

OFF SOUNDINGS CLUB

OFFICE OF
THE SECRETARY
21 Romagna Rd.
Niantic, CT 06357

Minutes of the Board of Governors of the Off Soundings Club

O (860) 739-3322
H (860) 739-7202
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October 3, 2004
Munson Room, GW Blunt White
Mystic Seaport

The meeting of the Board of Governors of the Off Soundings Club was held at the Munson Room on October 3, 2004. Commodore Brooks presided.

The following members were present: Commodore John Brooks, Vice Commodore Neal S. O'Connell, Rear Commodore Robert Geary, Secretary Norm Peck, Treasurer Ron Breault, Race Secretary Steve Purdy, Race Committee Chairman Charles Chorlton, Protest Committee Walter Pratt, Historian John Washburn Jr., Nominating Committee Allen Anderson, Membership Committee Robert Edmands, Past Commodore H. Wes Maxwell, Entertainment Committee Sarah Porter, Past Commodore Frank Bohlen LRRP, Shelter Island Liaison John Lockwood.

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 am by Commodore Brooks. The minutes of the April 3, 2004 meeting were duly moved and approved as mailed.

Treasurer Ron Breault presented the Treasurer's report through the month of October. The report is made part of these minutes. It was duly moved and accepted as presented.

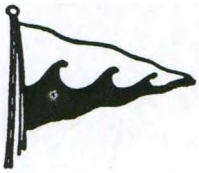
Treasurer presented his estimated income and expense for the 2005 year. This is made part of these minutes. The Treasurer also reported as of 9/30/04 we had 501 members including 6 Honorary.

After review of his report he recommended that the dues remain the same and if it appeared the annual racing events were going to cost more than the present estimate, we could raise the entry fee at spring or fall 1st notice. Motion to approve dues delayed until later in the meeting.

The Commodore advised that he had received a number of comments and letters commending the Race Committee on their discussion to abandon the Saturday Race because of severe conditions. He also reminded us that racing at Block Island under those conditions reinforces one of the reasons we don't go there in the Fall.

He commended the fleet and was thankful that only minor failures were suffered by the participants.

Vice Commodore reported dinner will be held at the Seaport again and with Board's approval will go ahead and contract with them.



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Rear Commodore's report submitted and made part of these minutes.

The Race Secretary brought to the Board's attention that Andiamo was sailed by a guest not registered in the entry form.

The consensus of both the Race Secretary and Board that they be removed from participation on that date.

Clerk Dave Nickerson advised by mail that we are filed with the State of Massachusetts for another year. Rear Commodore recommended we have cancelled checks or receipts for fee.

Secretary – No Report.

Race Committee Charles Chorlton reported that he had received communication from Howard Bidwell asking if we needed more patrol boats. Mr. Chorlton advised him that he welcomed all as volunteer but not as designated or required by Off Soundings. Mr. Bidwell also asked if Off Soundings has rules for a patrol boat to follow.

He was advised again that patrolling is purely volunteer and no rules are published.

The Commodore also restated that no formal patrolling was recommended.

The Commodore commended the Race Committee for diligent work under challenging conditions this year.

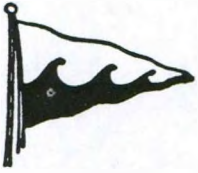
Measurer- Not present.

Historian John Washburn commented that this may be the first year that only two races out of four were completed.

John Lockwood Greenport Liaison reported New City dock will be ready for next fall. He did not recommend we hold the party there as a liquor permit may be difficult to obtain, security of the premises is a problem. He recommends staying at Townsens.

There seems to be a conflict at Greenport again this year with the Maritime event going on again. Docking should be no problem, motel and dining may be.

It was suggested that the Commodore send a letter to update the members on the Greenport situation.



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Sarah Hale Porter has discussed in detail with Townsens' method of hosting the party. She also thinks we need to stay at Townsens again this year.

Steve Purdy reporting on Block Island still tells us that various members and the Block Island people prefer us in the fall. Steve's impression is that the fleet in general prefer the spring because of a possible poor weather pattern.

It was noted that the tent cost is getting expensive, 10% tax plus override. Steve said the whole island is getting expensive.

Sarah again is looking at various methods of savings at Block Island ie buying our own liquor, working with tent people and The Oar.

Membership Committee Chairman Bob Edmands reported that he has one application in the works.

Mr. Edmands has a letter that he would like to be sent to the sponsors of all the guests urging them to become regular members.

The Commodore and Race Secretary both recommended a letter or email from the Membership Chairman be sent now allowing them plenty of time.

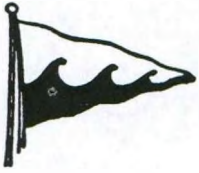
Protest Committee Walter Pratt reported he had three protests this fall. He is trying to improve the location to hold protests.

Mr. Pratt pointed out that sailing by IYRU USSA rules we can't prevent appeals. Race Secretary reported that our rules and application refers to IYRU USSA rules as amended by us. The feeling may be, you want to play with us you play by our rules.

Public Relations- Not Present.

The Commodore relayed a message that reminds us that it's very difficult to get any publishing in The Day (we could have the Off Soundings Golf Tournament).

