

**Boulder Community Rowing Board Meeting**  
**February 9, 2009**  
**REI Conference Room**

Present: Nicole, Andrea, Josh, Corissa, Terri, Jana, Joanne  
Guests: Patty, Mark V.

**Announcements**

- Approval of minutes: Last session minutes seem to be lost in space. No one has a copy. Josh will ask Suzanne to forward final minutes from January club meeting. Approved minutes will be posted by Andrea.
- Announcements – no
- Email votes – no

**Member Open Discussion**

- Patty Lang opened with a few questions.
  - Does the board expect any equipment rule changes in regards to temperature? This is not something board has yet looked at or considered. Rules are fine, but everyone also needs to use judgment. Patty voiced concerns that 50-degree water is very cold and may not be the smartest thing for sculling boats.
  - Patty suggested that a list of approved coxswains should be published and posted somewhere. How do coxswains become approved? Marc Durant is taking on the board role of coordinating the Coxswains, etc., but he doesn't currently know who is approved. Terri will follow up on these questions with Marc Durant.
  - Patty is wondering what the rules are for the use of launches. Last year the idea of members learning to use launches for un-coached sessions in lieu of a certified coxswain was floated, but never followed up on. It is currently mentioned in the by-laws. This needs to be followed up on this year either by setting up rules, guidelines and training and making it possible or it should be taken out of the by-laws. This will be tabled until the next club meeting.
  - Patty asked the board about reservoir access and to address pre-season rowing.
    - This is a question of interest for all of us. The answer is still mired in negotiations with the reservoir. When the board has an update, the club will be notified. Nicole will put the issues of approved coxswains, launch use, and reservoir use/access on the next club meeting agenda.

**Committee Updates**

**Finance - Joanne**

- Joanne presented a spreadsheet with some budget numbers for 2009.
  - January is not reconciled. There is not much money coming in though some money is going out for repair work and the purchase of one set of sweep oars.
  - Reviewed the 2009 preliminary budget sheet.
    - Until the reservoir negotiations are complete, projecting dues are a guess at best. Dues are currently penciled in at \$6800, but we are shooting for much less.
    - Coaching \$24k spent last year - adding sculling and private lessons resulted in some of the increase in this number compared to previous years.

- Private lessons – Coaches are currently getting most of money. What came in went out. Should the price of private lessons increase to reflect our expenses?
  - Terri would like the private lesson cost to be discussed in a future meeting.
  - Note: We will be have the opportunity to track private lesson data more easily this year.
- The Experienced program required a 2<sup>nd</sup> coach in 2008, again increasing the projected spending on coaches last year.
- The insurance cost is actual, but Joanne will follow up with Jim
- Repairs and maintenance actual spent in '08 was \$6100; budget put in is \$6k.
- Website \$900 – Andrea will investigate cost for web hosting and touch base with Joanne and LK. Joanne is not sure what's involved in that total as it was thought the cost was supposed to go down.
- Regatta Central automatically takes a percentage out of any charges, and a monthly fee, but it's small; Jacque has those and Joanne will get the details from her and report to the board.
- Professional fees are budgeted at \$700 – for taxes, accountant; ballpark amount based on prior fees.
- USRowing Dues - need to check into these again.
- Program \$900 – t shirts for LTR, food for LTR, sculling clinics food, and miscellaneous snacks for 2 program meetings
- Advertising at \$500 based on last year.
- Office and postage at \$250.
- Miscellaneous \$900; includes a lot of stuff and will be listed out later.
- Fundraising \$1000; but spend more but it winds up being in kind donation. Jana questions how should we calculate money coming in and what expenses go against that? Will be reported
- Jana has a lot to discuss and many questions regarding the budget. She is willing to meet with Joanne and Leah Kim. Some suggestions from Jana include that she would like to see the budget look like a P&L statement. We currently have no estimate for income.
- Jana suggested a method for determining the amount of money available for equipment. Be told how much we can spend on equipment, what % of the income that is, and every time money comes in to have that % go into an accrual account for capital expenses. Spend only what we have and every month it accrues and account will grow, but then we know how much we have
- Preliminary budget for 2009 for equipment is \$44,000, but does not include any money to purchase new boats. Money in last year was \$48,000 not including fundraising. We anticipate it being lower this year with the condition of the economy.
- Dues income to date has not been tracked by program etc., but will be going forward in order to track things more accurately.
- \$15k in checking from last year, but we're not yet sure what we have to operate on this year. Our operating net from last year is about \$7,000. We also have a Morgan Stanley reserve cash of about \$10k.
- There is a lot of money going out right now without anything coming in.
- Joanne donated Quickbooks online to the club for this year. Quickbooks is beginning this year in a new format to have tracking be more complete.

