b> | -----             |
| <b>Langley</b>                          | -----               | <b>Westfield</b>               | Craig Trumbull    |
| <b>Mathews (Associate)</b>              | -----               | <b>Woodbridge</b>              | Tony Wilks        |
| <b>McLean</b>                           | Doug Hale           | <b>Yorktown</b>                | -----             |

Non-voting Members:

**Coordinators**

|                         |                     |                   |               |
|-------------------------|---------------------|-------------------|---------------|
| <b>Course Master</b>    | Russell/Verster     | <b>Trophies</b>   | Mike Stilwell |
| <b>LOC</b>              | Ryz Obuchowicz      | <b>Web Master</b> | -----         |
| <b>Charlie Butt Dir</b> |                     |                   |               |
| <b>Personnel</b>        | Shirley von Rinteln |                   |               |

**Committees**

|                      |                |                    |                 |
|----------------------|----------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| <b>Bylaws</b>        | John White     | <b>Grievance</b>   | Harry Heim      |
| <b>Coaches</b>       | Mary King      | <b>Historian</b>   | TBD             |
| <b>Coach Develop</b> | Ryz Obuchowicz | <b>Nominations</b> | Mike Stilwell   |
|                      |                | <b>Publicity</b>   | Merlisa Corbett |

**Representatives**

|                       |       |                      |                |
|-----------------------|-------|----------------------|----------------|
| <b>Sandy Run Park</b> | ----- | <b>Crew Council</b>  | -----          |
|                       |       | <b>USRA Referees</b> | Ryz Obuchowicz |

II. President's Report: Mike Mutter:

- A. Stone Bridge in Loudon County has run in to a wall as far as rowing is concerned. An administrator's signature is required to enable the students to row. The Stone Bridge parents have to work on their administration to allow them to row. VASRA will try to help.
- B. Donna Towner no longer is employed by the Fairfax County Park Authority but will still help at the regattas.
- C. A not yet identified launch driver ran into a Mount Vernon shell at the March 31<sup>st</sup> regatta. Two girls were hit but apparently were fine.
- D. The Occoquan Classic is scheduled for May 19<sup>th</sup>. We are not sure if we have enough rowers. Please commit by April 17<sup>th</sup>. It is the same weekend as Stotesbury and uses a different parent volunteer pool. Coaches please contact Mary King.

III. Secretary Report. Fran Phoenix:

- A. The minutes of the March meeting were approved as written.
- B. Most of the schools have their Administrative Requirements done now though only 17% of the schools had them done on time. Fran is still reminding those who are not in good standing to get the missing information or the students cannot row in a VASRA regatta.

IV. Treasurer's Report. Mark Peterson:

- A. The March financial report was accepted as written.
- B. A few entry fees are still not paid: Christchurch and St. Stephen/St. Agnes.
- C. The Regattas this year are pulling in about the same amount of money that they did last year.

V. Vice President's Report. John White:

- A. Lee West has 90 days to set up her restitution plan with her Probation Officer.

VI. Representative's Reports.

- A. Crew Council. Noel Deskins: Not in attendance.
- B. USRA Referees. Ryz Obuchowicz:  
Ryz reported that there are some new referee candidates. Referees are sorely needed as some regattas are being run with no referees. Please recruit more.  
Regatta Management Status: Ryz reported that there have been floating starts at all the regattas so far this Spring because there are not enough river rats ( 7-8 needed) to put in the platforms. They have to be available on Fridays to accomplish this task. A discussion followed. The River Rat job description is on the VASRA website and it is a full season job as there is much training involved. If your school has a river rat, then you do not have to supply a permanent LOS person.
- C. Sandy Run Park. Andy Kaganowich: not in attendance  
Jules Verster did report that the aeration system is going in sooner and that it may close the course next week...something that was not supposed to happen. The original plan we were sent was not supposed to interfere at all. John White will send Jules the original plan that we were given last year by James Short.

VII. Coordinator Reports.

A. LOC. Ryz Obuchowicz:

See above in VI. B.

