

Charleston Paddle Club
Board Meeting
October 15, 2018

Opening

Jason Wong called the Charleston Paddle Club Board Meeting to order at 6:02 pm ET, on October 15, 2018. The meeting took place at 2 Wharfside Road, suite 3-O, Charleston.

In attendance:

Jason Wong
Darcie Goodwin
Jackie Kuc
Kelly Hood
Jeff Hood
Billy Lempesis
Steve Connor
William Dion

September 10, 2018 meeting minutes were approved as amended unanimously.

Treasurer's Report

- We currently have \$5,280.57 in the bank
- Recent expenses are the coach boat monthly lease, plus storm prep supplies and the shirt order
- The Visa bill, which was paid in full, included race shirts, the Orlando registration fee and supplies for hurricane preparedness
- Upcoming expenses: Coach's Orlando expenses (\$396.01), contract balance with County Parks and Recreation (\$1,000.00) -- Note: we are still waiting for the signed contract, monthly boat lease
- Upcoming potential expenses: the purchase of a used OC-6 and trailer would be \$1,500, the purchase of the coach boat, participation in the Trinidad & Tobago race and/or Grand Bahama
- Membership is currently at 59 plus one comp membership for Alice
- Several members utilized clinic credit for the Orlando race fees
- Outstanding issues: race fee collection and take advantage of early race registration discounts
- Note: Two-thirds of the coach boat expenses will be reimbursed by the College of Charleston and ??

Secretary's Report

- Darcie presented options for a newsletter. The board decided upon a one-page newsletter with links that include the following, when applicable

- Upcoming Events
- Team Captains -- occasionally, like to announce the race schedule
- President – as needed
- Profile a member - write own profile - background, why decided to join club, if long-term member, anything to add, something the club may not know about you – 200 words or just bullets
- Coach's Corner – sharing links and tips – little block on page “fill this”
- Overview of races to describe upcoming races and share synopsis about past races
- Shout Outs - things to appreciate

Old Business

- Committees didn't really work this year. It's something to focus on for next year.
- Newbie practice will remain separate and is set for 8am; regular practice will be at 9am until November 4. It will then switch to 8:30am for newbie and 9:00am for regular practice. Darcie will set up on MeetUp. Billy pointed out that an option might be to use the OC-6 to train newbies as it is a dryer boat. Roger is working to get the OC-6 moved to Brittlebank Marina.
- November 3 is the Celebration Cup so all practices will be cancelled. The celebration cup will be posted on TeamSnap.
- For beginner practice, Austin is handling the steersmen and needs to update the schedule.
- Right now, MeetUp is the only method for recruitment. Currently we have about 500 people who are signed up. Jason recommended sending out an email encouraging people to come. He will send out the push this week and next week. Deb has an idea for ways to promote the club. Billy suggests getting Deb involved to head up a marketing effort.
- Billy recommended planning an OC-6 and Dragonboat Saturday to recruit new members on November 10 at 9am. It will be open on MeetUp and TeamSnap. Kelly will write up the invite, and Darcie will post it. Jason will send out the push notification. Jeff recommended sending a message to organizers of other paddle groups to ask them to push the invite to their members. Jason said he will push the information to organizers.
- Jacksonville Race.
 - Jeff said it was a good training race. Coming second was a good thing. It raised awareness of the need to train harder. It's a good venue but the river is complex so many teams won't go. It's a good lead up to Orlando.
- Orlando Race.
 - There were 36 clubs in the mixed division. The Firebreathers placed 8th overall in the 500m races and 7th overall in the 2,000m race, in which only the top clubs got to participate. Billy said it was a very impressive field. There were teams from Colorado, Arizona,

New York, California and Illinois as well as the southeast. Billy pointed out that CPC wanted to use the race as a barometer, and we can say that we are among the top 11 clubs on the east coast. We are headed in the right direction. Jason said that the fact that we had 25 people attend the race was significant. Jason liked the strategy that coach had for who sat out. Jackie pointed out that having multiple drummers didn't work very well so having our own drummer is important. Kelly said that coach wants drummers who are a good fit – someone experienced who can call the race and help with strategy. It's critical that the drummer understands what the boat is doing. It would be good to have someone as drummer during practice. Jason recommended tabling this for discussion at the next meeting. Kelly took an unofficial poll of the new members. Consistently their surprise was that people just showed up to race who didn't come to practice. This topic will be added for discussion at the next meeting.

- Coach review
 - Feedback has been given to coach in bits and pieces. Kelly stated that John asked for a written summary that he can provide to the parks to sum up for the end of contract. Jason will draft the write up and will give it to Kelly for review and then the entire board.
 - The structure and leadership were strong. Coach really knows how to create a training plan.
 - Coach needs to take more control of the boat. The team needs to understand there is a hierarchy.
 - To improve having a coach, the following things can be improved:
 - The clinic should be held at the beginning of the season.
 - The coach boat tended to break down, which was problematic.
 - A driver should be provided for the coach boat.
 - We need to make sure we put in a full hour of practice – start on time and finish on time.
 - Start times could be better.
 - The CCPRC waiver process is cumbersome and causes delays on the dock.
 - For next year, Jason would like to propose the ideal contract situation and see what the possibilities are. The idea would be for the contract to run from March to the end of October. The parks are interested in getting some help with the kids camps during spring break and keep the same fee. The Board was supportive of kid's camp, however logistics may be a challenge. Jason is writing the proposal and will send it out to the board for review.
- OC-6
 - If another OC-6 is purchased, it needs to be cleaned, more paddles need to be purchased and then another floating dock needs to be purchased.

- There are not enough OC-6 steersmen. William said he can start doing Wednesdays on the OC-6 until the time change.
- Tides dictate a lot of how much the OC-6 can go out.
- Need to get more regular practices for OC-6.
- Coach said he would incorporate the OC-6 into the regime.
- Billy said some logistics need to be worked out.
- William made a motion to buy Louise's OC-6 and Jackie seconded it. The motion passed. Billy will let Louise know that the Firebreathers will purchase the boat.
- William and Steve to survey/ evaluate the condition of the OC-6 trailer.
- Trinidad & Tobago
 - Billy asked what the plan is. If the plan is to be competitive, then we need to determine how to structure the team. Billy said he needs to know that the goals up front. It depends on the goal and structure. Build a plan to fill other boats.
 - Steve asked the cost of the entry fee. The club deposit is \$300 per crew and paddlers pay \$100, which will reimburse the club for the deposit paid. This individual fees cover the deposit – supporters pay \$75 to access the venue.
- End of Season Party
 - William offered to hold a party at his home on December 8.
- The Grand Bahamas: More community driven

The meeting adjourned at 7:47 pm.

Next Meeting: November 19, 2018