

Minutes
of the
Board of Governors
of the
OFF SOUNDINGS CLUB
October 24, 1992

A meeting of the Board of Governors of the Off Soundings Club was held in the Dickerman House at the Mystic Seaport Museum, Mystic Connecticut, at 0930 on October 24, 1992. Commodore van Dyke presided. Other Governors present were:

Allen N. Anderson	H. Wes Maxwell
W. Frank Bohlen	Peter W. McFadden
William G. Gunther	Neal H. O'Connell
F.B. George Hohenstein	Norman E. Rabe

Present by invitation were:

William L. Ames	Robert B. Nickerson
J. Christopher Field	

Absent were:

Milan T. Bartek	Ernest R. Messer, Jr.
Donald C. Davis	Richard H. Roberts
Chester B. Humphrey, MD	Donald P. Robinson
Rodney S. Johnstone	James B. Slimmon, Jr.
John H. Lockwood	Nicholas Staub, II
D. Richard Magovern, DMD	

The meeting was called to order at 0934.

The minutes of the previous April 4, 1992 meeting were VOTED approved as circulated.

Vice Commodore McFadden reported that preparations are being made for our annual meeting and dinner at the Norwich Sheraton on April 3, 1993. Though prices can not yet be guaranteed, it appears that we will be able to charge the same prices as last year. Numbers were down some in 1992 from the year before but there seems to be no specific reason. Historian Ames will make arrangements for musical entertainment before dinner.

Rear Commodore Gunther submitted a written report, a copy of which is attached to these minutes. He was able to hold the line on trophy expenses while experimenting with some new concepts. Recent purchases have been from Gifted in Larchmont.

The offer by Peter Brinckerhoff of a trophy in memory of Bill Donovan was discussed with him. We proposed a C-3 two year combined trophy that fills a current gap in our trophies. Brinckerhoff would like a trophy for the boat that wins its class by the greatest margin without penalty. The Board's discussion centered around three themes. There are problems with fairness with the Brinckerhoff proposal such as when some classes do not complete all races and the possibility that the smaller boats might be able to build up more time than the large boats. It was expressed that Bill Donovan was a legend as a racing skipper in our waters and this should be recognized. Finally, it was felt that we really do need to do something that fits in our

overall trophy scheme. It was decided that we should continue discussion with Brinckerhoff to see if we could come to an agreement. It was agreed that, within the deed of gifts, we would be willing to change the designation of existing trophies to reach a compromise.

A Secretary's report was submitted. The following resignations were VOTED accepted with regret:

Roy Warren Fox, Sr.	Humphrey Sullivan
Mayer A. Levitt	W. Donald Wilson
Dr. Jack R. McNeish	Stuart Woodman, Sr.
Alix H. Stanley	

The following individuals were VOTED dropped from membership for non-payment of dues:

Louis H. Bond	William D. Lyon, Jr.
William E. Chew	John Pequignot
George S. Cooper	Peter T. Rowsom
Gary F. Lannigan	Edmund Zacker

The following new members were added to the rolls:

Elected 4/13/92

Richard G. Rohman

Elected 8/8/91

Anthony C. Bailey

Robert D. Gibbs

Greg Gilmartin

Kym J. Goddu

George H. Moffett

Robert G. Norton

David C. Noyes, Jr.

Hugh O'Brien

Douglas Peacock

Dana W. Seniff

Richard M. Tiernan

Robert A. Toth

Elmer S. Tyler, III

David R. Walker

Membership currently is 532 members. A graph showing membership trends was distributed.

Treasurer Messer was absent but represented by Board member Hohenstein. A written report is attached to these minutes. As every one pretty much held the line on expenses and we avoided charter fees through use of volunteer boats for both series, a surplus for the year is expected of about \$10,000.

A was VOTED to increase the donation to the Mystic Seaport Museum from \$700 to \$1000.

It was VOTED that the Treasurer and Secretary were to review using Sportsline as our supplier for merchandise sales. If this is considered appropriate, they are to work out the mechanics and implement by January 1, 1993.

Historian Ames commented that we had a successful Summer and that Ken Mahler did yeoman service when we had illness aboard the committee boat this Fall.

Race Secretary Roberts was absent but sent a written report to the Commodore, a copy of which is attached to these minutes. A comparison of 1986 through 1992 races shows entries settling in at 150 to 160 for the Spring Series and 140 to the low 150's for the Fall. Comments were made about over-night rendezvous locations, courses and future meeting dates. These subjects will be further discussed and decisions made at the January meeting. A copy of Race Secretary Robert's letter has been mailed to those who were absent.

