

Minutes for CRF Meeting October 26, 2006
Draft Version

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 5:55 p.m.

Officers:	Anna Chanakas	Mark Silverstein	Vicci Simpkins (absent)
Members Present	Mary Jo Cotner Russ Eckles	Drew Forhan Phil O'Bryon	Dave Werner Bob Valerian
Members Absent:	Doug Carlson	Denny Matheou	Werner Minshal Tom Newman

Approval of Meeting Minutes:

- ◆ September CRF meeting minutes were approved.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Finance:

- ◆ 2006 Budget:
 - ◆ Hillary updated the CRF financials for September. Hillary will work on making sure all the expenses are classified properly, for example we need to make sure all of the operations expenses are taken out of the Boathouse recovery fund.
 - ◆ It takes approximately \$360/day to run CRF. The financials show a net loss of \$6,000, but we still have some receivables yet to come in. We are at a break-even point and we expect to be ahead for the year. 2006 looks as though it will be similar to 2005.
 - ◆ CRF should be in a solid position to buy a Vespoli Launcher 8+ and barge equipment with WRRRA.
- ◆ 2007 DRAFT Budget:
 - ◆ The Quicken program will give us a draft 2007 budget, which will be based on our 2006 budget. This budget will take out expenses we do not expect to incur in 2007, but will reflect anticipated changes (e.g. rent for the full building).
 - ◆ CRF projects income of \$132K, and expenses totaling \$117K. We need to review the budget and confirm that these numbers are accurate.
 - ◆ For example, we are still not sure of our 2007 utility costs. There was some discussion about CRF installing temperature controls in the boathouse. During the winter months, some coaches will heat an entire bay to repair boats. We need to move repairs to the front bay, which is smaller space, and set the temperature no higher than 45-50 degrees to make sure pipes don't freeze. These measures will save the club a lot of money on heating costs.
- ◆ *Discussion:*
 - ◆ Some expressed that this is a good start to the budget, but we need to tighten things up. There were concerns that the \$20K surplus in the 2007 budget is too small to cover unexpected expenses, plus this does not include any funds for a boathouse manager. Prior to the boathouse fire, CRF projected a \$40K surplus, but this was before we had our larger space, therefore we should have a larger cushion.
 - ◆ Assessment: Currently all members, whether they are in a school or adult program, pay \$150 per person. Someone suggested possibly setting up a tiered fee program; another mentioned that we need to make sure we raise rates equitably, without undue burden to the schools. However, someone else stated that we may be under-estimating what the students can afford, and they may be able to afford higher rates. Someone suggested that CRF could look into other sources of income rather than have everything revolve around the dues. Operating expenses, however, must be based on dues.
 - ◆ Mark Silverstein, Dave Werner and Phil O'Bryon will work with Hillary on the GL, come up with a more realistic view of the 2007 expenses, and continue the discussion at the next CRF meeting.

Operations: *Mark Silverstein*

Facility/Security:

- ◆ In two weeks the CRF sign will go on the front of the building facing Carter Road. Leadership Cleveland gave us \$1,600 to pay for the sign.
- ◆ The garage doors will be maintained in two weeks.
- ◆ There have been a few glitches in the new alarm system, but we are working on them.
- ◆ Forest City is making sure fire extinguishers are at all of the exits.

Operations: *Mark Silverstein*

Lease:

- ◆ We are still working on the lease with Forest City.

Conrail Building:

- ◆ JP Pitacek is working on the design for the Conrail building on a pro-bono basis, and will have drawings ready in a couple of weeks. We can then give the drawings to a contractor for an estimate.

Safety:

- ◆ Russ will take the lead to make sure the SOM and SQL/CQL tests are revised to reflect the changes that have been made to the boathouse. Russ will actively work with the coaches and will incorporate their feedback in the revised SOM. Russ expects to work on this during the off-season and have it completed before next season. The new documents will be placed on the WRRRA and CRF websites.

Row for a Cure:

- ◆ The Row for a Cure was held on Oct 15. CRF would like to thank Karen Provenzano, Trudy Gutske, and Liz Schulte from the Northern Ohio Breast Cancer coalition for their work on the event.
- ◆ So far, we have received \$9,000 in gross receipts, and expect another \$700 in pledges. Expenses are expected to be about \$1,000, which includes ½ of the airfare for Angie Hoots to fly up from Texas for the event. We should clear approx \$9,000 for the event, which is similar to 2005 where we raised \$8,500. Mark has authorized Vicci to give the Northern Ohio Breast Cancer Coalition (NOBCC) a check for \$6,000. Once all of the pledges and expenses have been received, CRF will pay the rest of the funds to the NOBCC, minus 20% to cover our operating expenses

DEVELOPMENT:

Hard Hated Women:

- ◆ This is a non-profit, organization that introduces women to the trades. There is a summer camp called Rosie's girls for 5th - 8th graders. This past summer CRF used funds from the Gund foundation grant to conduct a 2-day LTR program for them.
- ◆ Mark would like to institute a 3-week program (6-hours per week) for this group in 2007. The women take carpentry classes, so part of the project could be for the Hard Hat women to build CRF something.
- ◆ The cost of the program is estimated to be about \$15,000. We are applying for grants with the Gund Foundation for the program. Mark also presented the program to Brad Whitehead from The Cleveland Foundation and he's excited about it.
- ◆ *Discussion:* There was some concern that the kids are younger than those we are used to coaching. We should look into getting inflatable lifejackets so the kids could have them on in the shell, so they can be safe and still be able to row comfortably.

GOVERNANCE:

- ◆ WRRRA moved their annual meeting to Nov 19. They will elect their 2007 board at that meeting. Mary Jo Cotner isn't a full member so she is not eligible to be a CRF member. WRRRA will elect two new members to replace Mary Jo and Russ Eckles whose term expires.
- ◆ Dave Werner's seat is up, for the Schools, but he is interested in renewing.
- ◆ Drew Forhan stated that he may not be able to make all the meetings in 2007, but Russ stated that he would still like Drew to serve on the board. Russ expressed the possibility of the full board meeting on a bi-monthly basis.
- ◆ Werner Minshal hasn't returned e-mails, so we will terminate his seat at the end of the year. One at-large seat is not filled. Russ will look to see what our needs are for seats to fill.

NEW BUSINESS: *no new business*

Motion to adjourn: Phil O'Bryon Second: Mary Jo Cotner

Next Meeting: Thursday November 30, 2006

Submitted by: Anna Chanakas, CRF Secretary

