

Bainbridge Island Rowing
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
04/28/21, 7:00 PM



Location: Video Conference

Board Members

Present: Jennifer Ames-Karreman, Jill Bamburg, Celia Clark, Julia Czesla, Grant Dull, Melanie Edenholtm, Sue Entress, Brandon Fleet, John Foy, Kurt Frost, Rob Hershberg, Kris Kutchera, Tim Verharen, Faith Watson, Luke Watson, Beth Wheeler

Absent: Anthony Oddo

Quorum: Yes (16/17)

Others Present: Bruce Beall

Proceedings

Meeting was called to order at 7:03 PM PST by President, Kris Kutchera

Welcome and Introductions

Agenda

- **MOTION** by Beth Wheeler to approve April 28, 2021 Agenda. Seconded by Rob Hershberg, all approved.

Minutes

- **MOTION** by Jill Bamburg to approve the March 24, 2021 Board Meeting Minutes. Seconded by Julia Czesla, all approved.

Scheduling Location for May 26 Board Meeting

- Beth Wheeler requested board members' considerations on scheduling the next Board Meeting, in person, at the Boathouse with Covid protocols in place. Some board members were interested in doing so, given square footage per person and the greater effectiveness of in-person discussions. Concerns centered on whether board members would be fully vaccinated, as well as privacy issues around vaccinations. A hybrid solution -- some members at the Boathouse, others attending over zoom -- seems

challenging; Sue Entress suggested there might be various AV solutions. Celia Clark recommended tabling this question until the next meeting, given the ever-changing Public Health situation. May 26 Board Meeting to take place over previously scheduled zoom link.

Financials / Boathouse Exit Plans

- Kurt Frost recapped current program enrollment is just over expectations.
- Current thinking remains that completed exit plans per code for the Boathouse will provide greater functionality for both BIR events and for rental by outside parties. Exit plans call for completion of the west stairs and the east deck and steps. Kurt canvassed a large group of masters rowers as to interest in providing volunteer hours to complete these two projects in time for a BIR Open House in July/August. He quickly received positive offers of labor and donations to complete the work. He also contacted BIR note holders and, from those who responded, received positive responses as well. BIR currently has \$20K in reserves allocated to the Rowing Center that could be used for this purpose.
- The proposed process moving forward requests the Operations Committee to develop a detailed work plan, and submit that plan to the Executive Committee for approval. Operations Committee plan must take into account what is currently detailed in the permit, ensure the plan is in code compliance, and that insurance requirements are met.
- It was noted that the west stairs are structurally more challenging and should be permanent. The east deck could be a more temporary solution, though member volunteers indicated a desire for a long-lasting solution.
- **MOTION** by Kurt Frost to proceed with the Operations Committee formulating a plan to complete the west stairs, and east decking and steps, that will then be submitted to the Executive Committee for approval providing the Bridge Loan Group agrees to the expenditure. Seconded by John Foy, all approved.

Development

- Kris Kutchera reviewed the outcome of the Executive Committee discussion on Development Events for 2021. To solidify planning for the year, the issues are how many BIR events would members be open to attending this year, what is the ideal time of year for that event, could a more informal event pull in substantial donations, and if an indoor event would be viable in 2021. The consensus was one outdoor fundraising event, a more casual atmosphere; and that members could be inspired by appropriate messaging to give generously in such a setting.
- Jennifer Ames-Karreman outlined Development Engagement event planning for 2021: Bridge Loan Group Update in May; Summer Celebration in July/August (celebrating BIR's

20th anniversary, reconnecting with alums, community-building); Memorial for Kate Berry on August 28th; Dream Big Major Fundraiser on September 18th; a Dream Big indoor contingency plan in November; and Year-end Giving Campaign in December.

