**Newport Sea Base Rowing Committee Meeting**

**Meeting Minutes**

**September 24, 2021 – 8:30 am (via Zoom)**

**Mission**

Rowing changes lives. At Newport Sea Base Rowing (NSBR) we are dedicated to fostering a community that is both welcoming and supportive. Under the banner of Rowing for All, we make rowing accessible without regard to individual ability, race, color, background or experience. We seek to raise the standard of rowing programs through internal excellence and to share our knowledge and expertise with others for the advancement of the sport at all levels.

**Committee Members**

Patricia Robbins - Chair

Robert Cunard – Vice Chair

Kristen Chadwell – Membership

Candace Long-Lerno - Events  **(absent)**

Kc Campbell - Fundraising Chair

Lisa Fox - Equipment Chair

Ian Simpson - Director of Rowing

James Long-Lerno – Rowing Director

Lacey Shelton – Assistant Rowing Director

Jack Nguyen – Program Director, Sea Base

Michael Oehmke – Director **(absent)**

**Proceedings**

| **Agenda Item** | **Discussion Notes and Next Steps** |
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| **OCBSA Update** | The minute-taker (Robert) was not logged-in for this report. |
| **Venturing Update** | Per James, the Venturing application has been started. We are trying to simplify the process for new members when they join. |
| **Parent Meeting Overview** | 30 – 40 parents attended. Exceeded our turnout expectations. We were able to send out the presentation to all families via email. Patricia reported good feedback and that parents are excited for racing and ready to help. |
| **Youth Rowing Report** | Squad is roughly the same size as before. A couple of others are visiting and may still join.  Girls squad is still about the same size. All seems to be going well. Girls are happy and working hard. During a goal-setting activity, the girls indicated that they’d like to grow their squad size, so long as kids don’t add too late. |
| **Races Updates** | Head of the American Canceled.  **Race for the Cure - October 9th**, 2021: Varsity girls will participate in San Diego. It’s a fun race – but also competitive.  **Sunday, October 10th**, 2021 the NAC is putting on a local race. Only 4’s and 8’s. Our boys and novice girls will participate. The course will be up the Lido channel.  We will participate in the San Diego Fall Classic in November. |
| **Facilities and Equipment** | Clean up Day is on for **October 2**. This will be a smaller day in terms of projects. Cleaning, and erg maintenance mainly.  Regarding the **bigger facility plans**, when we are ready to order racks, it makes the most sense - per Marcio - that we have everything manufactured at once in China, shipped here as kits, and then we’ll assemble them here. Shipping issues mean that it will take a while to get this equipment sent to us before we can assemble it, but this scheme will be most cost-effective. |
| **Upcoming Events** | **Ergathon:** Hoping to make it more of a family event with a variety of activities during the day – taking over the Sea Base. This would be longer event – with rowers erging throughout the day. Ian suggested the date of **February 12**. If we go with that, we’d have to launch the campaign right after the winter holiday.  Planning to do a **Junior & Alumni Brunch & Row** on **December 18**. That same evening we’d also have an adult event for parents, masters, potential donors to socialize. This would be the Saturday of the Boat Parade.  **End of Year Banquet:** would like to go to a non-scout facility again. This would make it easier to hold a separate space for adults to socialize with their preferred beverage. James to discuss with Michael the procedures we will need to follow in order to run this event in our preferred manner.  We discussed the possibility of doing some **evening harbor cruises** aboard the Lani Kai during the holiday season. We could sell tickets and raise substantial funds.  Ian suggested that we hold an **open house** at the boathouse next summer in order to raise our profile and to aid in our recruitment efforts. James noted that it would be important for it to be scheduled in a way that ensures we have some kids present to demonstrate what we do. James and Ian have history with this from their Long Beach days.  We discussed **Pink the Boathouse**. It will not be part of the Event Chair’s duties. It looks like we’ll take photos of pink-clad rowers and use those as part of our social media rather than redecorating the boathouse. |
| **Membership** | Kristen Chadwell has emailed a report to Tricia Robbins. She will circulate it to us via email. |
| **Budget Planning** | Ian would like us to add money to our next budget for physical signs and banners to improve our marketing.  Ian emphasized that it is important for us to submit a budget of our own for rowing to OCBSA so that we can continue to define our desired program direction and needs. We will begin that process shortly. |