

VIRGINIA SCHOLASTIC ROWING ASSOCIATION

P.O. Box 23042 Alexandria, VA 22304

MINUTES of the BOARD of DIRECTORS MEETING June 7, 2011

I. The Board of Directors meeting was called to order by the President, Robert Ittig, at 7:46 pm in the cafeteria of Thomas Jefferson HSST. Twenty-four 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 (Heim)	-----	Mount Vernon	-----
At-Large	Fran Phoenix	NCS / St Albans	Mark LaViolette
At-Large	Ryz Obuchowicz	Oakton	Mike Mulreany
		Potomac	-----
Briar Woods	Rich/Marla Schafer	Robinson	Thomas Criman
Christchurch (Associate)	-----	Sidwell Friends	-----
Episcopal (Associate)	-----	South County	Adale Tourtellott
Fairfax	Pam Jones	St Stephens/ Ste Agnes	-----
Forest Park	-----	T C Williams	Eric Schilling
Gar-Field	Don Schilpp	Thomas Jefferson	Dave Applin
Georgetown Visitation	-----	W T Woodson	Mark Ramage
Gloucester (Associate)	-----	Wakefield	-----
Hylton	Dorothy Lazor	Washington-Lee	-----
J E B Stuart	-----	West Potomac	-----
James Madison	Ronald Marx	West Springfield	Bruce Reid
Lake Braddock	Cynthia Maltenfort	Western Albemarle (Asso)	-----
Langley	-----	Westfield	Shirley von Rinteln
Mathews (Associate)	-----	Woodbridge	Hal Johnson
McLean	Doug Hale	Yorktown	Michael Osborne

Non-voting Members:

<u>Coordinators</u>			
Course Master	Tim Russell	Programs	-----
LOC	Ryz Obuchowicz	Trophies	-----
Charlie Butt Dir	-----	Web Master	-----
Personnel	Shirley von Rinteln		

<u>Committees</u>			
Bylaws	John White	Grievance	Harry Heim
Coaches	Mary King	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. Rob reported we had a successful regatta season and thanked the volunteers and staff. Numerous positive comments have been received from parents.

B. Embezzlement Update. Rob related that yesterday (June 6th) at 1:30 PM he received a call from the Commonwealth Attorney, John Arledge, asking if VASRA would accept a plea bargain by the Defense Attorney for LW. The terms included \$150,000 restitution, 8 days jail time, 200 hours of community service, and probation. The probation was unspecified at the time but presumed to be for the period until restitution was completed. The plea bargain was accepted at 4:30 PM, June 6th.

The case now goes to a Grand Jury sometime in July/August at which time a sentencing hearing will be scheduled, expected to be some six months from now.

C. Capital Equipment Plan (CEP). The CEP was reviewed. All CEP items for FY 2011, except replacing the start platform, were placed on hold pending the embezzlement outcome. A handout for the FY 2012 CEP (2011-2012 season) was distributed that updated part of the CEP and recommended an assessment of \$10 per rower for this year. This is reduced from the \$22 per rower in the original CEP from last year. There was lengthy discussion of the CEP, including a review of the history to replace the starting platform, status of payment for the stakeboats, status of the new finish line tower, and the need to replace items like a number of radios. A motion was made by Pam Jones (Fairfax) to accept the FY 2012 CEP Assessment of \$10, seconded by Mark LaViolette (NCS/STA). The motion passed by 21 yes votes, 1 no, and 1 abstain (there were 23 voting members present at the time).

D. Election of Officers for 2011-2012. The Nominations Committee Chair, Craig Trumbull (Westfield), presented a list of candidates and was preparing to conduct elections. However, two issues prevented election: 1) the eligibility of two candidates was challenged and 2) since two of the candidates were not known until at the meeting, the Membership expressed a desire to have more time to consider a vote.

1. Challenge of eligibility: The Bylaws, ARTICLE VIII - *Election and Terms of Executive Board Officers*, Section 3, state: "An officer shall not be eligible to serve more than four consecutive one-year terms in the same office, unless otherwise specifically approved by a two-thirds vote of the Board of Directors as an exception to policy for sufficient reason."

The current President, Rob Ittig, has been in office five years and Secretary, John White, six years. The continuance of these two was challenged as not being in accordance with the Association Bylaws. Twenty-four of 41 voting members were present (quorum is 18), however, two-thirds (28) of the Board of Directors was not, and therefore the continuance of either person could not be considered. Removal of these from the slate of candidates was not accepted by the membership.

