

Present

Arlington Belmont

BLS

Bromfield

Brookline

CRLS

Hingham

Malden

Medford

Milton

Nauset

Row Boston

Shrewsbury

Somerville

Wayland-Weston

Westford-Littleton

Worcester

Absent

Duxbury

Lowell

Mystic Valley

MINUTES

Eric Girard called the meeting to order at 9:03am

Provisional Programs-Eric Girard

Somerville and Milton have completed provisional terms and are full voting members

Financial Report- Angela Girard

\$15,274.23 in bank account, enough to cover regatta if needed

Spring regatta profit \$11,985.00-\$10,093.57=\$1,891.43

- Low because of limited parking

Fall regatta profit \$9775.00-\$10,304.54=-\$529.54

- Small loss because of last minute move and providing additional resources on Cape

Website Feedback-Laura Rothman (for Mark Grinberg)

Updating website over the last 6 months

- Started with old website, new format, updating, and changing to revamp
- Would like one picture of each team, Laura will be emailing specifics
- Working on coaches email list to stay up to date
- Please send old race results to Laura to keep all records on site
 - Especially records not on row2k
- Contact info on the bottom of the page
- <http://mpsra.org/>
- Please send any suggestions or requests to Mark Grinberg mark@grinb.org

Regatta Feedback-General discussion

Current setup, regatta is under control of president and host school
Worcester->Lowell->Cape was not good, should not happen again
Brett commended for pulling off regatta on three days notice

- Trying to hold regattas with purview of all town and local officials in the future

General Feedback

- Looking for paid regatta director, to professionalize regatta
 - Accountability and compensation
 - Stay on top of all deadlines etc
 - Single point person to make decisions
- Do we need to pay regatta workers and not depend on host school and volunteers? Amassing the resources is difficult for any host.
 - Relying on volunteer, launches, man power from all teams. It doesn't always come through. How do we make it a predictable success?
 - Problems arise when we change location at the last minute
 - Shouldn't have to bring launches and give volunteers at the last minute

- single regatta director can organize beforehand and if needed professionalize (pay for) additional resources
 - can identify what needs to be paid for and make sure all teams are contributing
- need to analyze other regatta sites and see what's available
- need to train and bring in parent volunteers to help with regattas
 - from teams that are able to provide them
- each organization needs to provide volunteers to be on the regatta committee (months in advance)
 - need to expand base of operation outside of head coaches
- Club Nationals and NEIRA outsource running of the regatta to other organizations to avoid splitting resources
- Committee would work with host team
- Parents have stakeholder buy in, will commit to run good, safe regatta
- Several meetings prior to regatta to organize
- MPSRA can entirely host regatta, provide all volunteers, rent all equipment OR we can outsource it
 - Hybrid does not always work
- This will be a work in progress over the next 2-3 years
- Worcester will be available for fall states through bridge construction, Middlesex Construction has guaranteed a lane
- Canadian Henley, Saratoga, NH Champs, QRA run good regattas with combination of pros and volunteers
- Dale Wickenheiser proposes asking the board to look into and price outsourcing and hiring a regatta director
 - Seconded by Ed McCormack
- Board has set a meeting for February 7 to explore options for running regattas and start work on bylaws, insurance, and host sites

Other Business

Nauset (proposal)

Looking to combine Nauset High and Cape Tech to keep program financially viable

- Brett has go ahead from both ADs

It was not in writing previous to meeting, so will be provisional for the coming year

Question on dual programs

No proposals on the table for change of rules

- It will not and cannot change for the coming calendar year

Paperwork

Program description must be signed and submitted to secretary

Form will be sent out to programs

Name and structure required, changes must be board approved

Discussion of changing award ceremony at states

Splitting into two

Just award trophies at big ceremony

Saves time, doesn't require athletes to stay all day

Discussion of points trophy

Philosophically what are we looking for?

Excellence or participation, quality or quantity?

Currently skewed toward quantity

Discussion for spring 2014 regatta, to be voted on in Jan 2014

Possible inclusion of sculling in some manner

New Program

Norwell looking to start new program, could potentially join as provisional for fall regatta.

Board Elections

Board members are required to attend several meetings each year

The board is looking to expand purview and reform bylaws over the coming year

Nominations:

Ed McCormick - Medford

Pam Krause - Shrewsbury

Shayne Rowan - Boston Latin School

Eddie Bruce - Westford-Littleton

After one round of voting Ed McCormick and Pam Krause were elected to the board.

End of official business

Recap of Philly Scholastic Meeting – Ed McCormick

National Scholastic Rowing Association (NSRA)

Scholastic organization to represent teams across the country

To be a unified voice for programs, not to govern them

- A confederation of existing scholastic and junior leagues

Instigated because of USRowing's \$10 fee per member, \$45 to compete in USRowing regattas

- Was to be tabled for 2 years, but has changed to 1 year

Glenn Merry has been playing organizations/regions against each other to get buy in

NSRA is not looking to replace USRowing

- Want to let them know juniors will not fund their budget

Read out loud letter to USRowing

Looking to facilitate communication and help new programs

No longer a waiver section, free and paying membership sections

MPSRA board will look at being affiliated with the NSRA

Ed will send minutes to MPSRA list after bi-monthly NSRA phone conferences

2/4/13 7:18 AM

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