Upper Valley Rowing Foundation
Board of Directors (Zoom) Meeting Minutes
October 5, 2020

Board members present: Liz Marshall, president; Elizabeth Glenshaw, vice president; John "Tunni" Tunnicliffe, secretary; Michael Stafford, treasurer; Martha Beattie, Susan Brighton, Terry Harwood, Mickey Elsberg, Carin Reynolds, Dan Ruml, Peter Swanson, Linda Muri, Jenny Lynn
Members present: Margie Elsberg, scribe; Karen Sluzenski, Elizabeth Wilson, Annette Kennedy, Linda Muri

Call to Order: Liz called the meeting to order at 5:45 pm

1. **Meeting minutes:**
    A. Elizabeth G. moved that the **September** meeting minutes (which had been moved to August 31 because of the Labor Day holiday) be approved. Motion passed unanimously.
    B. Tunni moved that the **March** meeting minutes be approved. Martha seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
    C. Martha moved that the **June** meeting minutes be approved. Terry seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
    D. Liz reported that the **April** meeting minutes q have not yet been found.

2. **Committee Reports:**
    A. **Finance** (Michael Stafford)
        i. **Review/Federal Tax Prep:** Michael reviewed the monthly report and said he is preparing to meet with the UVRF accountant who prepares UVRF's tax returns.
        ii. **Volunteer hours:** Michael asked board members to send him the number of hours they have volunteered each week, on average, over the past year.
        iii. **Payment to Town of Hanover:** Liz said she met w/John Sherman who was extremely pleased that UVRF is paying the town $3,000 for use of the Kendal site.
        iv. **Reimbursements for equipment fee**: Michael reported that he and Liz continue to contact members who paid 2020 equipment fees for services that were cancelled due to the pandemic.

    B. **Kendal site** (Dan Ruml)
        i. **Singles and doubles pandemic rental program:** Martha congratulated Dan & Liz for running a successful rental program. When more people wanted to rent than there were boats, the program held a lottery. In July, UVRF rented 12 Peinerts and 4 rec singles to members (some joined the club because of the rental program). August demand was high, and juniors were given priority, but three private boats were added to the rental inventory and several adult members and CReW participants rented shells. September participation was high, much like August. Though the Board decided in early August to end the program at the end of September for safety reasons—cold temperatures, thick fog, and less daylight—a few experienced rowers were allowed to

rent shells in October. Martha said many people used the on-line logbook, so she was able to track both rental and private boat activity.

ii. **Singles rentals to Dartmouth:** Dan explained that the college's coached singles program will use UVRF boats in the morning and afternoon through mid-November. The club rented 5 Peinert 25s, 6 Peinert 26s and 5 recreational shells (2 Maas Aeros, 2 Maas 24s and 1 Peinert Zephyr) at the same $100/boat rate that was charged during the member rental program.

iii. **Review of boat rental decisions:** Liz led a discussion about members' concerns about two Board decisions: 1) to rent a few boats to competitive rowers for October after the membership had been told that the rental program would end after September—leaving the impression, Karen Sluzenski said, that October rentals would not be allowed for rec rowers, regardless of skill level, and 2) to rent singles to Dartmouth without notifying the membership beforehand—a decision that some members felt placed college interests and UVRF financial interests over members' interests.

Some people suggested that an apology is in order, that all members should have been told of both proposals—limited post-September member rentals and renting boats to Dartmouth—as soon the proposals were raised. Liz explained that the two distinct issues were decided following normal Committee-Board processes, which seemed appropriate at the time. Still, she agreed, members should have had an opportunity to weigh in.

iv. **Porta-potty** – Carin Reynolds said the Town of Hanover will install a Porta-potty at Kendal. She said John Sherman, head of the town's Parks & Rec department has been pleased with the way UVRF's 2020 rowing program was run, and appreciative of the club's unsolicited payment for use of the park.

C. **CReW:** Carin showed off an article about the CReW program in the Lebanon Times and said two people have contacted Carin about the program after seeing the article. Plans are in the works to lend ergs and run an on-the-water learn-to-row program next year.

D. **Hanover & Leb Crew plans**: As the pandemic continues, Carin said she is applying for grant money and looking for steep discounts on pontoons so learn-to-row singles will be safer for CReW participants and high school team members in the spring. She will talk to John Sherman to see if the Town of Hanover will put up a wedding-size tent.

Liz asked if UVRF should consider buying pontoons for UVRF's learn-to-row program.

E. **Membership:** Martha Beatie said she's looking for off-season workout opportunities for UVRF members, Dartmouth alumni, and college crew members since Dartmouth's Alumni gym will not be open. She is negotiating a discount program, including trainers, with River Valley Club. Everyone who participates would have to be a USRowing member and must sign a waiver. Martha will report on progress next month.

3. **Old Business:**
   A. **End of season plans:** Dan Ruml reported that the docks will come out of the water during the week of November 16. The club will schedule a volunteer workday in early November to derig & move boats for winter storage. Arrangements for moving boats into Fuller on Nov 21-22 have not been finalized. Fuller boat owners must derig their boats before moving day.

   B. Annual Meeting in December: Liz thanked Carin for researching the Bylaws and determining that the club's calendar year can be changed without amending the Bylaws. Mickey Elsberg's motion to move the start of the UVRF calendar year to January 1, beginning with January 1, 2021, was seconded by Elizabeth Glenshaw. The motion passed unanimously.

   The Board decided to schedule the Annual Meeting for Wednesday, December 9, two days after the December 7th Board meeting. Liz noted that there is a great deal of work to do before the Annual Meeting, including recruiting new Board members, finalizing a slate of Officers, recruiting Committee Chairs, and making succession plans.

4. **New Business:**
   A. Paul Gross sent an e-mail reminding rowers to be noisy on the water now that duck- and goose-hunting season has arrived.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 7:02.

Respectfully submitted,
Margie Elsberg