



## OFF SOUNDINGS CLUB

### Minutes of the Board of Governors of the Off Soundings Club

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January 18, 2008  
Captain Daniel Packer Inne  
Mystic, CT

A meeting of the Board of Governors of the Off Soundings Club was held at the Captain Daniel Packer Inne on January 18, 2008. Commodore Robert Geary presided.

The following members were present: Commodore Robert Geary, Vice Commodore Bill Loweth, Rear Commodore Steven Purdy, Treasurer Ron Breault, Race Committee Chairman Charles Chorlton, Race Secretary Walter Pratt, Entertainment Committee Sarah Porter and Robert Austin-LaFrance, Historian Jack Washburn, Membership Committee/Webmaster Gerry Keeler, Past Commodore Frank Bohlen, Past Commodore John Brooks, Past Commodore Neal O'Connell, Measurer Paul Jennings, Protest Committee James Francis and Secretary Dave Dickerson.

The meeting was called to order at 1204 by Commodore Geary. The agenda for the meeting and the minutes of the October 27, 2007 meeting were approved.

Commodore Geary called for a moment of silence in memory of the passing of members Aborn Smith and Sylvan (Sy) Shemitz.

Treasurer Ron Breault distributed his report and reviewed our financial status. Ron also submitted a copy of the original Articles of Organization with the Commonwealth of Massachusetts for informational purposes. It was moved and voted to accept the Treasurer's report. Regarding our IRS returns, the Treasurer has prepared IRS informational returns for the past four years and these have been reviewed by the Commodore and the Audit Committee. We have filed Annual Reports with Massachusetts for many years and after conversation with CT officials, the Treasurer believes we do not have to file in Connecticut. Additionally, Ron applied to re-instate our federal EIN# and as of last December our old # has been re-instated. The appropriate forms will go out next week.

Measurer Paul Jennings discussed some rating issues for the Nonsuch Class. A rating certificate will not be necessary however the Class Liaison must provide information to the Measurer for any differences (i.e., propeller changes). Paul also discussed upcoming revisions to the OSC certificate (e.g., Asymmetrical spinnakers).

Commodore Geary announced the following 2008 appointments: Membership Committee Chairman – Gerry Keeler; Protest Committee Chairman – James Francis; Entertainment Committee Chairman – Robert Austin-LaFrance.

Commodore Geary received a thank you note from Mystic Seaport for hosting the 2007 Dyer Dhow Derby. OSC member Dave Nickerson ran the event.

Commodore Geary received correspondence from the town of Greenport and they are looking forward to our return in the fall of 2008.

The Commodore talked to the Mystic Seaport Advancement Office regarding the annual OSC donation. The board discussed our annual donation and it was decided to designate half to the Library as un-restricted and half to the Audio/Visual department. The Dyer Dhow sail donation is considered an extra donation which will be given about every two years.

The Commodore discussed recognition of 30 and 50 year members at the upcoming annual meeting. Candidates for 30 year are Harold Rhame and John Parsons. The candidate for 50 year is John English, Jr. Past Commodore O'Connell will take care of the 30 year pins and the Commodore will take care of the 50 year plaque.

Vice Commodore Loweth presented the dinner choices and the pricing for the 2008 annual dinner at Seamen's Inn. The dinner will almost break even and OSC members in attendance will be given a free video.

Rear Commodore Purdy reported that the 2007 trophy costs were within budget. This year he will pursue having the OSC burgee engraved on the trophies as several recipients have reported that the enameled burgees have fallen off. Also, in the future, he would like to experiment with offering a choice of a conventional trophy or the traditional OSC plaque to the recipients of the perpetual trophies.

There was no report from the Clerk.

The Secretary reported that the OSC Precedent Setting Decisions (PSDs) have been updated to include the use of low point scoring.

Race Secretary Pratt is working on the Notice of Race which will be for the entire year. Walter discussed a recent letter from the Nonsuch group and his reply. The rating issue for the Nonsuch group was discussed above. With regard to Class assignments, he emphasized that it is our preference that the Nonsuch sail together as a group. It was moved and approved to have the Nonsuch group sail as a Special Class for the 2008 season.

