

Washington Yacht Club

Meeting Minutes

February 06, 2023

The General Council Meeting was called into order at 7:08 PM by Dylan Wesen and Peter Correa.

Reports

OFFICERS

- COMMODORE (Dylan Wesen and Peter Correa): Present
- VICE COMMODORE (Anna Kolinek and Isaiah Quinby): Present
- REAR COMMODORE (Layla Airola): Present

POSITION HOLDERS

- PROGRAM DIRECTOR (Apoorva Patil): Present
- TREASURER (John Redlingshafer): Present
- *FUNDRAISING CHAIR (Vacant):*
- RECRUITMENT CHAIR (Jun Ochai): Present
- SOCIAL CHAIR (Ivana Kolinek): Present
- MEDIA DIRECTOR (Layla Airola): Present
- *SNOOZE 'N' CRUISE CHAIR (Vacant):*
- *WEBMASTER (Vacant):*
- QUARTERMASTER (Ken Howe): Present
- RATINGS EXAMINERS (Andreas Freund, Tom Nguyen, Luka Ukrainczyk, Dave Swartz): Present
- ASSISTANT RATINGS EXAMINER (Daniel Eduardo Oliver): Present
- ASUW SENATE REP (Layla Airola): Present
- 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 and Dean Priebe): Present
- CATAMARAN FLEET CAPTAIN (Tom Nguyen): Present
- *DAYSAILER FLEET CAPTAIN (Vacant):*
- KEELBOAT FLEET CAPTAIN (Tim Simmons): Absent

- WHALER FLEET CAPTAIN (Angie Cuadra-Palacios): Present
- SAIL FLEET CAPTAIN (Brendan Shannon): Present
- 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)

Old Business

- **Approval of Meeting Minutes:**
 - Any objections? None - moving on.
- **Return to Open Sailing**
 - Policy is set up for that.
 - Anyone can come down to the sail locker, put the pin in and grab whatever they need and go sail.
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- **Any updates from co, vice, rear commodore?**
 - Will
 - Contact with Dennis for skipper class
 - We have power at the sail locker
 - Shoutout to Tom for helping with supervised sailing
 - What is the procedure for skipper classes?
 - Layla is okay handing over the media director position if anyone is interested.
 - Ithaka class coming Saturday
- **75th Anniversary updates**
 - Booked for April 22nd
 - Waiting to do a walk through. SYC is interested in doing a walk through. There will be a meeting this or next week. Layla is interested in volunteering for the walk through.
 - We would like to have the invitation out in a couple of weeks.
 - We're not working on any other clubs at the moment.
 - Husky Foundation is doing a brunch in Feb 25
 - Make sure that we have attendance
- **Website**
 - We lost editing access for our website.
 - The website works as it is, we can post new lessons and stuff.

- We might need to work on the new website and transfer all the data over.
- **Wetsuits**
 - Analysis of the wetsuit survey
 - Wider range across the board (men and women)
 - Good/positive feedback from survey participants.
 - We got considerable support for gloves, boots and hoodies.
 - During the executive committee meeting, we realized we don't have a wider and more flexible array of sizes, so maybe consider changing the size distribution.
 - Discussion about getting a 5/4 vs 4/3 wetsuit
 - The cost difference is \$12 per wetsuit
 - And the temperature difference is considerable
 - Overall cost
 - Consider increasing the cost of gloves, mittens, boots and hoodies
 - The number of items in the order are based on the number of people who responded and the distribution of the demographic.
 - 43% discount on the retail amount of the total order
 - Would we change the numbers based on the survey responses?
 - Something we have talked about in the past meeting is that we should maybe reduce the number of in-between wetsuits.
 - People who previously ordered wetsuits, any comments?
 - Not many people have tried them yet.
- **Amendments**
 - Peter is now a chief and a double handed chief
- **2023 Budget Approval**
 - Refer to the budget document (2023 proposed, 2022 budget, 2022 actual expenditure)
 - Making adjustments
 - We operated at an almost \$14,000 deficit in 2022.
 - We are trying to break even this year, but with inflation and stuff, that might be tough.
 - We have a rainy day fund that will cushion us for a few years, but we need to be careful
 - The tone for the 2024/2025 budget may change.
 - We have about two years of runway.
 - Main income is membership fees
 - Expected to get \$8000
 - Expenses
 - Insurance (70 vessels - 50 sailboats and 20 sailboards)
 - Insurance just got raised. (Every year it gets raised a tiny bit, but major changes happen every three years and that was in 2022)
 - Couple of paid positions in the club
 - Theft - outboards stolen.
 - Outboards

