

FINAL

Bainbridge Island Rowing
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
MINUTES OF THE MEETING – January 24, 2024



Location: SPRC/Boathouse

Board Members Present: Jennifer Ames-Karreman, Andrew Block, Laura Bottger, Grant Colburn, Kim Dalan, Melanie Edenholt, Mirén First, John Foy, Kris Kutchera, Stacey Nordgren, Joanie Ransom

Absent: Jill Bamburg, Celia Clark, Brandon Fleet

Quorum: Yes (11/14)

Others Present: Lindsay Browning, Bruce Beall, Scott Roesch, Kathy Kalstrup, Ben Drury

Proceedings:

Meeting was called to order at 7:04 PM by Kris K.

Members welcomed the guests in the room and made introductions.

MOTION to approve the Agenda was made by Andrew B.

2nd by John F.

Motion passed unanimously.

MOTION to approve December 13, 2023, Board Meeting Minutes moved by Secretary Stacey N.

2nd by Melanie E.

Motion passed unanimously.

Month is Review highlights reported by the President – Kris K.

- The Annual Meeting date has been selected to be 3/13/24. BOD meeting will be 3/27/24.
- Communications, culture, and safety have been focus areas of the past month.
- Reports that the BOD slate Nominating Committee has been working hard.
- Much work on the budget has been underway.
- Spring season registration work is underway to get this ready to launch. Monumental effort has been ongoing by Melanie and others to sort the fees.
- Financial meeting happened on 1/17/24 with great attendance (Kurt F., Jennifer A-K., Lindsay B., Kris K. presenting).
- 1/20/24 Strategic Planning session was led by Jill B. She is working on the first draft of the Strategic Plan which the BOD will have a chance to review soon. The Plan will be presented to members at the 3/13/24 Annual Meeting.
- The Facilities punch list was created by John F. and its use is underway.
- Laura B. and the Safety Committee did much work which will be presented to the board today.
- Deep dive on equipment repair being led by Brandon F., Bruce B., Mike Kalstrup, Marc Stewart, and Malcolm Saunders.
- John F., Jennifer A-K, Mary Agliam and Melanie E. prepared tax letters for all donors by the end of January 2024.

Financial Report on the 2024 Proposed Budget– Melanie Edenholt

- Melanie presented the draft budget, which was presented to the board last year and to many members at the Financial Meeting on 1/17/24.
- This year's dues and fees increase is designed to move BIR to a more sustainable operational model that is less dependent on donations and board member heroics. Investments are being made in rowing program staffing and wages, and equipment repair and maintenance. It feels like a big step to many, but it captures several years of increases all at once (including a catch up from COVID times).
- Juniors Spring Dues and Fees increase is significant and feedback has been received about concerns of affordability and access to scholarships.
- **Scholarships and Helpline House** – Received word today about staff turnover at Helpline House that may impact their ability to process scholarship applications in time for spring season.

Discussion:

- Board realizes that we have been removed from and are unaware of the vetting processes that Helpline uses. Should we consider alternatives such as software-based resources?
 - Team Captains should not have to be the point of contact for this.
 - Education of the scholarship process for ALL rowers is needed.
 - With Team meetings coming in the next few weeks, need a viable solution to offer for scholarships.
 - There appears to be some misinformation that needs to be addressed – and perhaps hold another financial disclosure meeting for rowers and parents.
 - One option for reducing Regatta fees (by about \$400) would be to swap overnights for local racing. However, the overnight regattas are the FUN and it would be tragic to eliminate these.
- Actions to be taken next:
 - Kris hears to stay the course on the plan for the regattas and fees as proposed.
 - Jennifer to work with Helpline House to address throughput concerns. If not resolved, consider other alternatives.
 - Kris to send correspondence to junior parents and rowers with an additional opportunity to hear the budget presentation at the upcoming Junior team spring meetings, with emphasis on the availability and process for applying for scholarships.

Motion to Approve the 2024 Budget.

Moved by Andrew Block. 2nd by Laura Bottger.

Discussion: Note to remember that this is a budget and it can be adjusted at any time during the year.

Budget motion passed unanimously.

Proposed Changes to the Safety Policies – Laura Bottger

Laura reviewed the major changes proposed in the red-lined version of the Safety Policies. Main areas of change are regarding:

- Flip Test
- Air Quality Index
- Clothing needs to be bright!
- Anything but Cotton
- Require headlamps of all rowers in the dark
- Minus tide rules
- Safe haul out docks

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- Launch passengers need to wear pfds!

Discussion: Can the team store carry more bright/reflective clothing? Flip tests offered early on and in the pool would be appreciated. Much appreciation was expressed to Laura B. for her hard and excellent work.

Notice: 3/17/24 from 9-11 – Flip Test will be offered in the pool!

MOTION to Approve the Changes to the Safety Policy as proposed.

Moved by Kris K. 2nd by Jennifer A-K.

All in Favor.

MOTION to adjourn the Regular Meeting and move to Executive Session.

Moved by Kris K. 2nd by Andrew B.

All in Favor. Meeting adjourned to Executive Session at 8:37pm.

Minutes Submitted by Stacey Nordgren, BIR Secretary.

-END-