Sound Rowers Annual Meeting

Saturday November 14, 2020

Zoom Meeting

# Meeting opened at 10:05am

President Peter Turcan presiding

# Welcome

# Minutes Approval – 2019

Some discussion about items from 2019

Most races were canceled in 2020 due to COV-ID.

Trailer to Shaw (Peter) – maybe try next year

Kevin Olney signed up for safety boats, bug did not get anyone to sign up (no good leads)

Online race fees (Kevin)– RAT Island was to be the prototype. Race did not run. Going with Marc’s registration process in 2021 might work

Awards for first place overall (Kevin) – had at La Conner race. Cost is $400 for the season for all first-place awards.

New device for Webscorer (Don) – we got a new iPad at the beginning of 2020

Backup of Webscorer results (Don)– no progress made on this action item

Race director information email loop (Amber) – Done

Website updates for 2020 (Amber) – Done

Race incident form (Amber) – Done

WWTA membership (Jeff Knakal) – submitted

Safety box – card with race director phone numbers (Theresa) – put together one bag that has a laminated list of the items in the bag and the Racer Directors phone numbers.

No updates on new form for free membership, or the updating of the discussion group memberships, or the renewal of the Webscorer account for 2020 due to Tracy not being present.

Motion to approve minutes: Jeff Wong

Second: Don Kiesling

Unanimous in favor

# Presidents Report – Peter Turcan

Peter help Zoom erg races during the year as a replacement for our races. He may bring back the erg races. Peter also experimented with live racing on the using Zoom to get our site alive with activity.

We will follow the 2021 Guidelines for recreational activities from Governor Inslee

* No day of race payments
* No pre-race meetings
* No post-race award ceremonies
* Racers sent off in waves of 10 (phase 2), or 15 (phase 3)

Zoom meetings the night before a race.

Races to go off in waves

# Finance – Jeff Knakal

State of club finances is good; no risk to the organization considering we didn’t run most races.

Club spent $5200 on overhead expenses (website, stipends, posters, insurance, iPad, etc.)

Only race that ran in 2020 was the La Conner race. This race lost money with $817 in expenses and only $600 in income

Memberships brought in $1500.

Carrie did get a refund for the reserved Shaw shelter

# Insurance and Permits – Greg Gilda

All insurance certs were in place before the shutdown.

Got renewal insurance paperwork and Greg will be sending that in this week.

Went well with Coast Guard permits and insurance.

We have not applied for any permits for 2021 yet.

There was discussion on the need to update the release waiver to add a blurb on COVID. Greg suggested that we add a blurb on COVID on the website instead of updating the release form.

Certificate of insurance should be in by end of the year.

# Race Review 2020

Only one race ran in 2020.

## La Conner

Good lead in for what the rest of the year would look like. Ended up doing an alternate course due to weather and wind. The alternate course was good, except for the end of the race when wind and current picked up.

Racer count was down from last year. 40 this year compared to 100 last year.

Was a good competitive race with lunch afterward.

Kevin picked up this race for next year.

# Race Schedule 2021 (11 Races)

## La Conner: February 6

## Bellingham: March 20

## Lake Whatcom: May 21

## Budd Inlet: June 5

## Rat Island: June 19

## Elk River: July 24

## Shaw Island: August 7

## Great Cross Sound: August 21

## Bainbridge: September 11

## Lake Samish Salmon Row: September 18

## Mercer Island Sausage Pull: September 25

With COVID, we will try to run races in 2021 and will take it one race at a time.

Jeff Knakal had concerns about the wave start for the Great Cross Sound race as the start time is aligned with the Ferry schedule to avoid having participants crossing the shipping lanes when the ferry is running.

Todd is pulling the Commencement Bay race due to a permitting issue.

Wenatchee will not be an official race in 2021. It may still run unofficially.

# Website/Webscorer/Social Media – Amber Zipperer

Everything is updated.

Amber to meet with Theresa to setup for next year. Amber to transition this work to Theresa.

Peter wants to get the email aliases sorted out. We should be using alias instead of individual’s email addresses.

Amber has been monitoring the website and responding to emails that come to Sound Rowers.

ADD THE NEW ALIASES HERE

# Membership – Don Kiesling

Lots of memberships will roll into 2021. 69 total memberships. 55-60 are paid memberships (Directors don’t pay for their memberships, Board members do pay)

Membership is all online now. This was implemented last year.

