

Minutes
of the
Board of Governors
of the
OFF SOUNDINGS CLUB
APRIL 6, 1996

A meeting of the Board of Governors of the Off Soundings Club was held at Jacobs Rock, US Coast Guard Academy, New London, Connecticut on April 6, 1996. Commodore Gunther presided. Other Governors present were:

Allen N. Anderson
W. Frank Bohlen
CDR John F. Brooks, USCG
John H. Lockwood
D. Richard Magovern, DMD
W. Wes Maxwell

Peter W. McFadden
Ernest R. Messer, Jr.
Neal H. O'Connell
Norman E. Rabe
Richard H. Roberts
Paul C. van Dyke

Present by invitation were:

William L. Ames
Brin R. Ford
John D. Haugh, MD

Neal S. O'Connell
James B. Slimmon, Jr.
J. Philip Smyth

Absent were:

Carl D. Fast
J. Christopher Field

Nicholas Staub

The meeting was called to order at 1438.

The minutes of the previous January 19, 1996 meeting were VOTED approved.

Vice Commodore Anderson reported that attendance at the Annual Dinner is down significantly from last year at 185. He suggests that we avoid the Easter Weekend in the future. He has made arrangements to speed up dinner service.

He reported for the Budget Committee that everyone better understands their expenses as a result of establishing a budget. Treasurer Messer's exhibit of total 1995 actual expenses compared to 1996 budget is attached.

Rear Commodore Bohlen indicated that trophies are engraved and ready for presentation. Costs are virtually the same as last year and include plaques to recognize the service of the committee, stake and patrol boats. He will discuss with Alfred Van Liew as to who will obtain and pay for a trophy for the 12 metre racers.

The Rear Commodore proposed a way of handling future requests for contributions to various sailing campaigns. Essentially it involved

a voluntary addition to an individuals dues payment that would be put into a separate fund administered by a committee of three who would make fund contributions of up to \$250 to qualified individuals. Anything above this amount would be referred to the Board for action. Rear Commodore Bohlen asked for input which he would use in developing a final proposal for the Fall meeting.

The following resignations were VOTED accepted with regret:

H. Russell Burgess	Michael Powell
Ralph Halsey, Jr.	Samuel Russell
William D. Hartman	Nicholas Schaus
Mark Marenakos	Robert Young
C. Sheppard Merrill	

The following individuals were VOTED dropped for non payment of dues with the proviso that the Secretary was to use judgment in accepting late payments:

Robert Bainbridge	David W. Simmons
H. Peter Converse	Preston L. Smith
Edward B. Freeman, III	Charles W. Snow, Jr.
Paul W. Ingle	Ronald A. Sternicki
Christopher Noyes	William W. Tyler
Daniel O. Reich	Clare E. Wilson
Malcom A. Ross	

With these changes, membership is at 495.

Treasurer Messer proposed that our savings funds be placed in a tax free mutual fund. This would involve little loss of revenue and significantly reduce our visibility to the IRS. The Treasurer was asked to keep monies in as short term instruments as possible. The proposal was VOTED approved.

Historian Ames indicated that the video of the 1995 race series is ready. They have made a real effort to include the activities of individuals who are most apt to be here tonight in the video.

Race Secretary Roberts presented the guest list. Zoel Z. Green is on the Membership Chairman's list and was dropped. Patrick Keane did not show a Yacht Club and this was ignored. With these modifications, it was VOTED to approve the attached guest list submitted by the Race Secretary.

Race Secretary Roberts reported that ECSA is considering dropping Off Soundings as a qualifying race from the ECSA 1996 circuit races. They feel these races are not open to the general public. The Race Secretary made a motion, including specific wording, that a page be placed in the ECSA Race Schedule and Yearbook explaining our guest procedure. The cost would be \$100. After some discussion, a motion was VOTED to table the original motion.

Clerk Magovern reported that requirements necessary to renew our incorporation in the State of Massachusetts have changed and only

the Clerk's signature is required. As soon as he obtains a \$15 check, the papers will be sent to the State.

