

VIRGINIA SCHOLASTIC ROWING ASSOCIATION

P.O. Box 23042 Alexandria, VA 22304

MINUTES of the BOARD of DIRECTORS MEETING March 1, 2011

I. The Board of Directors meeting was called to order by the President, Robert Ittig, at 7:44 pm in the cafeteria of Thomas Jefferson HSST. Thirty-three voting members were present as follows:

<u>Officer Members</u>			
President	Rob Ittig	Vice President	Michael Mutter
Treasurer	Mark Peterson	Secretary	John White
<u>At-Large and Team Members</u>			
At-Large	Harry Heim	Mount Vernon	Lisa Schneider
At-Large	Fran Phoenix	NCS / St Albans	Mark LaViolette
At-Large	Ryz Obuchowicz	Oakton	Mike Mulreany
Briar Woods	Jordan Schafer	Potomac	Bill Wunderle
Christchurch (Associate)	Richard Laurance	Robinson	Thomas Criman
Episcopal (Associate)	-----	Sidwell Friends	Elizabeth Britton
Fairfax	Pam Jones	South County	Adale Tourtellott
Forest Park	Curtis Hoagland	T C Williams	Eric Schilling
Gar-Field	Don Schilpp	Thomas Jefferson	Dave Applin
Georgetown Visitation	Charles McNamara	W T Woodson	Mark Ramage
Gloucester (Associate)	-----	Wakefield	-----
Hylton	Dorothy Lazor	Washington-Lee	Tim Aiken
J E B Stuart	Jenny Kusmik	West Potomac	Mike Stilwell
James Madison	-----	West Springfield	Grant Bridgewater
Lake Braddock	Cynthia Maltenfort	Western Albemarle(Asso)	-----
Langley	Nathalie/Jun Quion	Westfield	Shirley von Rinteln
Mathews (Associate)	-----	Woodbridge	-----
McLean	Doug Hale	Yorktown	Michael Osborne

Non-voting Members:

<u>Coordinators</u>			
Course Master	Tim Russell	Programs	Shelia Moats
LOC	Ryz Obuchowicz	Trophies	Mike Stilwell
Charlie Butt	Chris Walsh	Web Master	-----
Personnel	Shirley von Rinteln		

<u>Committees</u>			
Bylaws	John White	Grievance	Harry Heim
Coaches	-----	Historian	Obuchowicz / Phoenix
Coach Develop	Ryz Obuchowicz	Nominations	Craig Trumbull

<u>Representatives</u>			
Sandy Run Park	James Short	Crew Council	-----
		USRA Referees	Ryz Obuchowicz

II. President's Report. Rob Ittig:

A. There was nothing new related to the embezzlement investigation other than the initial hearing for the indictment of the former treasurer has been rescheduled from March 1 to May 17, 2010.

B. Rob announced that VASRA is planning to expand the Virginia Scholastic Rowing Championship (VSRC) from a Saturday regatta only to having heats for events with more than 18 entries on Friday evening prior. The reason is that a few events, specifically the Women's 1st Eight, the Women's 1st Four, and the Men's 1st Four, have so many entries that six heats are required and only one boat can advance to the final. No one is happy with this. The solution is to introduce semi-finals, but that requires three races and three races are difficult to accommodate in one day. In addition, it is considered unsafe safety/health-wise to race three times in one day.

The coaches would like to run the VSRC on Saturday and Sunday. This is highly unlikely. No scholastic sports are allowed on Sunday in Virginia and it is not anticipated the Crew Council would entertain favorably a request for exception to this policy.

It may be possible to restructure the Ted Phoenix regatta (held the Saturday prior) to run some events from the VSRC in order to reduce the VSRC length, but that would not solve the issue of those events requiring heats, semifinals, and final races.

C. Rob asked for volunteers to serve on the Nominations Committee to select a slate of VASRA officer candidates for the 2011-2012 season. Craig Trumbull of the Westfield High School crew boosters requested to be on this Committee. No other members were identified at this time.

D. The membership considered the application of Briar Woods High School Crew Boosters to become members of VASRA. After approval of a motion to waive the Bylaws requirement that the application for membership be voted on at the next regular meeting (Article III, Section 3), the membership voted unanimously to accept Briar Woods HS as a member.

III. Secretary Report. John White:

A. The Minutes of the February 1, 2011 Board meeting were read and approved as amended.

B. John announced that the IRS has issued a ruling on the status of the Robinson High School coaches, saying that the IRS has determined the Robinson coaches are employees vice independent contractors.

C. John listed and explained the administrative requirements due on March 18th. These are due before a team may compete in a VASRA regatta or meet:

- Liability Waiver signature certification
- Rule Book certification
- Entry Fees
- Master Eligibility List

D. John handed out to the members present the regatta credentials and parking passes for their coaches.

IV. Treasurer's Report. Mark Peterson:

A. The February financial statement was reviewed.

B. Dues are outstanding for Mathews and Episcopal.

C. Entry fees outstanding: Episcopal, Visitation, Hylton, Madison, Langley, Mathews, South County, Jefferson, T C Williams, Washington-Lee, Westfield.