# Photography – Michael Lampi

Took lots of pictures at the one race in 2020 (La Conner).

Camera is working fine. Nothing else to report.

Can we use drones for video footage? Can it be automated to follow boats? Michael thinks automation is possible and will investigate.

Michael suggested that the safety boat operate the drone. This would require an extra person on the safety boat to operate the drone.

We got payment for use of Sound Rowers pictures in the Small Craft Journal. Approximately $50.

# Ribbons/Posters

Todd can do the posters and business cards again.

Decided we would do posters only and no business cards this year.

A PDF of the poster will be given to the Race Directors to print on their own in whatever size they need.

Awards were created for Mens, Womens, and Mixed categories. This will continue for 2021.

Peter suggested having digital ribbons or badges to send people. Marc Blake will investigate this and come up with some prototypes.

Discussed having Rescuer ribbons and decided to not have them for now. Instead we will do a shout out about the rescue.

# Washington Water Trails Membership renewal

It was decided we would renew our membership with the Washington Water Trails. We will go with the $250 membership

# Safety

Safety Incidents

La Conner Race: Had to change course due to weather

* Amber hailed a safety boat and got a ride to the finish
* Michael Lampi’s boat got stuck in the weeds and he needed help getting out
* These items were called out in the Directors race report

We need a written safety plan for COVID. Peter will write up guidelines for phase 2 and phase 3 and send out for feedback.

Discussed different options for running the pre-race meeting, including pre-recording it and posting it on the website. No decisions were made, and we continue to brainstorm ideas.

We will try out ideas in the first few races. La Conner (Kevin RD) being the first.

# New Business

Marc Blake has a system for registration and timing/results. This system can help with online registrations and would provide rosters for a race. For results, the system uses a multi-sport chip to track racers and results are posted in real time. This system would replace Webscorer.

Range of system is 150 meters for chip to box. Multiple boxes can be placed on the race course. Chips could be purchased and owned by a racer (just need one per boat) for $65 or rented for race day for $5. Additional cost per racer would be $3 if they own the chip and $8 if they rent the chip. We did not discuss the cost structure for multi-people boats.

Decision: It is up to each Race Director to decide which timing system they use for their race.

Marc also offered to help pull past reports from Webscorer to back them up.

Proposal from Shane to support Cyril Derreumaux who is attempting to paddle a kayak from California next year by donating $250 to him.

Greg Guilda motioned to have Sound Rowers support Cyril.

Herb Weisse seconded the motion.

Vote to support Cyril did not pass. We need to hear more from Shane in order to be able to vote yes.

# Officers

Trustees retiring this year: Steve Wells and Theresa Knakal

New trustees serving 2021-2023: Rod Sternagel and Marc Blake, Peter motioned, and Steve Chapin seconded. Voted in unanimously

# Stipends

Existing stipends extended for 2020, modified as below:

Photography stipend will not be paid out for 2020 since races did not run – Michael Lampi – $600 for 2020

Website/Social Media – Amber Zipperer – $600 for 2020

Membership – Don Kiesling – $300 for 2020

# Action Items

## Kevin

* Look for someone to take over the Bainbridge race

## Don

* Webscorer results backup (Marc also volunteered to help with this)

## Todd

* Make posters for 2021 races

## Amber/Theresa

* Website updates for 2021
* Transition website tasks to Theresa

## Jeff

* WWTA membership

## Theresa

* Get Safety bag to Kevin for the La Conner race

## Peter

* Schedule Zoom meeting during the year to check on progress
* Provide guidelines for racing in phase 2 and phase 3
* Provide a limit on the size of team boats allowed

## Michael Lampi

* Look into drones for video and automation of drones

## Marc Blake

* Look into digital ribbons/badges and come up with some prototypes.

# Meeting Adjourned: 12:06pm

# Attendance

* Don Kiesling
* Peter Turcan
* Jeff Wong
* Jon Harwood
* Steve Chapin
* Theresa Knakal
* Michael Lampi
* Jeff Knakal
* Kevin Olney
* Amber Zipperer
* Greg Gilda
* Rod Sternagel
* Mark Blake
* Steve Wells
* Herb Weisse
* Carrie Weisse
* Janel Heikkela
* Vern Heikkela

*Submitted by Theresa Knakal, November 15, 2020*

*Edited with feedback from Peter Turcan, November 16, 2020*