

## **Washington Yacht Club**

### **Meeting Minutes**

**October 27, 2022**

The General Meeting was called into order at 7:05 PM by Anthony Au and Peter Correa

### **Approval of Minutes**

The General Meeting Minutes from June 15th, June 23rd, and August 10th were approved as distributed.

### **Reports**

#### **OFFICERS**

- COMMODORE (Anthony Au and Peter Correa): Present  
We will have Officers Elections this quarter (likely sometime in December).  
Get in touch with us if you are interested in running for any of these positions. The descriptions of the roles are:
  - Co-Commodore: Lead all aspects of the club. A focus this year will be in trying to gain more long-term security for the club and find funding through the University. Whatever areas need to be taken care of, protect our place at the university, impact the future of the club.
  - Vice Commodore: Leads the instructional and educational programs of the club (organizes lessons, oversees the ratings system, etc.).
  - Rear Commodore: Leads recruitment, publicity, social events, Snooze n Cruise, and other non-instructional activities.
- VICE COMMODORE (William G. Rae): Present
- REAR COMMODORE (Wm Salt Hale and Dylan Wesen): Present

#### **POSITION HOLDERS**

- PROGRAM DIRECTOR (Apoorva Patil): Present
  - Officers Hours this quarter are Tuesdays 11 am to Noon and Fridays 3 pm to 4 pm in HUB Sub-Basement Room 259.
  - Members can contact her to set up different times.
- TREASURER (John Redlingshafer): Absent
  - The Washington L&I, ESD, and IRS quarterly reports have been filed. The Washington Secretary of State annual report was processed.

- We're looking into the best way to receive donations via electronic funds transfers (EFT) / eCheck. The goal is to make it easy to receive donations and minimize our fees.
- We're looking into a general payment processing service (Helcim) that may have lower fees than Square for nonprofits. We believe that membership dues are allowed to be considered nonprofit contributions by Washington State Law. This would cut down our fees significantly.
- QUARTERMASTER (Ken Howe): Absent
- RECRUITMENT CHAIR (Jun Ochai): Present
- SOCIAL CHAIR (Ivana Kolinek): Present
- MEDIA DIRECTOR (Layla Airola): Absent
- **WEBMASTER (Cato Cannizzo): We're looking to fill this position and transition to a WordPress site to replace our dated Google Site which might go down at any point.**
- *SNOOZE 'N' CRUISE CHAIR (Vacant):*
- RATINGS EXAMINERS (Andreas Freund, Tom Nguyen, Luka Ukrainczyk, Dave Swartz): Present
- ASSISTANT RATINGS EXAMINER (Daniel Eduardo Oliver): Present
- ASUW SENATE REP (Layla Airola): Absent
- FACULTY ADVISOR (John Pyles): Present
- ITHAKA COMMITTEE CHAIR (Dave Swartz): Present

## FLEET CAPTAINS

- HEAD FLEET CAPTAIN (Michael Stickels): Present
- *BRAVO FLEET CAPTAIN (Vacant):*
- LASER FLEET CAPTAIN (Andreas Freund): Absent
- DOUBLE-HANDED FLEET CAPTAIN (Grant Shogren): Absent
- *PERFORMANCE FLEET CAPTAIN (Vacant):*
- SAILBOARD FLEET CAPTAIN (Daniel Oliver): Present
- CATAMARAN FLEET CAPTAIN (Tom Nguyen): Present
- *DAYSAILER FLEET CAPTAIN (Vacant):*
- KEELBOAT FLEET CAPTAIN (Tim Simmons): Absent
- WHALER FLEET CAPTAIN (Angie Cuadra-Palacios): Absent
- *SAIL FLEET CAPTAIN (Vacant):*
- GAS WRANGLER (Norm Ahlquist): Absent

## SPECIAL COMMITTEES

- DIVERSITY COMMITTEE (Angie Cuadra-Palacios, Wm Salt Hale, Daniel Oliver)
- ITHAKA OPERATIONS COMMITTEE (Chair: Dave Swartz)
- INSTRUCTION COMMITTEE (William Rae, Andrew Cheung, Dave Swartz)
- DATABASE AND WEBSITE COMMITTEE (Cato Cannizzo, Eric Banisadr, William Rae, Sam Lindsay, Wm Salt Hale, Thomas Nguyen)

- CLUB COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE (Anthony Au, Wm Salt Hale, Sam Lindsay, John Pyles)

## Discussion

Ways to get involved this year:

- We have our 75th anniversary celebration coming up in Winter or Spring
- White Whaler is back in service. Blue Whaler Work Parties are now underway. Contact [vicecommodore@washingtonyachtclub.org](mailto:vicecommodore@washingtonyachtclub.org) or keep an eye out for announcements.
- We should have more regular weekend work parties - make them a combination of sailing and working on our boats.
- Women's Sailing Night - look into resuming this program. Need volunteers with keelboat ratings willing to help.

## Old Business

No old business.