RC Chairman Chorlton reported that the scoring system software that we use is privately owned by members of the Race Committee. This is just an awareness item and no action is required. NOR' EASTER will be supporting our events this year.

Historian Washburn reported that the OSC records at the Seaport are up to date.

Membership Chairman Keeler reported that we have five applications pending and one additional application on the way. Our total membership is approximately 485. Sarah Porter announced that past member Art Bulger recently passed away. Commodore Geary called for a moment of silence in memory of Arthur Bulger.

Protest Chairman Francis reported that we have no protests.

Past Entertainment Chairman Porter will work with new Chairman LaFrance on the arrangements for Block Island. Additionally, we are planning to go to Townsends again in the Fall.

Commodore Geary stated that Scoring Chairman Gilmartin had nothing to report.

Public Relations Chairman Keeler had nothing to report.

Shelter Island Liaison Lockwood was absent but he reported to Commodore Geary that Shelter Island Yacht Club would like to have us back. In that regard, John suggested that we invite the Etchells to join us as a Special Class for the Saturday of the Fall Series. Commodore Geary will send a letter of invitation to Shelter Island YC for the Saturday race.

Block Island Liaison Purdy had nothing to report.

Past Commodore Bohlen has two OSC luncheons planned. The first on January 24<sup>th</sup> in New Suffolk, Long Island and the second on Feb 28<sup>th</sup> at Skippers Dock in Stonington.

#### Old Business

Vice Commodore Loweth reported that the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Video will consist of a two DVD set with a special design on the cover. Bill is having discussions with the Seaport on using material from past OSC videos to supplement the new footage. At the present time we don't know what the Seaport will charge for their help but if the cost is excessive, we may have to drop the extra DVD. Past Commodore Bohlen and Vice Commodore Loweth will continue to work on our partnership with the Seaport.

Sarah Porter reported that we have a contract with Seamen's Inn for the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dinner. Sarah is working with K.T. Beal on procurement of old fashioned (i.e., classic) OSC ties. Sarah is also working with Chip Regal to obtain OSC sailing photos for the event. Vice Commodore Loweth reported there may be a raffle of some unique items such as old OSC glasses. There was some discussion about having a 75<sup>th</sup> logo. Additionally, it was noted that we have a solid contract with Zeus however the OSC items are not yet posted on the Zeus website. Commodore Geary offered to contact Zeus to ensure his website is updated to reflect the available OSC inventory.

Rear Commodore Purdy gave a report on the upcoming 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Rendezvous, scheduled for July 11-13, at Mystic Seaport. The North dock can accommodate approximately 40 boats and it is reserved for us until June 10<sup>th</sup>. Dyer Dhow races and a dinner in the Boatshed are also planned. The Commodore will send a formal letter to Henry Du Pont inviting him as a special guest and it was moved and voted to sponsor NOR' EASTER for the event.

Membership Chairman Keeler presented a detailed report with proposed changes to the Membership Committee (e.g., expand the committee from four to five, make the Chairman a voting member, make the committee's identities known). The changes were approved by the board and it was moved and voted to submit the changes to the OSC membership.

Race Secretary Pratt presented editorial changes to the Guest Invitation Procedure. It was moved and voted to adopt the revised procedure.

#### New Business

Vice Commodore Loweth presented the report of the OSC Audit Committee. The Audit Committee found the Club's accounts for 2007 to be balanced and in good order and following generally accepted accounting principles. It was moved and voted to accept the Audit Committee report.

The Treasurer presented the 2008 OSC Budget. It was moved and approved to accept the budget as modified (i.e., Web site expense and Commodore expense modified downward).

The concept of using the Spring Series as a Feeder for BI Race Week was discussed. Vice Commodore Loweth will work out the details with Zeus, Race Secretary Pratt and Webmaster Keeler.

There being no further formal business, motion duly made and approved to adjourn at 1618.

Respectfully submitted,



David G. Dickerson  
Secretary