Board of Directors Meeting
Monday, August 7th, 2023
Coldwell Banker Lifestyles, 8 West Wheelock St, Hanover NH
Meeting Minutes

Present: Marcia Jacobs, Dan Ruml, Kathy Harvard, Margie Elsberg, Mickey Elsberg, Peter Swanson, Roelof Versteeg, Doug Calvey, Liz Marshall, Elizabeth Glenshaw

By Zoom: Joe Paduda (left 7.05pm)

Apologies: Martha Beattie, Heather Shand, Susan Brighton

Guest In Person: Rowan Carroll

Dan called the meeting to order 5.51pm

July minutes approved as submitted

Committee Reports:

FUNDRAISING REPORT: (Marcie Jacobs)

Carin received a $40,000 donation from the McLaughlin Foundation for the UVRF junior reserves, this donation was a matching donation for the fundraising by the UVRF and Friends Prouty Team.

Marcie sent out an email to coaches and the facilities and equipment committees to find out what they thought the UVRF fundraising needs were. There was a long list of items to fundraise for including: general equipment replacement/maintenance (seats, oarlocks, slides), a new set of sweep oars, corner dock pieces to add to the dock at Kendal Riverfront Park to add stability to existing dock, safety equipment for the launches. These items seem achievable fundraising goals. Marcie will continue to work on the list for the fundraising solicitation letter.

Developing More Coaches: The second, more complex, fundraising idea was a way to develop coaches - how do we do this?

One of the biggest issues we have as a Club is the lack of coaches, how can we use our resources to develop more coaches? Would any Dartmouth rowers consider coaching in the summers, or after graduation if they are staying in Hanover for a year? Could we send current coaches to a coaching conference to encourage engagement and development? Could we run a coaching clinic within UVRF for rowers who want to learn to coach? Margie is going to ask the newer coaches how they decided to get involved in coaching, what could UVRF have done to make becoming a coach easier, is the process to become a coach obvious to people who would consider coaching? Do current members know that we are looking for coaches? Margie will give a report on her findings at the September meeting.

One obstacle to coaching is getting the commercial boat license. Coaches who coach juniors need a commercial boat license. Do coaches who do not coach juniors need the commercial boat license? If the commercial license is an obstacle to getting coaches should we consider only requiring it for when coaching the juniors? Is the NH safe boaters license adequate? The issue is that the cox in a masters program is often a junior, so the coach would need a commercial license because the cox is a junior. Roelof is going to look into whether we legally need a commercial boat license.

Donor Database: Developing a more comprehensive donor database. Erika and Marcia are working on a database of both gifts and donors. At the moment gifts are reported as a financial transaction and thank you letters are sent out but we have no true donor database. Marcia, Erika, Liz and Laura Gillespie are working on creating and populating the database. The donor list from 2022 was the most comprehensive that we have due to the fundraising for the “Chuck Boat”, using this list we will gather the majority of our recent donors to populate the donor list.

When we send out a fundraising solicitation letter Marcia will write a broad letter regarding our needs based on the list she develops mentioned above.

PROGRAMMING COMMITTEE:

The Programming Committee is looking for new members - Margie will add this to the newsletter.

Martha emailed a programming report from the recent meeting. Programs all reached their target enrollments. With the shortfall of coaches the Fall evening sweep might not run this year. The decision to cancel the program will be made within two weeks of the start of the program.

Due to lack of coaches and a large number of new rowers from our recent novice programs that will participate in new intermediate programs we might not have enough coaches to run a novice program in 2024. Would running more learn to scull programs and some intermediate sculling classes give enough novice opportunities if we cannot run a novice sweep program? The Programming Committee will continue looking into this.

Lack of coxes: should we encourage rowers of sweep programs to cox one or two sessions a season? This is a question to ask the coaches. Margie will research this and report at the September meeting.

Racial diversity: is there a way to increase racial diversity within the club? The Programming Committee will continue discussing this issue to see if we can increase racial diversity in the club.

BIG PICTURE QUESTION/VISION: How big does the club want to grow? Do we have space for more boats/programs/what is our vision? Heather is going to make a presentation at the September meeting and then we will plan a member forum to

hear what the members think. This will be a longer discussion, we will start the discussion at our September meeting and decide then if we need an additional Board meeting to just talk over this and whether it should be the focus of the winter Board Retreat.

FINANCE: (Elizabeth Glenshaw)

The Finance Committee is working on a plan for coxes to do their own timekeeping rather than the coaches having to track it. Will coxes actually do that, will it be a burden that will stop kids from coxing, is it unrealistic? Should it stay with the coaches? Margie will ask the coaches if they find tracking the coxing times a burden or if they would like to continue doing it. The Programming Committee discussed this, but no decision was made.

Elizabeth sent out Profit and Loss statements and Balance Sheet.

Norwich Land: Elizabeth is going to ask Suzanne Leitman (UVRF Accountant) if we can adjust the value of the land on the balance sheet to reflect the current value of $44,900, which is the town assessed value, rather than $84,565 which is the current value on the balance sheet. The value on the balance sheet reflects the original purchase price plus costs associated with development ideas that were unable to come to fruition due to railroad crossing expense and limitations of the site due to it only having an agricultural crossing. Having this higher number gives a false sense of the Club having more assets than we do.

Short Term CD: Should we put any money into a six month term CD rather than the bank account to get a better interest rate? The penalty for withdrawal from a CD is usually a month's interest - proposal to put money in CD:
Board Authorizes Finance Committee to put $100,000 into a 6 month term CD - proposed by Roelof, seconded by Liz, unanimously approved.

New Business:

Fall Social Event - Kathy

Early summer smack-down in June to celebrate the new boats and new racks was a success.

Saturday September 23rd is the proposed date for the Fall social event which will be combined with a **Row to End Altzheimers**
There is an awareness raising piece to this, and also a fundraising piece. Carin and Kathy are organizing this, Margie will add this to the newsletter.

Motion to adjourn - Roelof
Seconded - Doug

Meeting Adjourned 7.17pm