2015 Sound Rowers Annual Meeting

## Attendance

Tyler Peterson, Steve Bennett, Herbie Weiss, Carrie Weiss, Jeff Knakal, Tom Carmill, Shane Baker, Don Keisling, Peter Turcan, Traci Cole, Vadim Kin, Rod Sternagel, Todd Silver, Steve Wells, Jeff Wong, Alex Parkman, Vern Heikkila, Janet Heikkila, Jon Harwood, Bill Jaquette, Bruce Nourish, Michael Lampi, Paul Rollinger, Debbie Natelson, Robin Mauer

Called to order at 10:05.

Tyler distributed agenda and minutes from 2014, sign in sheet.

Round the table introductions.

Motion to approve minutes, passed.

## Treasurer’s report

Jeff Knakal distributed the financial summary. Some races made money, some lost. In addition to direct expenses, there is overhead (insurance, stipends, etc). Each race has to account for $260 of overhead. We are down $225 for the year, “essentially insignificant”. We have $13,615.87 in the bank. Todd Silver donated money to offset the cost of his race.

## Insurance report and permits.

Vadim Kin covered the issue of City of Seattle requiring a special policy for them this year, at the additional cost of $100, negotiated down from $350. Jeff Knakal and Rainer Storb (race directors of Seattle races) will approach the City regarding this issue.

## Membership report.

95 people joined this year, 95 other people should join. We are on the honor city. Traci proposed to open a PayPal account to accept donations and membership dues. PayPal takes a percentage of transactions. Also can use the account for race registration.

## Races

LaConner: Greg Gilda is in his last year as the race director. A problem is knowledge transfer, need to find someone to shadow the race directorship for a year. Two stage start – second stage was a disaster, people did not have a chance to line up properly. Perhaps 5 min instead of 2 min between starts. It was wet, there was a lot of debree.

Belligham: Late start due to conditions, changed course, cross wind, everyone got in safely. First rate safety.

Jetty Island. 2016 will be the last round the island race, North end is too shallow. New course for 2017. Race well attended, great support from Snohomish Search and Rescue.

Lake Whatcom. Great race. No issues with permits.

Commencement Bay. Great support from volunteers running the race while the RD was out of town. Perhaps more of a community event next year, combined with a dragon boat race, tall ships, etc.

Samamish. Race went well, a number of safety boats. Attendance down a bit, a week after Ski to Sea, move down a week next year, free park day. Also a “short short race” (3 mi or so).

Rat Island. They are doing a great job (Tyler beat Rainer).

Elk River: Race director change next year. Same turnout every year (30-40 people), next year still free camping and tuna potluck at Heikkilas.

Ross Island. not happening next year, no race director. There were safety concerns last year. Some kids went on the water with PFDs and then took them off (told so by their coach).

Shaw. Great race.

Cross Sound. Went well except for the steering of some people (RD).

Bainbridge. Went well, good weather. Parks dept an hard to keep happy, changed the course to finish at Fort Ward for both races.

Budd Inlet. Couple of boats needed to bail water, all boats made it back safely. Peter is done as the RD, no RD so far, rowing club may take it over. Leave the race on the schedule for now.

Lake Samish. New RD, did a fine job.

Wenatchee. They will do it again. Windy, changed course to twice around the closer island. Two boats hit rocks. There was a capsize. A problem with PFD use by juniors. Next year’s president did not have a PFD on the boat. Some people did not hear the horn. RDs were very diligent, and did everything they needed to do.

Vote to continue as a permanent SR race, passed.

Mercer. Next year is the 25th year, will continue as is. Request for better demarcation at the finish line, coming from the North.

## Next year schedule

LaConner Jan 6

Bellingham Mar 12

Jetty Apr 2

Whatcom Mar 7

Commencement Bay Mar 14

Rat Island June 25

Elk River July 30

Shaw Aug 20

Cross Sound Aug 27

Bainbridge Sep 10

Budd Inlet Sep 17

Lake Samish Sep 24

Mercer Island Oct 8

Lake Samamish Jule 11

Annual Meeting Dec 10 LWRC

## We Scorer

We now can have it up to 5 devices, Traci wants people to use it. The app is easy to use, but one needs to be familiar with it prior to race date.

## Publicity

Terrie contacted a lot of people (Debbie’s list), university rowing clubs, newspapers, TV stations. Todd says we will have posters and calendars (we used all up this year). New banner this year. Sports Events magazine article this year, <http://Sportsevents.epubxp.com/i/553502-aug-2015>.

## Ribbons

Need to order more, Shane will do.

## Old Business

WWTA membership renewal vote, passed. Cascadia Marine Trail guide in the library.

SUP – must have leashes. Need to add to our safety language. Traci will put it on our web site.

Surfski leash discussion. Tyler uses it all the time, but will not go as far as requiring them.

## New Business

North American Masters Games. Peter Turcan talked about putting together a rowing/paddling team. Canoe/Kayak was dropped from the Games, so Peter is no longer interested.

World Coastal Rowing Championships, Lake Geneva in France (?), in October 2016. Tyler met with one of the organizers. Brought it up to see if there is interest. Boats will be provided on site, singles, doubles and quads. Any club participating will have to be associated with the National Federation (SR is not).

Shaw. RDs will handle group camp site reservations, will charge $20 donation.

Jeff Wong will take over Budd Inlet directorship. May move it to July.

SR equipment is at the Knakals.

Pockock Foundation will sponsor a race on 12/12, will probably allow all boats. Location is the old Cascade location in Renton.

Todd moved to increase the annual membership to $30 individual, $40 family. Voted, passed, one opposed.

Discussion about making club shirts. Traci committed to buying a JL shirt and wear it to races to promote them.

New officer elections. Positions available are President, 3 VPs, Treasurer. People currently in these positions have been reelected for the next year. Vadim Kin will do it for another year, will resign after that. Tyler will be attempting to attract new people over the course of the year. Voted, passed.

Board elections. Alex Parkman, Tom Cartmill are new board members. Voted, passed.

Retire the newsletter editor position.

Membership coordinator position – decrease stipend from $500 to $250.

Other stipend position unchanged.

Adjorned at 12:44.

Crab raffle.