Fleet Surgeon Humphrey's October 21st letter concerning consideration of time allowance to physicians who have dropped out of a race to render assistance was discussed. The Race Committee Chairman and Protest Committee Chairman, working with Fleet Surgeon Humphrey, were requested to develop a written procedure for providing such consideration that could be distributed to on call physicians. The process should be as simple as possible, recognize the contributions of the on call physicians, recognize the specific incidence, and be such that other members competing will consider the time allowance process fair. It was noted that it probably would be practical to work within the existing framework of rules 69(b) and 74.2 of the International Yacht Racing Rules.

Clerk Magovern was absent but sent a written report indicating that all is well in Massachusetts.

The Measurer, Mr. Rabe, discussed the capsize of Gnat in a recent race. PHRF is intended for boats that are self righting. Hotspur had a similar problem about 10 years ago, was modified and passed the MORC self righting test. Gnat has been tested since the incident and passed. There are some problems with other boats. A S2 7.9 sank in Marblehead and a J-24 will sink if the lazarette comes open. He is not recommending any changes.

Ron Noe has brought up two issues. The J-105 uses a spinnaker pole that is an outrigger rather than attached to the mast. US Sailing Association rules do not permit outriggers. We may not give a rating to the J-105.

The second issue is that the Racing rules require a heavy weather jib and reefing main and the J-24 does not have a practical reefing system. This issue requires further thought.

Membership Committee Chairman Bohlen reported that things were quiet with five applicants (1 female) in the pipeline and one other female application in hand.

Race Committee Chairman Maxwell noted that possible modifications to race courses will be discussed next meeting. At the moment Freedom's availability as committee boat for 1993 is tentative. Chairman Maxwell suggested that we encourage racers to participate in a series as part of the Race Committee. He expects that both the Committee and the racer could learn from each other. It was decided to include a communication from the Race Committee Chairman requesting volunteers in the call to the Annual Meeting.

Measurement Rule Committee Chairman Robinson was absent and there was no report.

Classification Committee Chairman Davis was absent and there was no report.

Protest Committee Chairman Field brought up the matter of alternative penalties. There was discussion pro and con. This matter will be an agenda item in January and all should give it thought before the meeting.

Entertainment Committee Chairman Bartek was absent but made a verbal report to the Commodore that finances seem to be working out ok but he is still struggling with Shelter Island on final billing.

Shelter Liaison Committee Co-Chairman Lockwood was absent but had indicated that relations with Shelter Island Yacht Club were good and shore activities this year went smoothly. As usual, there was some problem with collecting mooring fees with a few boats. The Commodore will address this together with

the Race Secretary to clarify the instructions in our race circular.

Block Island Liaison Chairman Staub was absent but in his written report, attached to these minutes, reported that Block Island Harbormaster Paul Roberts is eager to have us back.

Public Relations Committee Chairman Nickerson indicated that we had good coverage both Spring and Fall including coverage in the Day, Providence Journal and Soundings.

Fleet Surgeon Humphrey was absent and there was no report beyond his previously discussed letter. George Mettler's letter expressing appreciation for all the fine assistance he received at the time of his serious medical emergency on Saturday of the Fall Series was read.

Long Range Race Planning Committee Chairman Johnstone was absent and there was no report.

Commodore van Dyke indicated that he has asked F. B. George Hohenstein to be Chairman of the Nominating Committee for 1993. The full committee of three members will be brought to the Board for approval at it's January meeting .

Commodore van Dyke indicated that he was deferring the matter of communications with members to the incoming Commodore.

Commodore van Dyke indicated that he will appoint a Chairman and committee for the US sailing Association Sportsmanship Award Committee before the next meeting, if appropriate.

It was noted that Off Soundings petitioned and received relief from the mandatory EC Sailing Association's race management seminars this Winter. The matter of including information about Off Soundings in a EC Sailing Association yacht club directory was discussed and no action taken.

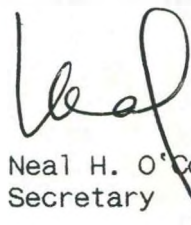
Modification of the precedent setting decision concerning Honorary Membership was VOTED approved as suggested. A revised sheet for this decision is attached to these minutes and mailed to each board member and committee chairman.

With these changes Commodore van Dyke suggested that Harry duPont and Eileen Ames be considered by the Board for Honorary Membership in January. Any communication of this information is customarily handle by the Commodore. If approved they would be brought to the membership for approval at the 1993 Annual Meeting.

The treasurer had no suggestion for 1992 dues or fee changes.

It was Voted that Joseph V. Healey be reinstated upon payment of his 1982 dues with a date of election of the date dues are received.

There being no further business it was VOTED to adjourn at 1157.



Neal H. O'Connell
Secretary