

Public Relations Committee Chairman Ford indicated that there will be lunches in February or March in Branford, Mystic, and Rhode Island areas to stimulate membership. He asked that anyone who has contacts with sailing media people let him know so we might improve our coverage.

Warren Woodworth has accepted the position of Fleet Surgeon.

Long Range Race Planning Committee Chairman Slimmon reported that his Committee recommends that Off Soundings place a page in ECSA's race circular. Cost is expected to be about \$125. Frank Bohlen has the specific wording which will be general and not an entry blank. It was VOTED to purchase a page in the ECSA race circular.

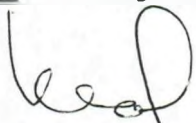
Nominating Committee Chairman McFadden indicated the Committee was hard at work.

Race Secretary Roberts said that the sailing rule changes have been approved for April 1, 1997. ECSA will have Dave Perry conduct seminars on these changes in Milford Yacht Club April 9th and the Coast Guard Academy April 17th. The new book should be in our hands by April 1st.

An initial 1997 budget proposal was distributed. Budget Committee Chairman Anderson indicated that today's actions such as 1997 race venues, 1997 donations, preparation of the video of our 1996 races, and final accounting figures all bear on the final 1997 budget. Please get back to him soon on any problems/suggestions with the proposal and he will prepare a final budget for the April meeting together with suggestions for fees changes if they appear necessary.

A motion to give the Budget Committee advance approval to increase boat fees \$5 if they felt it was necessary was defeated.

There being no further business it was VOTED to adjourn at 1537.



Neal H. O'Connell  
Secretary