

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

April 9, 1988

A meeting of the Board of Governors of the Off Soundings Club was held at the Sheraton Norwich, Norwich, Connecticut, on April 9, 1988 at 1600. Commodore Slimmon presided. Other Governors present were:

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

Present by invitation were:

William L. Ames	Edward S. Purcell, Jr.
Chester B. Humphrey, MD	Edgar L. Raymond, Jr.
William A. Loweth	Nicholas Staub, II
D. Richard Magovern, MD	

The meeting was called to order at 1610.

The minutes of the previous meeting on January 15, 1988 were VOTED approved as circulated.

Vice Commodore Hohenstein commented on his report of the 1988 Annual Meeting and Dinner, a copy of which is attached. Head count is down but we are sold out at the door and every thing is in readiness. The Radisson has been looked at again but their facilities are not big enough. The Mystic Hilton is small, expensive and service is said to be poor. If the Sheraton Norwich is satisfactory tonight, we will be here next year.

Rear Commodore vanDyke commented that the prize and awards are engraved and ready for tonight. This includes special awards for Tom and Cindy Godis and the Nortons on Empress. Spring prizes are ordered. Last year's Fall awards have been returned for engraving with the year 1988.

The Board stood for a moment of silence as the Secretary read the names of the following members who passed away

since the last Board meeting:

Palmer Chapman	John P. McPherson
Edward S. Clark	Daniel A. Naughton
Gordon S. Hunter	Howard L. Reichart, Jr.
Prescott B. Huntington	David C. Smith

The following resignations were VOTED accepted with regret:

John Baringer	Paul C. Nicholson, Jr.
Robert Copas	Richard S. Nye
Dr. John T. Curtiss	* Howard A. Schechterle
Robert L. Doane	Francis P. Steel
* Robert B. Hodes	Henry W. Wallace
Danforth Miller, Jr.	

\* Motor Boat Rule

The reapplication of Robert Darling was **VOTED** approved.

Membership currently is 584 members with about 40 Dues Notices outstanding exclusive of the Darling reinstatement.

It was **VOTED** that D. Richard Magovern, MD be elected to the position of Clerk to complete the term of Howard A. Schechterle.

Treasurer Strang commented on his written report, a copy of which is attached to these minutes. It is his objective to move toward increasing our minimum balance to \$7,000 or \$8,000. Expenses have been normal. New burgees have been ordered and will cost \$21, about \$7 more than at present. All donations have been made except to the Coast Guard Academy. Historian Ames offered to assist in getting this contribution to the right place. It was **VOTED** to accept the Treasurer's report.

Crew and boat fees for our races were discussed. Comments ranged from the feeling that we have had several years of unusual expenses and need no increase to a strong desire to build back our treasury to a reasonable level. It was felt that the format and quality of our races should not be compromised. An increase in boat fee, rather than a \$1 increase in crew cost, was favored as it more closely tracks with our fixed expenses. It was **VOTED** to increase boat fees by \$5 to \$20 starting with our Fall 1988 Series.

The Historian Mr. Ames indicated that the work Ken Mahler has done for Off Soundings Club this year if subcontracted out would have cost about \$9,000. He asked the Commodore, if he could, to introduce Ken at the Annual Dinner and

recognize what a friend Ken and the Seaport are to us. This year we have 30 minutes of history and 30 minutes of the 1987 Spring and Fall Series. They are available to Members for the cost of mailing charges.

Race Secretary Anderson submitted a listing of guests for the 1988 series. Donald Wilkinson was discussed as his conduct has been questionable in the past. It was agreed to accept his request but the Secretary was asked to discuss the matter of conduct with him. The list of 17 guests, pending yacht club affiliation confirmation, plus the Coast Guard Academy and 11 pending members were **VOTED** approved.

The Clerk, Dr. Magovern coached by Mr. Schechterle, indicated that signatures and \$10 are necessary to fulfill our incorporation requirements.

The Measurer, Mr. Rabe, reported he was looking for new measurers.

Race Committee Chairman Jacobsen noted that Empress is chartered and knows of the location changes for our 1988 Race Series. A patrol and stake boat have been obtained.

Membership Chairman Bohlen reported that there were 11 applications in the pipeline. It was suggested that the Commodores Winter News Letter contain instructions on membership and race guest procedures as there continues to be confusion about how to accomplish these activities.

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

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

Protest Committee Chairman Raymond indicated that there was nothing to report.

Entertainment Committee Chairman Loweth commented on his report, a copy of which is attached. Arrangements are proceeding with the Oar at generally more reasonable prices than we obtained from Champlins.

Shelter Island Liaison Co-Chairman Bevilacqua indicated that Shelter Island Yacht Club has a new manager. They are looking forward to seeing us in the Fall although they anticipate some shortage of moorings. Several alternative race courses were suggested that will be looked into by the Race Committee.

Block Island Liaison Chairman Staub indicated that moorings will be available for our Spring Series on a first come first served basis at \$25 per night. There will be no rafting. Chris Littlefield indicated that Off Soundings members owe \$600 for Fall mooring fees. The Board questioned this based on the number of our boats at Block Island Friday night and the few who moored.

Public Relations Committee Chairman Purcell indicated no activity with the media since our last Board meeting.

Fleet Surgeon Humphrey reported that he had found our first aid kit.

Commodore Slimmon indicated that he heard from Arthur Johnson who at age 88 appreciated the invitation to our Annual Dinner but could not attend.

Nominating Committee Chairman Porter indicated that the Committee consisting of Peter McFadden, Robert Nickerson and himself were ready with nominations for the Annual Meeting.

Mrs. Young's offer of a trophy in memory of her husband continues to be considered.

Rear Commodore vanDyke submitted criteria for Honorary Membership that was discussed and **VOTED** established for use in the future. It was **VOTED** that Peter Comstock be submitted to the membership at the Annual Meeting for election as an honorary Member based on this criteria.

Bill Baxter's letter was discussed concerning the Motor Boat Rule. This letter arrives with great regularity and it was decided not to act on it after a brief discussion.

The Marine Museum requested an Off Soundings Burgee for their collection which was sent.

Vice Commodore Hohenstein commented on the Commodores use of a glass and spoon to call for order. He said he felt the need to break tradition in this emergency and presented the Commodore with the traditional end-of-term gavel.

There being no further business, it was VOTED to adjourn at 1742.

Neal H. O'Connell  
Secretary