Long Range Planning Frank Bohlen recommends winter lunches again this year including Greenport, Eastern Ct, Harford and perhaps Rhode Island. Make arrangements now so an announcement can be sent out with dues and Commodore's letter.



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Race Secretary Steve Purdy presented his report including schedule of events for 2005 already approved and 2006 with corrections of 9-10 of June race dates. January 2006 meeting will be held on a Friday. Motion duly made and approved the 2006 dates as amended.

Race Secretary also presented his report which is made part of these minutes.

A discussion regarding the number of entries making a class was had. Some of the points made by the Race Secretary and others were the following: If a special class ie; 12 meters, T, J35, nonesuch, J24 had made appointment to sail as one design the 12 meter & T class or other would be advised that if less than 5 entries there would be no special class. Others can be injected into other classes.

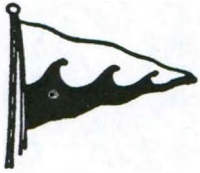
The number five seems to be an arbitrary number set by the Race Secretary and supported by the Board members.

The Race Secretary announced that his work on standardizing the Notice of Race and Race program should be finished by spring and that a procedure manual to guide future Race Secretary's should be complete by spring.

Regarding equipment standards, the Race Secretary announced that the same letter we received on minimum equipment and standards will be going out with the final results to members. He also apologizes on the lateness of the Final Results. The Race Committee recorder had a sudden illness so the report was completed by Norm Rabe and himself.

Rear Commodore Geary commended the Race Secretary on the letter. The Race Secretary expressed his concern over the suspected lack of compliance with category four regulations. He made many references to non compliance with category 4.

Question of when and who should inspect, Measurer, Protest Committee, Class Rep or other. His remarks suggested various options to our required safety requirements such as voluntary compliance, reducing the category number to five, nothing or strict compliance with category four which would require a lot of effort. He noted there has never been a protest for lack of compliance.



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After various opinions and suggestions the Commodore suggested a committee be formed to review the current requirements and bring their recommendations to the January meeting.

A review of safety equipment is due this year. A committee of Robert Geary, George Loveday, Frank Bohlen and Steve Purdy were appointed to review and bring back recommendations at the January meeting.

Old Business- A review of Quality Printing Services. The Treasurer reported that except for a few billing errors he has got Quality working smoothly and although we could probably find a printer somewhere in the world he could not be sure we would be happy in a year or so.

Past Commodore Anderson reminded us that we had made changes in the past and were very disappointed thus returning to Quality.

The Commodore also had a discussion with the new owner of Quality and the owner recognizes our connection with Beverly and wouldn't want to interfere with her good service. The Commodore also recommends we continue with Quality.

As discussion regarding using email as a communication method. The Treasurer thinks about fifty% of the members have email but that number is increasing.

Southworth Trophy – No Action.

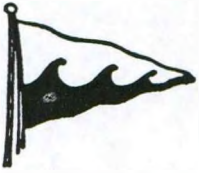
No further Old Business.

New Business – The Treasurer reports there were 10 unpaid; they have received the four required billings. The Treasurer read the members past due as follows:

Thomas Beggins	John Fales	John Lavin
Rick Berggren	Robert Jones	John Mills
Edward Smith	Joseph Sousa	Nicholas Staub III

It was pointed out that in addition to Nick Staub II, John Morse died leaving 9 non paid.

Motion duly made and approved that the 9 members listed above be dropped for nonpayment of dues.



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The Treasurer asked the board to make a motion authorizing him to donate \$1500 to Mystic Seaport (\$750 to Library and \$750 to Film and Archives sections of the Seaport). Motion duly made and adopted to donate.

The Commodore introduced a letter from Bruce Lockwood who is working on The History of Off Soundings Book, which is made part of these minutes.

The Commodore recommends we prepare plans and method of financing such an ambitious project at the January meeting.

The Commodore suggested a one time method being a charge to the membership to off set some of the expense.

Sarah Hale Porter reviewed the Fisher Island Yacht Club newly issued book and agreed to bring some additional information to the January Meeting.

Past Commodore Bohlen said he was a little uncomfortable with taxing the members for a decision the board made. He would feel better if a consensus of the membership approved this project.

He thought that if the members were willing to contribute \$20 or so along with an amount from the Treasury after satisfying ourselves that we have enough for various contingencies that we are exposed too. There also may be individuals that may want to donate that could reduce the general outlay.

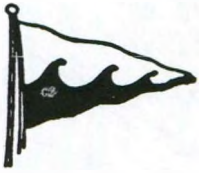
The Commodore again said we need an accurate cost for further discussion and decision making at the January meeting.

The Commodore suggested we invite Bruce Lockwood to January meeting along with some knowledgeable people from the Seaport. The Commodore will see that a detailed report of cost and other facts would be mailed to board members prior to the January meeting.

Dues- The board discussed various changes \$5, \$10 to be added to the dues to 2005 but it was decided to wait until all facts were in and then announce to the membership of the Anniversary Book and how it could be financed.

A motion was duly made and approved that the dues remain the same as 2004.

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A Nominating Committee of: Frank Bohlen, Jack Washburn and Jody Loveday were appointed.

There being no further formal business, motion duly made and approved to adjourn.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Norman B. Peck".

Norman B. Peck
Secretary