

WESTERN RESERVE ROWING FOUNDATION
MONTHLY MEETING
April 29, 2003
Carnegie-Fulton Library

1. Roll Call/Introductions

The meeting was called to order at approximately 6:05 p.m. The following people were in attendance at the April 29, 2003 meeting of the Western Reserve Rowing Foundation:

Mark Silverstein/VP	Tim Marcovy/WRRRA*
Jeff Jensen/Treasurer	Gary DeRocco/CSRA*
Brenda Soukup/Secretary	Kevin Sixby/BW*
Cathy Petryshyn/WRRRA*	Mark Handloff/CWRU
Jerry Hazelwood/Shaker*	Dave Werner/St. Ignatius*
Jim "JP" Ptacek	Carol Wilson/WRRRA*
Dan DiAngelo/CSU/BW*	Jim Mack/WRRRA*
Jackie Skotzke (Virant)/JCU*	Doug Carlson/WRRRA Treasurer
Andrew Watterson/Cleveland Urban Properties	Russ Eckles/WRRRA*

2. Minute Approval

The minutes of the April 9, 2003 WRRF meeting were approved with no changes.

3. Cleveland Urban Properties – Andrew Watterson

Andrew spoke briefly about funding for green buildings and Cleveland Urban Properties. He said that Cleveland Urban Properties is excited about urban development and green building and gave us a couple of pointers for funding. He said that Funders seem interested in bringing different concepts together (*i.e.*, a community recreational building along with residential property) and in that regard he encouraged partnerships with others (*i.e.*, Forest City) to make that happen thereby appealing to the most amount of people.

4. Revised Code of Regulations – Doug Carlson

Doug passed out the revised Code of Regulations and pointed out some of the highlights:

- Members are the organizations themselves. Each organization would elect one delegate. Those delegates would elect the Board of Directors.
- The Board of Directors would consist of 8 people from our member organizations and 7 members from the community.
- The Board of Directors would have staggered terms.

- September 1 is the projected target date to have the member organization delegate in place and our next annual meeting is the target date for having the full Board in place.
- With that in mind, each member organization needs to designate a director by our next WRRF meeting.
- The document requires a two-thirds vote for approval.

There was lengthy discussion about the schools not having a delegate available during the summer break thereby not having a voice in the process. There was hesitation on a “hasty” vote and a **Motion was passed to table the approval of the Code of Regulations and Articles until our next meeting.**

5. Treasurer’s Report – Jeff Jensen

- The month of March is showing some assessment revenue, although only a couple member organizations have paid their assessment as of yet and there is therefore a loss in the first quarter of -\$12,280.79.
- Even so we are in the black for the month of March by \$439.60.
- \$15,853.51 balance on hand as of 3/31/03.
- The Minutes will reflect appreciation and thanks to Jeff for a job well done.

6. Grants and Fund Raising – Dan DiAngelo and Brenda Soukup

Peter Gozar, Mark Silverstein, Brenda Soukup, John Neely, Lois Cowan and JP Ptacek met with Jon Jensen to discuss funding and grants. The highlights of the meeting are as follows:

- We have three avenues of revenue: our programs, our operating funds and our boathouse fund.
 - Programs are strong candidates for grants and public funding. He suggested the Cleveland Foundation Center as a resource for learning and researching funders.
 - Operating funds should come from our membership, although special events are a good way to get corporate sponsorships. We should go further with our volunteers, maintaining a database of qualifications in order to personally ask individuals to do a specific job. John Neely thought that there was a specific need for more networking within our groups and suggested fun networking activities and parties would both fill that need and raise money for operating capital.
 - Boathouse fund can come from capital campaign although several things need to be in order before a capital campaign can be launched. Our organization has to be ready for it; we need to have a site; we need a certified audit and a feasibility study.

- In any proposal we need to add in our volunteer time each month. This suggestion goes along with Vicci Simpson's suggestion that we need to boast more about what we've done, the inventory we own and all of our other assets.
- For any grant or building campaign we need to show that we are doing something to help raise the money ourselves (fundraisers, etc.)
- Every foundation/corporation is different and we should call and ask how they would like to be approached. The maximum level of engagement is the ultimate goal.

7. Corporate Rowing League – Mark Silverstein

We've mailed out about 100 packets announcing the Corporate Rowing League and Mark has made some calls but has not had much success as of yet. Mark has talked with Mike Lambert in Pittsburgh and asked him how they started their corporate league and Mike said it took them a lot of cold calls, presentations and time. This season may be abbreviated with the off-season being used to make the calls and presentations necessary for a full program next year.

8. Dragon Boat Festival – Mark Silverstein

- Highland Software is the first corporate team to sign up for the races. There are breast cancer survivors who would like to row for one day and Mark said that Pittsburgh would also like to come and race.
- Kenny Crumpton has offered to help promote the Festival.
- There will be a dragon boat in Cleveland on May 19 or 20 and Mark will be inviting the media to inform them of the event.

9. Old Business

- **There was a Motion passed unopposed that rowers of any member organization that have paid their assessments for the normal rowing season will be entitled to row using their own organization's equipment during the summer without additional fees (assuming they are experienced crews following the rules of the SOP).**
- An Amendment to this Motion was made and then withdrawn that any organization that has a regular spring and fall season but who's members are rowing during the summer will subordinate their use of the launches to the revenue-raising groups.

10. Safety

Jim Mack would like to say thank you to the 33 coaches who have successfully completed their SQ2 and to all who have completed and turned in their CPA certifications.

11. New Business

- Mark said he got 8 phone calls right after the media event with Kenny Crumpton.
- All trailers should have inspection stickers now – has yours?
- Jerry Hazelwood has had informal conversations with Paul Goburg and Pat Campbell of The Ohio Corridor exploring partnership possibilities. They suggest we don't put too much money in our present facilities and possibly explore other land opportunities (possibly rent from them).
- Dan DiAngelo suggested that we form a committee to write a mission statement, a vision statement and a goals statement with a grant mindset.

12. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda L. Soukup
WRRF Secretary