- Julia Czesla discussed current planning on the Summer Celebration: open house in atmosphere and intent; outdoors on adjacent lawn; would like to align with alumni row (if possible, which was most successful around July 4th); hope to dedicate the alumni wall (now with sponsorship from the Bloom Family); educating the BIR community on what remains to be completed at the Boathouse. Attendees would include members and their guests; alumni; BIR supporters/donors; Senior Center contacts. The thinking at this time is not to publicize to the greater Kitsap community. Need committee volunteers. Possibly coordinate with Learn to Row event.
- Julia Czesla gave an overview of Dream Big for 2021: major fundraiser for the year; outdoors, adjacent to the Boathouse; tents, live music, Bainbridge Brewery and a local winery. Small live auction, gift baskets, paddle call; goal of \$175K. Grant Dull has confirmed Saturday, Sept 18 with COBI; and Wing Point as a contingency venue for Saturday, Nov 13.
- **MOTION:** by Kris Kutchera to approve Development Committee's plan to move forward with hosting two events in 2021, as described above, with a contingency date at Wing Point. Seconded by Celia Clark, all approved.

Communication

- Sue Entress presented graphics for a campaign highlighting the community contributions of BIR. Intent is to educate broader Kitsap with a more expansive view of BIR and its programs. Currently seen on a banner hanging at Boathouse, the longer-term campaign would extend to social media ads and other placements; varied photos and testimonials; consistent overall graphic. Visuals elicited positive feedback from the board.
- Kris Kutchera applauded the website updates recently completed by Sue.

Event Insurance

- Grant Dull stated that BIR should require prospective users of the Boathouse to provide a certificate of insurance naming BIR as an additional insured; an unnecessary risk to BIR without this type of coverage. This is current practice when BIR uses other organizations' facilities. Grant can assist potential users with this insurance.
- **MOTION** by Rob Hershberg that all events held at Boathouse must name BIR as an additional insured; seconded by Jill Bamburg, all approved.

Operational Priorities

- Kris Kutchera reiterated BIR's operational priorities as follows:
 1. Safety
 2. Equipment
 3. Program operations
- Bruce Beall noted that there is always room for improvement; safety continues to be a priority; current efforts are directed at developing checklists.

Questions/Comments about the Consolidated Report

- Celia Clark confirmed that 64 masters are enrolled for Spring Season 2.
- Jill inquired about revised BIR response to most recent CDC guidelines concerning vaccinated persons in outdoor activities. Kris Kutchera confirmed the Safety Committee will be studying this issue, in view of upcoming Washington State guidance for youth and adult sports and US Rowing guidance. Further discussion centered on the privacy implications of collecting vaccination information, and permitting vaccinated members not to wear masks; obtaining consent if collecting vaccination information will be a critical component in future updates of BIR policy. Decisions regarding collection of vaccination information and related policies were deferred to the May board meeting.
- Jill expressed concerns about certain aspects of USRowing's SafeSport training; that it could overreach and interfere with some of the most important roles coaches can serve. Kris Kutchera noted that BIR needs to update its own SafeSport-related policy, asked for small working group to address prior to the next board meeting. Jill Bamburg, Tim Verharen, Grant Dull, Bruce Beall, Sue Entress volunteered in this effort.

MOTION by Kris Kutchera to Adjourn. Seconded by Rob Hershberg, all approved. Meeting adjourned at 8:51 PM PST to Executive Session.