V. Vice President's Report. Michael Mutter:

A. VASRA has five insurance policies:

1. Regatta Insurance

2. General Liability Insurance

3. Directors & Officers and Crime Insurance

4. Equipment Insurance "on land" (buildings, equipment, trophies, PA systems, etc.)

5. Equipment Insurance "on water" (race course, launches, radios, docks, etc.)

We have been in negotiation with USRowing on the cost to register our ten regattas and we have come to agreement at something less than 50% of the regular fees. The check will go in the mail tomorrow (March 2nd).

The General Liability policy was issued at the time of the VASRA Organizational Membership renewal on January 10, 2011.

The Directors & Officers and Crime policy will be due for renewal on March 22, 2011 (anticipated to be the same cost, \$895 annual fee).

The Land Equipment insurance policy is due for renewal March 8, 2011, cost \$2,208. The Water Equipment insurance policy is due for renewal March 18, 2011, cost \$2,687.05.

B. Mike gave a short report of the Coxswain Training Clinic held February 19th. It was attended by 140+ persons, including a dozen masters coxswains each of whom made a \$25 contribution to VASRA to defray the costs of the clinic. Mary Whipple, the coxswain of the 2008 Olympic U.S. Women's Eight that won the gold medal, was the keynote speaker. The clinic was well received and the feedback surveys were most positive.

C. Launch driver training plans are outstanding from Fairfax, Sidwell Friends, Mt Vernon, and Wakefield. The formal launch driver training by The Foundation for Rowing Education has been cancelled due to instructor unavailability (scheduled for March 13th or March 20th).

D. Regatta entries deadline is 9 PM on the Wednesday prior to weekly regattas and 9 PM on Mondays prior to the two championship regattas. No exceptions. Those missing the deadline may enter boats on a space available basis at the coaches meeting prior to the regatta.

VI. Representative's Reports.

A. Crew Council. Noel Deskins: NTR

B. USRA Referees. Ryz Obuchowicz: Please take a look at your parents for possible candidates to be referees.

C. Sandy Run Park. James Short: Additional electrical power will not be installed by spring. Generators may be needed for the Grandstand and Finish Line. James reiterated there are no dogs allowed in the park on regatta days. If there are any other questions or issues, please see him.

VII. Coordinator Reports.

A. LOC. Ryz Obuchowicz: The LOC job allocations are under review with the goal of making the assignments equitable and fair. No one booster organization has a proprietary choice on which job they get. All jobs will be rotated on a bi-annual basis among all. LOC permanent staff nominations outstanding: Visitation and STA/NCS.

B. Charlie Butt. Chris Walsh: Three permits for the CBR were submitted February 7th and are expected to be approved. A meeting with the Park Service was held February 15 and proved to be very fruitful. A walk-through of the regatta and the site is suggested with the Park Ranger.

C. Personnel. Shirley von Rinteln: 110% showed up at the Occoquan work day February 26th. A lot was accomplished ... thank you.

D. Programs. Shelia Moats: The regatta program inputs are due tonight. There is a little room to delay, but not past Friday (March 4th). A reminder will be put out by email.

E. Trophies. Mike Stilwell: Turn in trophies tonight!

F. Coursemaster. Tim Russell: Tim made a pitch for river rat volunteers. He said this is his last year (after 13 years) and someone needs to step up to take over the race course maintenance.

VIII. Committee Reports.

A. Audit. TBD:

B. Bylaws. John White: NTR

C. Coaches Committee. Mary King: NTR

D. Coaches Development. Ryz Obuchowicz: NTR

E. Grievance. Harry Heim: NTR

F. History. Ryz Obuchowicz: NTR

G. Nomination. Craig Trumbull: Request volunteers to serve on the nominations committee.

IX. Old Business. None

X. New Business. None

XI. Announcements.

- A. 3/5 – Occoquan Work Day – On-water course installation #1, 9 am – 1 pm.
- B. 3/5 – USRowing referee clinic, 8:30 – 2:30, 8110 Gatehouse Road, Merrifield, VA.
- C. 3/6 – Junior Women’s ID Camp, Thompson Boat Center, 9 am-3 pm.
- D. 3/12 – Occoquan Work Day – On-water course installation #2, 9 am – 1 pm.
- E. 3/13 – Junior Men’s ID Camp, Thompson Boat Center, 9 am-3 pm.
- F. 3/18 – Liability Waiver Signature Certification, Rule Book Certification, Entry Fees, and Master Eligibility List are due.
- G. 3/19 – Occoquan Work Day – On-water course installation #3, 9 am – 1 pm.
- H. 3/21 – List of trained launch drivers due to Volunteer Coordinator, Shirley von Rinteln.
- I. 3/21 – Regatta Volunteer names due to Volunteer Coordinator, Shirley von Rinteln.

XII. Adjournment. The meeting was adjourned by the President at 8:48 pm.

A. The next BOD meeting is Tuesday, April 5, 2011 in the TJHSST Cafeteria.

John D. White

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Secretary