- We have budgeted \$4,500 for new outboards but we fixed some old ones and may not need new ones.
- What is the rec fee for volunteer alumni?
 - There's 2 fees for all alumni - club fee and IMA membership.
 - Some of our alumni might not be able to pay that and if they can't come because of the IMA fee, then we may potentially cover it for them.
 - Do we need this?
 - Some known alumni were very excited to spearhead the women's sailing but the IMA membership payment necessity discouraged her. In such cases where it helps the club overall, it may be worth it.
 - We also can use that money in other places, like buying more gear, such that it can help the club overall.
 - This has always been a discretionary choice.
- Investing our money
 - How much are we willing to lock up for 12 months?
 - Can expect about \$1000 in interest.
 - In February we will start looking for options to invest our surplus in some high-return accounts.
- We've been considering switching banks
 - It'll make getting donations easy
- Good to have a cushion for moorage
- Do we need to budget money for the haulout?
 - We had \$100 budgeted for uncertain haulout events
 - \$100 now given to the sailboard repair, Daniel had requested the funds and has essentials that could be purchased using that money.
- Put aside some money for Charlotte re-masting?
- Anthony: Figure out what the goal for this activity is?
 - Are we trying to set hard budget limits?
 - Maybe it is worth increasing some of the allocated amounts now rather than having a whole meeting to adjust the amount again.
- Do we wanna budget for the 75th anniversary event expenditure?
 - \$1000 added under the social events tab for this.
- Wetsuit order
 - Should we get the whole \$3500 order or buy the \$2500 smaller order?
 - Space issues for storage. If we lose access to the sail locker, we might have problems storing them.
 - So doubling our wetsuit stock and not having a sure space to store them is a considerable issue.
 - A lot of them will be at SSP
 - We have room at WAC and SSP for storing them.
 - If we reduce the order, we do not lose any percentage on the discount.
 - If one of us picks it up, we save about \$300 on tax.
 - Final decision: Budget \$3500

- We haven't accounted for the SSP space moorage fees.
 - Now added a 22/month fee for this
- The sailboarding program is new, big and actively expanding, and so we should discuss how much we should invest in it and what returns can we expect from it
 - Daniel is thinking of doing more trips to the gorge and is thinking of charging these.
 - We may have new instructors coming in
 - We have two new foils that have been donated
- Need for a fundraising chair
 - There are many fundraising opportunities that go by us.
 - We need to focus more on getting more money in, rather than micro-managing expenditure.
- Insurance claims
 - Have we done this before and have we made money from this before?
 - Yes, Anthony has done this for his own boat before and it is pretty straightforward.
 - There is a documented process that has been discussed via emails before. (past commodores and head fleet captains emails)
 - There are a few ways to approach this.
- Get the inventory store and merch stuff running again for more income.
- Membership Fees
 - Consider if we wanna increase the membership
 - Remove the winter coverage from the policies
- Apoorva (Program Director) raises the motion of passing the budget. John (Treasurer) seconds the motion. 6 approve - 0 oppositions - 0 abstainees.
- Motion passes and the 2023 budget is approved.

New Business

- **Paid position revision from 'employee' to 'volunteer'**
 - John - Employee definition. If we go from an employee payment to 'paid volunteer' that will help us a lot.
 - Keeping the terminology as 'employee' brings in a lot of regulations and minimum payments and other things. Operating as an employer and not meeting those compliance metrics, we are risking a lot.
 - So Program Director will still be kept as a paid position and it won't be an hourly position anymore but be kept as a stipend.
 - 'WYC Policy Article III Section C' would need to be re-written and we will follow up with stipend limits.
 - This payment would not be reported on a W-2, and is non-taxable.
 - It costs money to make the filings for the tax compliance fees, and so we would avoid IRS notices.

- This is a provision possible for a 501(c)(3) type non-profit, which we are, so we should take advantage of it.
- **Proposal to remove the Winter quarter coverage**
 - If a student member pays for Autumn quarter, then they get free Winter quarter membership.
 - This policy is harming our profits and not necessary anymore so vote on discontinuing.
- **Rules for Open Sailing**
 - Going through the open sailing policy document.
 - Guest requirements
 - Difference between what the WAC controls and what the club jurisdiction controls. (Specifying when one needs to have paid the IMA fee and when we can take guests on).
 - How are we tracking guests?
 - Guest waivers, enforce the signing each time a guest is taken out.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the meeting

- Layla raised the motion, Anna seconded, Will abstained, motion passed, meeting adjourned at 9:29 PM

Minutes submitted by: Apoorva Patil

Minutes reviewed by: Peter Correa