

Minutes of Annual Membership Meeting 3/25/2003

In attendance:

Erik Breiland
Betsy Walkerman
Michelle Price
Lynne Leach
John Doty
Susan MacLennan
Dave Jacobowitz
Frank Guillot

The meeting began at 7:15 with 8 people in attendance.
Erik called the meeting to order.

1. Boat House/Gordon Thom

Sage at UVM is looking into the possibility of purchasing the Thom property when it comes up for sale. The club will need notice of the change in ownership so we can take appropriate actions. Club savings can be used as leverage to buy into "new" UVM boathouse or work with other groups to gain storage space elsewhere on the river. Erik has talked to the Camp Kiniya about access through their property, however the Camp Kiniya charter will not allow other groups to use their property. Other owners around the camp may be willing to offer lease space. Mr. Thom has limited the membership size of the club due to space constraints and concern about large numbers of people having access to his barn.

2. Club Insurance

Due to a change in USRA policies and to an increase in insurance cost, the club will no longer carry insurance. It was decided to implement a three tier system to protect the club and its officers.

- a. Each member will carry insurance on their own boats either through homeowner/renter's insurance or through personal USRA coverage
- b. At the beginning of each rowing season, all members must sign a waiver before participating in club activities. The waiver will be kept on file for the entire rowing season.
- c. The club is incorporated in the state of Vermont. The incorporation will protect the club officers in the event the club is sued.

3. Summer Development Camp

The board voted down the idea for the summer development camp. The main concern was how Mr. Thom would react to the development camp and the increased traffic on his property. In addition, the benefits to the club were not very well quantified and were not worth the potential cost to the club.

4. Projected Budget for new year

The budget for the last year was approximately \$1250. It is expected that the budget will go down this year since we will not be paying for club insurance and have canceled the PO Box. The club will still pay the storage fee for Morris. The club dues will remain the same at \$100 per individual, \$25 for each additional family

member (who may only use the club facilities when accompanied by the full member) and \$50 for a student membership. The club sees no large expenses for the coming year. Any money left over after expenses have been paid will be saved and used to cover any unexpected costs such as rent/ownership of a new boathouse, purchase and/or repair of club equipment etc. Discussion also included whether the club should pay for storage of Morris and the FatBoy if not all members used the equipment.

5. Spring work party

The Spring work party was scheduled for the first weekend in May. (May 3,4). On the agenda for the party will be sweeping the barn, fixing boats (Morris and the Fatboy) installing new rack space on the existing racks and other repairs as needed.

6. Rules for novices:

The following rules for Novice rowers were discussed:

- a. All novice rowers must have taken an elementary learn-to-row program (at Craftsbury, for example)
- b. Row with a club member to become familiar with the rules of the river and all river hazards
- c. A mileage requirement was discussed but a distance was not decided on.
- d. The requirement for a swim test was discussed but dropped for now.
- e. The novice must demonstrate the capability of carrying a boat, launching and landing a boat safely.
- f. Before a novice rower can take a boat out alone, the novice must have a member approval.

7. Election of new officers

The following new officers were elected:

President: Erik Breiland

Vice President: Susan MacLennan

Treasurer: Dave Jacobowitz

Secretary: John Doty

8. Post office box

It was voted to change the official club address to Dave Jacobowitz's address and close out the post office box. This change will save the Club \$70 per year.

9. Rowing field trips

Betsy Walkerman has invited the club to visit her summer camp for a row on her lake this summer. Other possible rowing excursions could be Arrowhead Lake, the middle Lamoille, Green River, Waterbury Reservoir and the Missisquoi River.

10. Club Equipment:

The club currently has a double (Morris), a single (Fatboy) and the use of Sage's single. Tim Ebberts is going to look into how much it costs to keep Morris on his homeowner's policy and what the current deductible for Morris is. There is concern that if Morris is damaged the club may not have any means to replace or repair it if it is not insured.

11. Treasurers report:

The club has \$3957.06 in its bank account.