Minutes submitted by Secretary, Beth Wheeler



Development Plan

4.28.21



Questions asked of EC

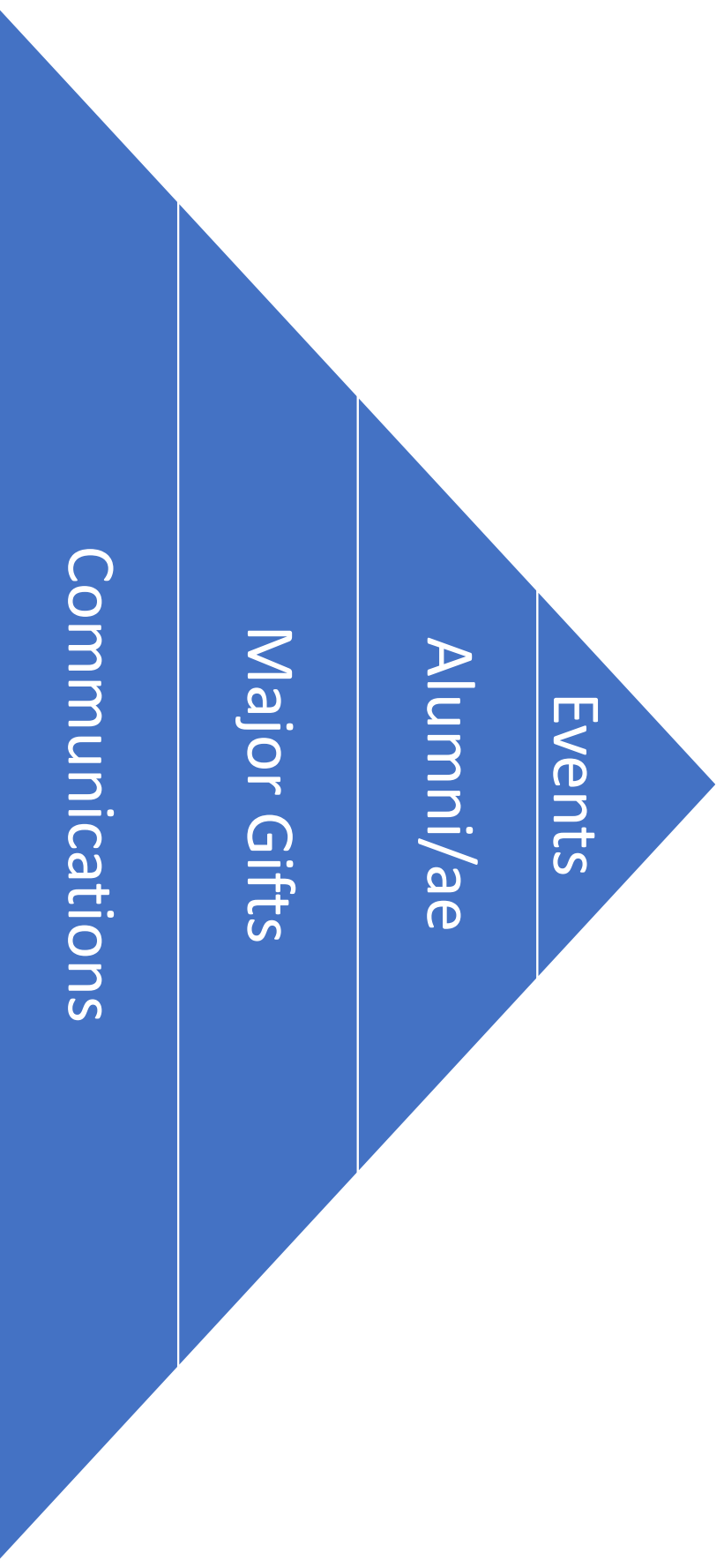
How many large BIR social/fundraising events are people willing to attend in 2021?

What time of year are people most inclined to give generously to BIR?

Will people want to attend a large indoor event in 2021?

Can people be compelled to give generously in a structured casual event setting?

Development Priorities



Input & Approval

Approve the timeline of events recommendation.

Understand Dream Big rationale for moving date.

Knowledge of communications theme and purpose.
Contact communications chair for input and ideas.

Opportunities for Board involvement on event committees.

Engagement Events 2021 Recommendation

May 2021					
• Bridge Loan Group Update					
July/August					
• Summer Celebration 20 th anniversary RC Educate Alumni/ae					
August 28 th					
• Memorial					
September 18 th					
• Dream Big Major fundraiser					
November					
• Dream Big Contingency Plan					
Year End Giving Campaign					



Bainbridge Island Rowing, 2001

"Rowing on Bainbridge was the result of the community, the parents, the volunteers standing behind the program and recognizing that an island needs as many sports as it can for the kids. This effort obviously worked. It's a success. I'm very optimistic about following its growth in the years to come."

– Thom Hamilton, BIR Founder



Bainbridge Island Rowing 2019 Junior Team

**COMARADERIE HOPE
GRIT STRENGTH JOY
BALANCE LEADERSHIP
INCLUSION TRUST
HEALTH CONNECTION
SUPPORT COMMUNITY
HAPPENS HERE**

and some rowing too!

BIR

BAINBRIDGE ISLAND ROWING

Rowing changes lives.