

Bainbridge Island Rowing  
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes  
05/25/22, 7:15 PM



## Location: Videoconference

### Board Members

**Present:** Jill Bamburg, Laura Bottger, Lindsay Browning, Celia Clark, Hannah Cutler, Julia Czesla, Sue Entress, Mirén First, Brandon Fleet, John Foy, Kris Kutchera, Marc Stewart, Tim Verharen, Beth Wheeler

**Absent:** Jennifer Ames-Karreman, Andrew Block, Melanie Edholm

**Quorum: Yes (14/17)**

**Others Present:** Bruce Beall, Wendy Dymoke, Kathy Maher, Peter Smith

### Proceedings

Meeting was called to order at 7:19 PM PST by President, Kris Kutchera

### Agenda

- **MOTION** by Celia Clark to approve May 25, 2022 Agenda. Seconded by Laura Bottger, all approve.

### Minutes

- **MOTION** by Laura Bottger to approve the April 27, 2022 Board Meeting Minutes. Seconded by Jill Bamburg, all approve.

**MOTION** by Julia Czesla to move to Executive Session. Seconded by Jill Bamburg, all approve.

**MOTION** by Sue Entress to adjourn from Executive Session. Seconded by Jill Bamburg, all approve.

### Month in Review

- We had a great showing at Junior Regionals last weekend (we'll cover the details tonight)! There was an incredible amount of work by the rowers, coaches, volunteers, and families to make this a successful event. Many thanks to everyone involved!
- Summer programs were defined for juniors and adults, and registration for juniors opens next week.

- Last Saturday's Community Learn to Row Day was a huge success with 37 participants and 16 volunteers. It worked especially well combining this with rowing center tours for the public campaign. We have three Learn to Row dates for adults this summer and lots of interest.
- Marc Stewart and Laura Bottger are working with the Safety Committee to revamp our Safety Policy and Procedures. The committee is also working on a corrective action plan to address a concussion incident.
- The Equipment Committee volunteers have been busy deep cleaning shells and repairing foot stretchers, bolts, oars, ergs, etc. They are also evaluating strategies for replacing and maintaining cox boxes.
- The public campaign kicked off on May 8 with beautiful banners, saveaplace.org website, and messaging to our members and stakeholders. Many thanks to Wendy Dymoke and Sue Entress for leading these efforts!
- Julia Czesla is developing plans and securing equipment and resources for Dream Big and making plans for Grand Ole Fourth Celebration and Rotary Auction.
- Theresa Torseth is developing a framework for venue rentals, which we will review next month.
- The design for the upper level of the boathouse was completed and architectural drawings have been turned over to Clark Construction to develop a bid package. We hope to have a proposal for Board review next month. Many thanks to Beth Wheeler for leading the design, and John Foy and Karen Mattock for leading the contracting and construction oversight processes!
- We have a major challenge with coach staffing with Tom Coble out, Nicolai Otte leaving and Tim Goss potentially taking leave in the fall. Bruce Beall has commitments from two alums for summer coaching and is actively recruiting to fill the remaining openings.
- The unprecedented growth of our programs, our increased fundraising efforts, and rowing center operations are straining our administrative staff and volunteers. This is becoming a significant issue and we will discuss it in more detail next month.
- I know how hard you, our staff and volunteers are all working. Our wonderful BIR community wouldn't be possible without your efforts. Thank you!

### **Youth Regionals**

- Overall a great experience for the Juniors, with a varied range of skills; also positive for their families and the coaches, despite the absence of continuity in planning and logistics from previous years. While eight boats qualified, one varsity eight will make the trip to Nationals.

### **Development**

- Julia Czesla and Wendy Dymoke are looking for board and/or member help identifying corporate sponsors.

### **Safety Incident**

- Concussion incident with Junior rower earlier in May; Safety Committee met with family and are now working on a corrective action plan.

### **Deck Construction**

- **MOTION** by John Foy to authorize the President to approve expenditure of up to \$35,000 for the completion of the deck on the east side of the Rowing Center, including the "Bill Richards Conversation Corner" at the south end. Seconded by Brandon Fleet, all approve.

### **Vaccination Exemptions**

- Kathy Maher recommends revised precautionary measures given that, despite high vaccination rates, vaccinations no longer ensure protection against COVID.
- **MOTION** by John Foy to change BIR vaccination policy starting with Summer Season to "strongly request 'Up to Date Vaccination,' which may include a booster, depending on vaccine type and date given." Seconded by Hannah Cutler. Votes in favor Jill Bamburg, Hannah Cutler, Julia Czielsa, Sue Entress, Brandon Fleet, John Foy, Kris Kutchera, Marc Stewart, Tim Verharen. Votes against Laura Bottger, Lindsay Browning, Celia Clark, Mirén First, Beth Wheeler. Approved.
- **MOTION** by Mirén First to revisit this policy change prior to fall 2022 Junior registration. Seconded by Lindsay Browning, all approve.

**MOTION** by Mirén First to Adjourn. Seconded by Lindsay Browning, all approve. Meeting adjourned at 9:00 PM PST.

Minutes submitted by Secretary, Beth Wheeler