Measurer Rabe talked to former ECSA Chief Handicapper Neal S. O'Connell and reviewed Classes C-4 and C-5. The performance in C-4 seemed even. In Class C-5, Prophet stood out. He reviewed the numbers and similar boats and did not see justification for a rating change.

Race Committee Chairman Maxwell proposed that we purchase a printing timer for the Race Committee at a cost of \$250 - \$300. This was VOTED approved. It was suggested that he look at another vendor before making a final purchase.

Membership Committee Chairman van Dyke reported that 5 candidates have been made members this year, 11 are ready for posting and 5 or 6 are in the pipeline.

Membership Committee Chairman van Dyke proposed reinstatement of John Schultz who was dropped for non payment in 1994. As there was some question as to whether he is a power boat owner, the motion VOTED was that if he met the criteria for membership he would be reinstated with payment of 1994 and 1996 dues. The Secretary is to resolve the length of his membership (13 years) and the Membership Committee Chairman is to resolve the question of power boat ownership.

The Membership Committee's attached list was VOTED approved with the deletion of the first 5 individuals as they have completed the membership process.

The question was raised as to the status of Mark Wolfman's application and whether he shouldn't be given a guest invitation. The Chairman indicated that there was a problem with the application and this has been communicated to the proposer who, incidentally, recently resigned. All communication with an applicant are through the proposer.

An outline of what the Membership Committee uses as criteria for membership is attached. Chairman van Dyke requested that a committee be formed to look at both criteria and process to see if anything should be changed. Commodore Gunther appointed Membership Chairman van Dyke as Chairman with Board Member Fast, Secretary O'Connell and Rear Commodore Bohlen as committee members.

Measurement Rule Committee Chairman Brooks had nothing to report.

Classification Committee Chairman N. S. O'Connell had nothing to report.

Protest Committee Chairman Field was absent and there was no report.

Entertainment Committee Chairman Fast was absent and there was no report.

Shelter Island liaison Committee Chairman Lockwood indicated that all was well at Shelter Island.

Block Island Liaison Committee Chairman Staub was absent but reported

through the Secretary that Block Island knows of our arrival and are looking forward to having us.

Public Relations Committee Chairman Ford reported that the three luncheons were successful with 20 to 30 in attendance at each. It appears that they were responsible for 5 to 10 new applicants. He has made his publicity contacts and is ready for the Spring Series.

Fleet Surgeon Haugh had nothing to report.

Long Range Race Planning Committee Chairman Slimmon indicated that the committee would be having another meeting soon and solicited input. The Winter luncheons they suggested seemed to be successful. They are thinking about the concept of Fleet captains who would represent each class and convey the thoughts of each class to the Board. This concept seemed to have support and it was suggested that the Commodore might want to do this.

Nominating Committee Chairman McFadden reported that the Committee composed of himself, Edward Dieckerhoff and Robert Edmands has a full slate.

A contribution of \$250 was made to Whitney Connor's Olympic campaign and a gracious thank you note received by the Commodore.

Measurer Brooks suggested that with race participation down we should encourage cruising participation. Maybe something more could be said in the race circular. The matter was referred to the Race Secretary.

There being no further business it was VOTED to adjourn at 1634.

Neal H. O'Connell
Secretary
4/11/96

PS: Commodore Gunther has appointed the following committee chairmen for the 1996-97 year:

Membership	Paul C. van Dyke
Protest	J. Christopher Field
Entertainment	Carl D. Fast
Classification	Neal S. O'Connell
Measurement Rule	CDR John F. Brooks, USCG
Prizes & Awards	W. Frank Bohlen
Public Relations	Brin R. Ford
Fleet Surgeon	John D. Haugh, MD
Shelter Island Liaison	John H. Lockwood
Block Island Liaison	Nicholas Staub, II
Long Range Race Planning	James B. Slimmon, Jr.
Deputy Race Secretary	Neal S. O'Connell
ECSCA Representative	Richard H. Roberts
USSA/ORC Representative	Richard H. Roberts