2. Time to consider a vote: The Bylaws, ARTICLE VIII - *Election and Terms of Executive Board Officers*, Section 1, state: "... the Nominating Committee's purpose is to present a slate of nominees to the Board of Directors no later than the May Board meeting and that in doing so, the Committee should consult with member organizations. All members, including the existing Executive Board officers, are eligible for nomination. At the June Board meeting, the Nominating Committee shall oversee the voting for the Executive Board."

Two nominees, Craig Fritsche for President, and Rick Thomas for Vice President had not been previously presented to the Membership. After some discussion, a meeting later in the month to hold elections was suggested.

Mark LaViolette (NCS/STA) made a motion: *to delay the election of officers to June 28, 2011 to allow time for consideration of candidates; and an electronic vote be taken prior to June 28, 2011 on whether to allow Rob Ittig and John White to be on the ballot.* This Motion was seconded by Doug Hale (McLean). The Motion passed by a vote of 24 to 0.

A special meeting will be held on June 28th at 7:30 in TJHSST as provided by ARTICLE XV, Section 3, of the Bylaws. Proxy voting is permitted, such proxy to be forwarded to the Nominating Committee by June 27, 2011.

III. Secretary Report. John White:

A. The Minutes of the April 5, 2011 Board meeting were read and approved as written.

B. A tentative schedule of events for 2011-2012 was handed out. John requested that it be reviewed and if the booster representative turned over during the summer, it be given to your replacement.

C. Scholastic Honor Roll. Information is not yet available for 2011, however, since nominations are made over the summer by September 9th, John handed out the information for last year since the criteria and requirements will likely be unchanged. He will forward the 2011 nomination form when it is available.

D. John requested any updates to Committee/Coordinator job descriptions be forwarded to him.

IV. Treasurer's Report. Mark Peterson:

A. The April and May financial statements were reviewed. All bills received to date have been paid. Mark said that the income was substantially above that of previous years and he would have an exact figure at the end of the month when a few known obligations were invoiced and paid. An audit will be conducted after the end of the fiscal year, June 30th.

V. Vice President's Report. Michael Mutter:

A. Insurance Claim. Mike stated that the claim has being processed by the Philadelphia Insurance Company and is now in front of an adjudication panel. We don't know when payment will be made and for how much.

B. Launch Driver Training. We are concerned about some drivers at our regattas who were less than adequate. There were not many, and for those few bad cases we identified, the issue will be taken up with the individual boosters. We will generate a form to make it easier for referees to report problems with launch drivers so that the LOC can identify and track any continuing problems next season. We will also schedule formal training in March 2012 by The Foundation for Rowing Education.

VI. Representative's Reports.

- A. Crew Council. Noel Deskins: NTR
- B. USRA Referees. Ryz Obuchowicz: NTR
- C. Sandy Run Park. James Short: NTR

VII. Coordinator Reports.

- A. LOC. Ryz Obuchowicz: ????
- B. Charlie Butt. Chris Walsh: NTR
- C. Personnel. Shirley von Rintel: NTR
- D. Programs. Shelia Moats: NTR
- E. Trophies. Mike Stilwell: NTR

VIII. Committee Reports.

- A. Audit. TBD:
- B. Bylaws. John White: NTR
- C. Coaches Committee. Mary King: There is a coaches meeting on June 18th and several things will be discussed/decided: Changes to the VASRA Rules Book; Ranking System; Out-of-Season Policy; Regatta schedules and cancellations; and elections of officers for next year. Encourage your head coaches to attend. Mary stated that the coaches feel as they are not being listened to and want more influence in VASRA.
- D. Coaches Development. Ryz Obuchowicz: NTR
- E. Grievance. Harry Heim: NTR
- F. History. Ryz Obuchowicz & Fran phoenix: NTR
- G. Nomination. Craig Trumbull: The nominations and election are addressed above.

IX. Old Business. None.

X. New Business. None.

XI. Announcements.

- A. June 4 and 11 – Occoquan work days for course removal.
- B. June 18 – Coaches Committee meeting, 10 am, South County High School, room 109.
- C. August 31 – Electronic vote due on the 2011-2012 VASRA Budget (draft budget to be distributed by email NLT July 31).
- D. September 9 – Scholastic Honor Roll nominations due to USRowing (Head Coach and school Principal sign the nomination form).
- E. September 10 – Coaches Committee meeting, 10 am, South County High School.
- F. September TBD – Crew Council meeting, 10 am, Freedom High School, Woodbridge.
- G. September 20 – VASRA Executive Board meeting.
- H. October 4 – First VASRA meeting for the 2011-2012 season. Orientation for booster representatives and presidents.

XII. Adjournment. The meeting was adjourned by the President at 10:16 p.m.

- A. The next BOD meeting is Tuesday, October 4, 2011 in the TJHSST Cafeteria.

John D. White

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Secretary