- From the numbers we are showing that we are on a very tight budget. We need to be cautious about covering expenses at committee meetings. It was suggested that winter erging should cost more next year. We need to decide this as a board.
- Miles asked Joanne if we would comp his wife LTS (or it's equivalent, \$150, suggests the board) for the use of the basement again this year. The board agrees that we can/will do this.
- Does X program pay for itself? If it doesn't we shouldn't cancel the program. Overhead costs need to be taken into account.
- How are we going to cover separate sculling and sweep programs? Combine? Everything has to come together to support the club as a whole.

### **Programs – Terri**

- Calendar presented; full program proposal to come next club meeting. Highlights below.
- No wake days will be Wednesday and Thursday till 9 am; Tuesdays are limited wake.

### **RACING**

- 3 target regattas chosen- North West Masters Regional, Masters Nationals, Head of the Hooch.
- 6 days absent for an 8 week program? Instead of 4 missing days. This suggestion is part of program proposal
- Practice 4 days a week
- Racing committee considering a proposal that requires a minimum # of rowers per session. 9 is currently on the table (8 rowers, one coxswain).
- Where do sculling and sweep meet? Not great to have both at same time. How can scullers get better coaching? How do you work commitment to boatings for sweep? Racing committee trying to figure out integration of two styles to be more effective.
- HOCA is part of racing and entries tried for.
- No local regattas have been scheduled yet by the hosting clubs. Rumored that Row the Rockies may not happen this year and instead RMRC may host a Row for the Cure event.
- Dry week for Experienced and Racing groups scheduled after NW and Master's.
- The week off was popular last year. Gives rowers time to sleep, have coffee with their families, allows for some equipment repair time etc.
- Not a lot of regattas on the calendar right now to help with planning; races canceled.

### **NOVICE and LTR**

- Novice sessions will be 6 weeks this year.
- 6 Learn to Row classes are on the schedule.
- Friday night reservoir closure at 6pm in May shortens the amount of time we like to have on that first evening of LTR. Jacque and Terri tossed around some options for adapting to this. Jacque will work with Brittany on what idea will best fit the flow of the program. Details to come.
- 3 days a week for Novice

### **EXPERIENCED**

- Same # of days as last year – 4.
- In 4 week chunks, except Exp 3 which will also be a 6 week session along with Racing 2

**Other:**

Kelly putting together some programming ideas to be efficient with programming between Exp and Racing, especially in the early season when participant #'s are low.

**SCULLING**

What can we do to support sculling?

- A very comprehensive sculling program update and program options was sent to the board via email. We did not have time to cover it in detail this session. It is certain that BCR currently does not have sufficient funds to purchase more sculling equipment.
- One of the biggest questions is how much do we grow the program this year. We will start with one LTS and LTS better limiting the number of participants to 6 with priority for sign up given to members.
- Mark V to work on a high profile clinic for sculling. He has also agreed to be the point person for the sculling committee.
- More planning needs to be done. Expect another update at the next meeting.

**Hiring – Corissa and Josh**

- The hiring Committee will now be Corissa, Josh, and Suzanne. Josh is interested in coaching spring racing and of course will recuse himself from any discussion of his employment, coach pay, and other pertinent issues that could be a conflict of interest.
- Josh will talk with Suzanne and Corissa about hiring. Terri will pass on the info from last year's contracts and program calendar information.

