

Berkeley Paddling & Rowing Club
Board Meeting Minutes
April 28, 2009
6:30 p.m.- home of Charlie Altekruise

Present: Charlie Altekruise, Ellen Braithwaite, Kathryn Furano, Susan Sawyer, Mike Smith, Alex Smoligovets, Ned Trippe, Jane Toro

1. Meeting called to order at 6:30 by Charlie Altekruise.
2. Minutes of the last meeting - March 10, 2009 - were approved.
3. Treasurer's Report by Kathryn Furano:
 - A. Checking Account: \$15, 527.11
 - B. CD: \$16, 730.61

Alex Smoligovets suggested that we explore putting the CD money - due in June - into an account that might pay more interest and also might be more liquid, an account where we could access the money without penalty if we needed it immediately. An ING on-line account might fulfill both those goals. He will research alternatives and prepare a report for the next meeting.

Tax Update by Mike Smith. Mike is working on the 2008 tax and regulatory filings for the IRS and California Registry of Charitable Trusts. He is also preparing a request to the IRS Taxpayer Advocate Service for assistance with the outstanding issues between the Club and the IRS. He expects to file this request on May 1. It will be available for download and review by the board before submission

4. Boat house Committee by Ned Trippe

A. Francis Smith has greatly improved the wash-down area. Ned hopes to continue reclamation of the blacktop on the Boathouse Clean-Up Day, May 9. Ned will also replace the bottom connection from the hose to the water, which should eliminate leaking.

B. New motion lights have been installed by Ned and John Alfonso. Time will tell if these help keep the graffiti artists at bay.

C. It was suggested that we explore planting trees to screen the boathouse from the highway. It would improve the area esthetically, but might also give cover to taggers.

D. Clean-up Day is May 9, 2009. There will be a barbeque at noon, after clean-up and painting.

5. Membership Committee by Ellen Braithwaite

We now have 134 members. There were 17 new inquiries in April, a third of which joined the Club. Ellen conducted an impromptu Open-House the weekend of April 18, because of the large number of inquiries.

Because Ellen will be teaching in Craftbury, Vermont on the national Learn To Row Day, June 6, 2009, we decided to hold our own Learn to Row Day on June 20, 2009, so that Ellen could be present. The Water-Skiing Club had agreed to forego their Saturday hours on June 6 to facilitate Learn to Row Day. They will be contacted to see if they could forego their skiing on

June 20 instead.

6. Equipment Committee

Nothing has been purchased. A new club double is still being sought. Alex suggested that the Cal Rowing club be contacted as they often turn over their old racing shells.

Another starter shell to go along with the Aero, probably a Wintech which could accomodate heavier rowers, is also a desired purchase.

Ned mentioned that a Van Dusen is available which might be a replacement for the Peinert. This will be referred to John Swenson to look into.

7. Report to the City of Berkeley.

Ellen has finished the report and will email it to the Board for any additions before turning it in at the end of the week.

8. BPRC clothing order.

Alex reported the order has been placed with JL and all clothing should arrive by the middle of May.

9. New Business:

1. Ellen has prepared gift certificates for lessons if anyone wants to give lessons to family or friends. Contact her for more information.

2. Google Groups. After discussion it was unanimously approved to put every BPRC member who has given an email address onto the BPRC Google Group with an easy opt-out feature. Anyone who does NOT want to be part of the group can simply click and remove his or her name.

3. By-laws. A committee of Mike Smith, Susan Sawyer, and Jane Toro was formed to look at the existing by-laws and make suggestions for additions, deletions, or revisions.

4. Outreach.

a. Jane Toro pointed out that the Boy Scouts have a boating requirement that they must meet and suggested we establish a summer program whereby the BPRC helps them meet it. A committee of Ned, Jane and Ellen was established to look into this.

b. Charlie suggested that we might have a fall introduction day for Berkeley high school students.

5. Insurance: Mike suggested that we do an "insurance audit" of our coverage, particularly if we plan to sponsor events involving youth.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m. The next meeting is June 9, 2009.