B. Charlie Butt. Chris Walsh: Not in attendance

C. Personnel. Shirley von Rinteln:

Shirley needs Chris Walsh to verify his volunteer needs so that Shirley can move forward with making final assignments for the Charlie Butt regatta.

D. Trophies: Mike Stilwell:

There are still some trophies that need to be turned In to Mike. Please arrange to get them to Mike as the trophy regattas are coming up soon.

VIII. Committee Reports.

A. Budget: Curt Hoagland:

1. The Budget Committee will be working on the budget for next year.
2. They are looking at the possibility of the fee schedule for next year being based on whether or not the competing school provides volunteers on the Occoquan.
3. More volunteers are needed for the committee. Contact Curt Hoagland if you are interested. They especially would like a representative from a non-Occoquan school.

B. Bylaws. John White:

John asked that the committee members stay after the meeting in order to come up with a meeting date that is good for all members.

C. Coaches Committee. Mary King:

1. Mary commented on the necessity of the school Board representatives to communicate with their coaches so that they know about decisions made at the meetings.
2. Floating starts are a problem especially when times are close. Please stress to your clubs the need for more people to get the platforms in before the regattas
3. Seeds for the Championship regattas will be starting very soon.

D. Coaches Development. Ryz Obuchowicz: Nothing to Report.

E. Grievance. Harry Heim: Not in attendance.

F. History. TBD

G. Nomination. Ric Thomas:

A slate needs to be presented electronically to the membership in May. Please give Ric the names of people willing to run for the Executive Board.

H. Publicity. Merlisa Corbett: Nothing to report.

IX. Old Business.

1. Ric Thomas has had a discussion with the Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority people about the finish line tower. They are excited about the possibility of the tower being built by military labor in training. The Park Authority wants final veto power on some aspects of the process. There will be more information on that in the future.

2. Parking problems at the last regatta were discussed. This week different color tickets will be used throughout the day. They will be good for thirty minutes after the color change.

3. A booster parent from Fairfax High School shared with us that, using the 20 point check list prescribed by the IRS allowed them to have their coaches declared independent contractors. It is an individual thing from school to school and she suggested that each club go through the list with the person who prepares their taxes and see how they fit in to the IRS definition. It is somewhat “the luck of the draw”....

X. New Business.

1. The MOU with the Park Authority has been signed. This year the money collectors will be paid and then the remainder of the money collected will be split between equally between VASRA and the Park Authority.

2. Mike Mutter needs some digital oar blade designs for the championship T shirt. He will contact the schools still needed.

3. Mary King mentioned some situations that have occurred during practice on the Occoquan. She reminded us that schools and their coaches need to follow the park rules. Schools may be shut out of the Park for a week for not doing as they are supposed to.

XI. Announcements.

1. Apr 14 - Darrell Winslow Regatta, Occoquan [Cox meeting 7:00, Coaches 7:30, First Race 9:00]
2. Apr 21 - Smokey Jacobs Regatta, Occoquan [Cox meeting 7:00, Coaches 7:30, First Race 9:00]
3. Apr 28 - VSRC entry declaration by Div 2 teams to row up to Div 1. Coaches notify Mary King.
4. Apr 28 - Charlie Butt Regatta, Potomac [Cox meeting 7:00, Coaches 7:30, First Race 9:00]
5. Apr 28 - Al Urquia Regatta, Occoquan [Cox meeting 7:00, Coaches 7:30, First Race 9:00]
6. May 5 - Ted Phoenix Regatta, Occoquan [Cox meeting 6:30, Coaches 7:00, First Race 8:00]
7. May 12 - Virginia Scholastic Championships, Occoquan [Cox meeting 6:30, Coaches 7:00, First Race 8:00]

XII. Adjournment. The meeting was adjourned by the President at 9:00 p.m.

A. The next BOD meeting is Tuesday, June 5, 2012 in the TJHSST Cafeteria.

*Fran Phoenix*

VASRA Secretary  
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