

Berkeley Paddling & Rowing Club
Board Meeting Minutes - Tuesday, October 13, 2009
6:30 p.m.- home of Mike Smith

Present: Ellen Braithwaite, Kathryn Furano, Rachel Haurwitz, Sean O'Hara, Susan Sawyer, Mike Smith, Jane Toro, Ned Trippe

1. Minutes of the last meeting were approved unanimously.

2. Treasurer's report

The Club has \$12,161.52 in the checking account and \$16,855.74 in the CD with a few membership checks still to be cashed.

3. Committee Reports

A. Boathouse

Ned reported that 16 members showed up for the Shoreline Clean-Up on September 19, 2009. They cleaned the shore area from the gate to the Water ski Club as well as a larger share of the waterside. The City appreciated the Club effort. Berkeley HASMAT personnel had cleared the area two or three days before September 19, so the shore was free of syringes or other hazardous items.

Ned suggested that we might want to sponsor litter pick-up for the area on a permanent basis. The work could be done quarterly.

Ned also suggested that we plant trees and shrubs near the boathouse to discourage taggers by making it difficult to get onto the roof. He also noted that the floor area near the double doors has a couple of holes, which need to be replaced and the whole area up to the towel racks resanded and resealed. Because noone could walk on the area for 24 hours while the sealant is drying, it was suggested that the job be done between Christmas and New Years when there is little membership traffic.

John Pope again made recent repairs to the dock, which is increasingly deteriorating. A lengthy discussion followed about the best manner to approach the issue.

Ned has responded to two interview requests by journalists wanting to write about the club, the *Daily Californian* and *Bay Area* magazine.

B. Membership

Ellen reported that between June and the end of July there were 28 inquiries about joining the Club, of which ten have joined. From the beginning of August until now there have been 40 inquiries, several of whom have already joined. The question arose whether the club is reaching its membership capacity with respect to having enough equipment for use by its members at the times it is wanted. A discussion of possible sign-ups, as done by other clubs, followed. Rachel pointed out that the numbers for boat use have remained pretty constant despite the increase in membership.

An open house for those interested in membership will be held on Sunday, November 1 from 10-12.

C. Equipment

Ned completed the repair of the red Hudson rigger for \$120.

Rachel reported there is a small hole in the quad, probably from the rigger of the double when it was returned to the rack. It will be repaired in house.

The boat of Jose Emerim needs to be moved from its space or put into the rafters. He has not joined the club this year or used his boat.

Rachel and Izzie were given authorization to buy a used racing double if they see a good one at the Head of the Charles race, up to \$7,500.

Howard Ruiz Harrison had mistakenly given a key to a new member without any prior authorization. It was unknown if this person had paid his dues or signed a waiver.

A member had offered to pay the difference between the purchase of an S1-R to replace the XT surfski which would be sold. The Board accepted this offer. There would also be another attempt to sell the yellow double/triple.

4. Old Business

In response to members' concerns, it was decided to rescind the \$25 fee for using club boats at races or regattas. However, members should understand that should a boat be damaged while in their possession, they are responsible for the deductible amount not covered by Club insurance.

A book of standard non-profit by-laws was purchased by Mike and reimbursement of the approximately \$29 was authorized.

5. New Business

While Ellen was away, several potential members wanted coaching and mentoring, more than were able to be handled ad hoc by those who offered. Sean will look into automatic email forwarding for the future.

Ellen will attend the annual meeting of the Waterski Club on November 5, 2009 at Brennan's at 6:30 to discuss any issues of mutual concern.

Because the Club is entirely dependent on volunteers to exist, several different methods of encouraging volunteering on the part of the membership were discussed: putting sign-up lists for various tasks on the bulletin board, requiring a certain number of hours as part of membership, requiring either payment or hours of volunteer work, even increasing the membership dues to hire a permanent manager. It was decided to defer this discussion to the annual meeting.

Mike and Ellen will look into various insurance plans to see if we can better our rates and/or coverage for next year.

Ellen was authorized to write a letter of support for Egret to stay in the building at the entrance to Aquatic Park, as the City is now taking proposals for use of that building.

The next meeting will be either November 17 or 24.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Sawyer, secretary