## New Business

Signing our new Terms of Use Agreement with the UW Recreation Department:

- Big impact that it will have: no need to send rosters two days in advance.
  - Bring the club back to more sailing opportunities.
- Students need to vote their approval for Anthony and Peter to sign the agreement.
- Gas locker access requested.
- Any questions or comments?
  - Can you give a brief overview? They updated the old document and we're switching to digital checkout forms. Swipe-in system. Mostly pre-pandemic rules for sailing. We asked them to work with us to create a better relationship.
  - Safety issues related to the gas locker - situation needs to be addressed.
  - The relationship between the WAC and the club has not been the best in recent years and this agreement is a great step forward. Kudos to the current Officers for making this happen.
- Voting rules: only student members can vote.
- Motion to vote on allowing the Commodores to sign this agreement if the gas locker situation gets addressed to their satisfaction. Salt raised the motion, Dylan seconded. Motion passes 11-0-0.

Proposed Amendments to By-Laws and Policies Documents:

- WYC started as a competitive racing team with only Single-Handed and Double-Handed boats, and the journey from there has led us to the point where we are now. Want to increase the potential positive impact of all members, so everyone has a voice and the club is available and accessible for all. The future of the club should be equitable to

sailors who are interested in sailing boats of all types and generally invested in the future of the club.

- The Commodores have been around the club for a while and Anthony has been deeply involved in all aspects of club operations, including the finances, over the past year. They see many issues with the documents as written due to confusing language, conflicting language, dated policies that don't make sense anymore, etc. We need to reword the documents, the definition of certain positions, etc.
- Reducing extremely long sections and making documents easier to follow.
- Voting members should feel good about the changes in the documents that we are proposing to make in order to make an informed decision about whether they want to vote for the changes or not.
- Everyone is encouraged to give input or comments on all the changes suggested.
- We will distribute out the proposed documents on Discord and the email list. Then we will be completely open to discussion, comments and questions. Voting to pass these amendments by the end of the quarter seems like a reasonable goal.

## **Additional Discussion**

More sailing opportunities:

- We will have weekday events soon - maybe Fridays or Thursdays. Moving forward, one Supervised Sailing session per week will be what we aim for. We might need volunteers for organizing this.
- Schedule one-to-one sessions.
- Is there a list of Ratings Examiners?
  - Luka is a Ratings Examiner. Contact him when the wind is good and he can come and examine them and give ratings.
  - Use Discord and/or email for contacting them.
  - All Chiefs can administer ratings tests too.
- We asked Recreation if they could make exceptions for making non-students volunteers sign up for mandatory and expensive IMA membership. They would not budge.
  - We have spoken to various student senates and bodies, and we are trying to get funding for the club to allow us to help pay the fees for those who wanna come help the club.
- Can we have a list of current students who can give ratings?
  - We're updating the definitions of Ratings Examiners and Chiefs and clarifying responsibilities.
    - Previously, Ratings Examiners were people who were paid, but we think it's better for it to be structured such that Ratings Examiners are generally people who can help give other people ratings and help the club progress.
    - The idea is that specific Chiefs who want can also be a part of the people who are advertised as able to give the ratings. So we think the more streamlined definition and description of the role will help.

- To the club member needing help, it is not of particular importance whether a Ratings Examiner is also a Chief or not, or whether they are receiving pay or not.
- We would pay Ratings Examiners to work on boats and not just to give ratings. When Dave was a Ratings Examiner, they were employees of the club and they were also fixing the boats and giving tests and doing some teaching.
  - At the moment, if anyone wants to come work on the boats when the WAC is not staffed, then they have to carry their own tools.
- The terms have changed over the years.
- We can iron out the details later and the payment considerations, but for now we need to do whatever it takes to give people ratings and follow up with whatever needs to be done in the By-Laws revisions to make that happen.

Issues with alumni membership IMA costs:

- Recreation is pretty set in this decision
- Student Plus One system can be used to sign up anybody. Current or retired staff can get their own IMA membership without the Plus One sponsorship. Others need a Plus One sponsorship.
- But overall, we are in a much better place with the WAC and IMA than we were earlier this year, and alumni will get full access.

How should returning members best get involved?

- Question from Byron - previous member whose membership has lapsed.
- Has the Plus One thing always been an option and do we know if it will always be a thing in the future? It used to only be for marital plus ones, they have now removed that.
- An issue to note is that we are focusing on students at the moment and need to satisfy their requirements. If a non-student wants to join the club right now to take novice dinghy classes, then that's problematic because we need to prioritize new students.
- We do have plenty of roster space for non-students currently, but at this time they have to be contributors to the student experience and not people who will be mainly competing with students for resources and opportunities.
- Byron is an old member and has sailing experience. He noticed that there is a bottleneck because of a lack of people who can teach and give more people ratings.
- If Byron was to come back, how could he help the club? Knowledge transfer and teaching continuity.
- Until this month, we couldn't have dinghy lessons outside of Tuesday afternoons, but now we have that opportunity again. We could realistically see Laser classes and FJ classes happening concurrently during the weekends again.

Other topics:

- As an alternative to the boat ramp, some dollies can fit down the horseshoe dock ramp.

- Student funds paid for the horseshoe dock being renovated, so we should be allowed to use it outside of canoe rentals.
- We only have bathroom, shower, and garage access when the WAC is staffed.
- Dave can help give ratings after returning from boat move on Saturday the 5th. Some club members want to go out for Rum Run that day.
- Margaret Pommert proposed a safety event on Sunday the 6th. No current plans for it.

### **Adjournment**

- Meeting was adjourned at 8:13 pm

Minutes submitted by: Apoorva Patil

Minutes reviewed by: Anthony Au