

Minutes
of the
Board of Governors Meeting
of the
OFF SOUNDINGS CLUB

April 1, 1989

A meeting of the Board of Governors of the Off Soundings Club was held at the Sheraton Norwich, Norwich, Connecticut, on April 1, 1989 at 1600. Commodore Slimmon presided. Other Governors present were:

Allen N. Anderson	Neal H. O'Connell
Louis J. Bevilacqua	Eliot H. Porter, 2nd
W. Frank Bohlen	Norman E. Rabe
E. Carleton Granbery, Jr.	Richard H. Roberts
F. B. George Hohenstein	Walter D. Strang, Jr
Lawrence R. Jacobsen	Paul C. vanDyke
D. Richard Magovern, DMD	

Present by invitation were:

William L. Ames	Peter W. McFadden
Leslie A. Bowman	Edward S. Purcell, Jr
Donald C. Davis	Edgar L. Raymond, Jr.
Chester B. Humphrey, MD	Donald P. Robinson
William A. Loweth	

The meeting was called to order at 1609.

The minutes of the previous meeting on January 20, 1989 were VOTED approved as circulated.

Vice Commodore Hohenstein submitted his report of the 1989 Annual Meeting and Dinner, a copy of which is attached. Head count is up a bit to 274.

Rear Commodore vanDyke commented that the prize and awards are engraved and ready for tonight but that the Class D Trophy was lost and one was damaged in transit. It was VOTED that the Chanteyman Trophy that was damaged in transit be repaired at Club expense.

The following resignations were VOTED accepted with regret:

* Robert E. Drew	Alexander F. Leonhardt
Freeman W. Fraim	* Herbert W. Owen
Alfred Fritzsche	Frank E. Raymond
Frank M. Holby	* John S. Sutphen
Robert H. Langer	Felix Trommer

* Motor Boat Rule

Membership currently is 573 members.

Treasurer Strang commented on his written report, a copy of which is attached to these minutes. It continues to be a problem to build up a positive cash position. In particular race deficits are up as fewer boats enter and expenses remain fixed or increase.

Commodore Slimmon expressed his appreciation to the Treasurer for his 14 plus years of service. The Board and Committee Chairmen gave Walt a round of applause.

Historian Ames indicated that Ken Mahler has done his usual good job in preparing tonight's film. Copies of this and last year's films will be available for purchase at the door. Through the Historian, Ken Mahler expressed his thanks for Off Soundings \$700 contribution to the Seaport.

Race Secretary Anderson submitted a listing of guests for the 1989 series. The 18 prospective members, 18 guests, the Massachusetts Maritime Academy and USCG Academy were VOTED approved. Mr Rosenblum should be removed from the guest list as he is also on the prospective members list.

Race dates for 1990 were discussed and it was VOTED to hold the Spring Series on June 8th and 9th with the Fall Series on September 14th and 15th. It also was VOTED to accept the attached starting sequence and course lengths. Changes recognize the changes to the boats included in Class C-4 and the need to give Empress time to reach the finish line in time for the arrival of the first boats. Old Port launch service has been finalized. The order of information in the Race Notice has been changed and considers USYRU's May 1, 1989 rule changes and attempt to standardize race instructions.

The Clerk, Dr. Magovern, reported that he was collecting signatures for our Corporation renewal and the papers and \$10 fee would be mailed this week.

The Measurer, Mr. Rabe, reported that there were no changes except for a few PHRF rating changes.

Race Committee Chairman Jacobsen noted that Empress is chartered and delighted to be asked. The patrol will be Jim Christy's 42' trawler and the stake boat Northeaster. The attached Patrol Boat Policy was VOTED adopted with the amendment to the 14th line of adding " within the limits of prudent seamanship."

Membership Chairman Bohlen reported that there were 10 members out now for membership approval and 6 or 8 applications in the pipeline.

Vice Commodore, Hohenstein, commented on some recent demographics he had of the Club. We are spread all over the country but membership is dominantly Connecticut followed by New York, Rhode Island and

Massachusetts. In the discussion that followed Mr. Robinson commented that the information should be published to the membership, Mr. Granbery commented that we should make it clear that it is not necessary to own a boat to be a member, especially for the younger set, and Mr. Rabe indicated that he was impressed with the quality of recent applicants.

Measurement Rule Committee Chairman Robinson mentioned that the Historian obtained documentation that the 1939 Race Series was held on May 28th and 29th. Thus, our change to June 8th and 9th this year is not too early.

Classification Committee Chairman Davis reported no change since his last report. Any final tuning of last meeting's report will occur when we have this year's final Spring entries.

Protest Committee Chairman Raymond indicated no protests since the last meeting.

Entertainment Committee Chairman Loweth commented that Block Island is ready for us this Spring. However, the Oar is very interested in finding out about our plans for the Fall because of staff.

Shelter Island Liaison Co-Chairman, Bevilacqua, indicated that Shelter Island Vice commodore, Henry Kyle, received Commodore Simmon's letter and got a vote of confidence from the Board to retain the relationship with Off Soundings. The overwhelming majority of the Board support Off Soundings. However, the Shelter Island Yacht Club is involved in a lawsuit with the town about property leasing and the Off Soundings matter has received less attention than it might have. Henry Kyle is expecting to get a sign off next week.

Commodore Slimmon indicated that a letter, 1988 finances, and a brief video tape showing a recent party, the replica we gave to Shelter Island Yacht Club and some history was sent. There have been many supporting calls by members of Off Soundings to Shelter Island Yacht Club. The hold up is the liquor and Commodore Slimmon suggested that they just mark it up appropriately rather than insist that they charge by the drink. Resolution is promised by April 15th. There was much discussion with the consensus being that we do not want to lose continuity with Shelter Island Yacht Club, we can not afford an exorbitant rise in costs and we can not wait much longer. It was agreed that within these guidelines the Flag Officers should make the decision of where to go for the Fall Series.

Block Island Liaison Chairman Staub was absent and there was no report.

Public Relations Committee Chairman Purcell indicated that he was ready to blitz the media with this meeting.

Fleet Surgeon Humphrey reported that he was ready to make purchases of supplies for our first aid kits.

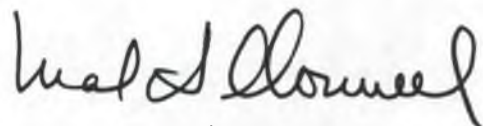
Nominating Committee Chairman Porter indicated that the Committee consisting of Jack Wasburn, Bill Webster and himself were ready with nominations for the Annual Meeting.

Underage drinking was discussed. Commodore Slimmon had solicited ideas as a start. Section C rule 75 of the USYRU International Racing Rules covers this to some extent under "Gross Infringement of Rules or Misconduct". Our own Constitution Article VII Section 3 gives the Board of Governors power to "suspend or expel for conduct which they deem improper or prejudicial...". The responsibilities of the skipper for his crew, by way of amplifying the Commodore's Winter letter, and stating the State laws on drinking age were included in the "First Notice". The problem is that there is no defense if you serve an under age drinker regardless of your diligence. Suggestions were made including signs on the crocks indicating that individuals must be over 21 and that each crock should be supervised and positive ID required when there is a question.

It was decided that signs would be placed on the crocks, the first notice would strongly speak to the subject and the new Commodore would appoint a committee to develop positive steps to control underage drinking and further address the issue of other activities that reflect on the Club.

Outgoing Commodore Slimmon thanked the Officers, Board and Committee Chairmen for doing their job so well during his time in office and making his job easy. He was saluted by a round of applause.

There being no further business, it was VOTED to adjourn at 1736.



Neal H. O'Connell
Secretary
4/8/89