**CJC – Jana and Nicole**

- Jana, Nicole, Suzanne met with 4 Directors of CJC on 1/23/09. CJC offered contractual ideas; all preliminary, as yet still to be discussed.
- We could assess how many rowers on average we each have and pay a % of what we pay in maintenance and other fees, 50/50 split of US Rowing fees; CJC pay their own res fees; and ½ of trailering cost to any race if both clubs go
- Need list of all fees split; they want to pay their share but we need to be clear on what
- Usage list of what boats they can use; still exchange of equipment
- Assess how much maintenance costs and how to log; give them what we spent and when it's spent; each club is responsible in full for damage done by that club
- Once they pay % then they don't pay dues
- Their coaches must be a part of our info loop so that all coaches know the same information, told up front what they need to tell the kids
- Tabled remaining discussion for next meeting

**Marketing - Andrea**

- Timeline tight – need all info for flyers by end of March
- Terri – confirmed so we can set Farmer's Market dates
- Website – don't have the resources within club to do design changes
- Do as much in house as possible; if any member knows anyone who can donate time, please let Andrea know

- 5/16/09 is penciled in as a BCR event in celebration of National Learn to Row day. This would not be an on water event but instead held in the park adjacent to the Farmer's Market. Stay tuned for more details as this develops. Trudi and Dave are organizing.

### **Fundraising - Jana**

- Colorado Business Bank is sponsoring us for \$2,500
  - Total Pledged so far on the M2 Capital Campaign is \$20,284
  - \$3,281 still needed for the M2 Capital Campaign.
  - National Learn To Row day will be an event aimed at thanking our sponsors (encouraging future sponsorship) and getting the word out to the community about boulder rowing. We are considering having a space adjacent to the Farmer's Market in May, which will have ergs (possibly a boat), and lots of banners and information about BCR. We will need several volunteers for this day. There will not be anything on the water or at the res; instead we will encourage people to sign up for LTR programs. More info will come at the next meeting.
  - Art Show on hold till further notice - still looking for a place.

### **Reservoir Update – Nicole**

- Contact Nicole if you would like details, otherwise the 1/27/09 negotiation meeting went well, although a lot is still very much up in the air. Still looking promising. Hope to have clear idea of contract by end of February, actual contract in March.

### **Committee Updates not discussed during the meeting due to time constraints**

- Equipment – Josh
  - 1 set of sweep blades located and we will purchase them. Mark V working on transport of 8 Croker blades.
  - Erg maintenance parts given to Fran for erg maintenance, including replacement handle for Jennifer Q's erg
  - Rick S has taken care of cox boxes and all coxswain equipment. We now have 6 fully functional cox boxes and will have coxswain packs for each box.
  - Josh proposes the following BCR Equipment Purchase Approval Process:
    1. Equipment Chair proposes equipment priority list for upcoming year
    2. Board discusses list, amends as necessary, and votes to approve
    3. Equipment Chair consults with Treasurer to ensure funds available for purchases
    4. Equipment Chair ensures that equipment is bought and sold
    5. Equipment Chair informs Board of items purchased, items sold, and updates priority list
  - Proposed priority list as of Feb 2009:
    1. 2 used, newer 4+ or 4x/- to replace Buff and BA
    2. 2x and oars
    3. 3 entry level 1x's to replace LRM singles (Bob Evans, Pro Am 25, and Olympus)
    4. 8+
    5. 4x/-
  - Josh also proposes the following:
    - continue to purchase a new set (8) of sweep blades each year, and sell a set each year until we can replace all wooden handle sweep blades

- sell the Alden
- every club member work diligently to reduce our repair and maintenance cost, which was approximately the cost of a brand new 1x
- Reassess priority list each January as budget is discussed.
- 2009
  1. Buy 2 newer 4+ or 4x/-. Sell Buff and BA after we have replacements.
  2. Sell Alden. Buy 2x and oars.
  3. Sell 1 set sweep w/wood handles.
- 2010
  1. Buy 3 newer 1x. Sell 3 LRM.
  2. Sell CQ and Tahoe. Buy newer 8+
  3. Buy 1 set sweep oars. Sell 1 set sweep oars
  4. Buy new launch hull
- 2011
  1. Buy newer 4x/-.
  2. Buy 2 sculling boats.
  3. Buy 1 set sweep oars. Sell 1 set sweep oars.