

CLEVELAND ROWING FOUNDATION EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
JUNE 30, 2005

Present Charles Adams, Kelly Blazek, Doug Carlson, Russ Eckles, Drew Forhan,
Mark Silverstein, Karen Vargo, Dave Werner.

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 5:00 pm.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

BUSINESS REPORTS

A. Financial- Spring dues have been paid by St Ignatius and WRRRA. Organizations with outstanding dues include Shaker Heights High School, Baldwin Wallace College, Cleveland State University, John Carroll University and CSRA.

Current budget documents were reviewed. The board determined that some modification to presentation of revenue vs. expenses would offer a clearer picture of our financial situation.

B. Operations-

1. Boathouse- Mr. Stickney has been contacted twice regarding the anticipated 12 year lease for the boathouse.

2. Conrail Building and property lease- Bob Valerian is going to review the contract. It was decided that outside council should review the lease as well.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Finance (see Financial above)

B. Operations

1. Safety- A request to streamline and concentrate the SQL1 test from our various member organizations, but especially the WRRRA was taken under advisement. Russ Eckles will speak to Tim Marcovy about this matter.

C. Programs

1. Row for the Cure- will be held on July 24, 2005. This is a fund raiser for the Northern Ohio Breast Cancer Coalition and is held in memory of Karen Gustke, who was the late sister of rower Amy Valentino.

2. Crew U- a program designed to help individuals learn more about the sport of rowing. This will be held on July 24, 2005, concurrently with Row for the Cure.

3. Head of the Cuyahoga- Vicci Simpkins is chair of this event which will be held on September 17, 2005. Changes this year will include launching and recovering from the boathouse. Corporate sponsors are currently being recruited.

There has been an ongoing problem with an inadequate number of volunteers for the event. A proposal under consideration is to make participation in the race contingent on contributing mandatory volunteer hours.

D. Development

1. Community Outreach

- a. Hispanic Youth Center- Maria Pujana has left the program.
- b. Cleveland Public School Rowing Club- Tim McCormack spoke with Barbara Byrd Bennett and Frank Jackson about tentatively developing a rowing program for students in grades 9-11.
- c. Youth Opportunity Cleveland (Yo Cleveland)- Mark Silverstein will visit the organization on July 14, 2005 to show a video and invite members to a 3 hour introduction to rowing program at the boathouse.
- d. Boys and Girls Club of Cleveland- discussion with this club regarding a 5 week program where the children will have the opportunity to row 3 times a week.

2. Leadership Cleveland- Bids are currently being procured for a sign that will go on the boathouse. It is unclear whether the organization will arrange for landscaping around the boathouse.

3. Civic Innovation and Gund Grants- All our obligations have been fulfilled and we are awaiting the final audit. The Gund Grant will be used to fund youth rowing.

E. Communications/ Public Relations- St Ignatius rowers received some press when they were present on the water as the Cleveland Police apprehended suspects on the banks of the Cuyahoga River in the Flats.

F. Governance- no new issues.

OLD BUSINESS

A. Insurance- A final proposal is expected from John Wilson of Harding & Jacob Insurance Agency. Russ Eckles will present this at the next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS- none

ADJOURNMENT- the meeting was adjourned at 6:36 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Karen S. Vargo