



OFF SOUNDINGS CLUB

Minutes of the Board of Governors of the Off Soundings Club

OFFICE OF
THE SECRETARY
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March 31, 2007
Thames Yacht Club
New London, CT

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A meeting of the Board of Governors of the Off Soundings Club was held at the Thames Yacht Club on March 31, 2007. Commodore Neal O'Connell presided.

The following members were present: Commodore Neal S. O'Connell, Vice Commodore Robert Geary, Rear Commodore Bill Loweth, Treasurer Ron Breault, Race Committee Chairman Charles Chorlton, Race Secretary Steve Purdy, Protest Committee Walter Pratt, Entertainment Committee Sarah Porter, Historian Jack Washburn, Membership Committee Bob Edmands, Past Commodore Frank Bohlen, Past Commodore Wes Maxwell, Measurer Paul Jennings, Webmaster Gerry Keeler and Secretary Dave Dickerson.

The meeting was called to order at 1430 by Commodore O'Connell. The minutes of the January 19, 2007 were approved as revised.

Treasurer Ron Breault passed out his report which is made part of these minutes. The Treasurer reported that, considering the risk we have, it was decided not to obtain the fidelity insurance due to the higher than nominal cost. We continue to search for the documentation of our Federal EIN#. We have never filed a Federal tax return and we can not file a State return until we find the documentation for the number. It was noted that a 990 Form should be filed in the State of Massachusetts for non-profit organizations. Ron reported that the State of Massachusetts does have a record from 1981 of our Federal ID # however; the number has been dropped from the Federal data base. On another front, Ron reported that the recent e-mail survey indicated that nearly 85% of the memberships who have e-mail addresses are willing to receive OSC communications via e-mail. Ron highlighted several items in the financial section of his report. It was moved and approved to accept the Treasurer's report as presented.

Commodore O'Connell thanked the board for their support over the past two years.

Vice Commodore Geary reported that preparations are complete for the annual dinner tonight. "Rock of Ages" will provide entertainment. The Lighthouse Inn has been very accommodating and they are anxious to serve us. A local photographer, Chip Regal, has indicated an interest in taking photos of the Spring Series and this may provide an opportunity for photo type trophies. Bob received an e-mail from Keith Walker regarding some large framed Off Soundings photos that Keith would like to give to OSC.

Rear Commodore Loweth reported that the trophies are ready for tonight. Greg Gilmartin will have a video camera at the dinner, to begin the work for the 75th anniversary video. Additionally, Bill will operate a patrol boat with a camera man during the Spring Series. The "Order of the Moosehead" award will be displayed at the dinner with appropriate comments.

Race Secretary Purdy passed out his report which is made part of these minutes. Planning for the Nonsuch Special Class is going well thanks to class liaison, Jack Lombard . It was noted that skippers in the Special Classes do not have to go through the Quest Membership procedure. Steve provided a brief summary of the average race cost vs. revenue per boat over the last three years. Basically we show a small loss of about 30 dollars per boat, which comes out of dues, and he does not see a problem with this for the near future. Steve discussed the Google website and suggested it is a good vehicle to get information out to the OSC board. Gerry Keeler said he is available to help board members with use of the Google website. Steve reported that the Race Secretary's Handbook has been completed and that it is dedicated to Past Commodore Wes Maxwell. RC Chairman Chorlton and Commodore O'Connell thanked Steve for his efforts in preparing this historical document.

RC Chairman Chorlton reported that Noreaster is coming back for the Spring Series and we are ready to race.

Measurer Paul Jennings reported he has a few details to work out in the Nonsuch Special Class and that we will probably keep them together in one class. Additionally, we will try to keep class C3 as a sprit boat class.

Historian Jack Washburn reported that our records are being transferred from the Blunt White Library to across the street at Mystic Seaport.

Membership Chairman Edmands reported that we have four new members. In addition, we have four candidates that have been approved by committee (Nicholas Lavieri, James Sanders, Kim Bonstrom, Val Fast) and five applications where we are waiting for supporting letters. There are a few other applications in the works which may bring up the total to approximately 15 for this year.

Protest Committee Chairman Pratt reported there are no active protests.

Entertainment Chairman Porter reported that we are all set to go to the Oar for the Spring Series and Townsends for the Fall Series. Sarah continues to negotiate the arrangements for a tent at the Block Island venue. She suggested that we continue to use the wristbands for the party and there will be a separate area for non-alcoholic beverages. Past Commodore Maxwell suggested that perhaps John Lockwood could look into going back to Shelter Island for the Fall Series.

Sarah reported that she has received mixed feedback from some members at SIYC. After discussion, it was noted that SIYC is a desirable location however, wherever we go in New York, we need to work on a long term (i.e., 4-5 years) relationship.

Long Range Planning Chairman Bohlen reiterated his thanks for the good participation at the recent OSC luncheons. He would like to continue the luncheons in the future and perhaps expand them to include the Hartford area. He suggested there is a real benefit in getting feedback from the members on such things as the effectiveness of the website. Gerry Keeler suggested that we also consider the Newport area.

Old Business

Vice Commodore Geary moved that the board approve the proposed changes to the Constitution and Bylaws (i.e., the changes that were presented by Past Commodore Brooks at the January 19th Board of Governors Meeting and then circulated to the membership). Following a short discussion, it was voted to present the proposed changes to the membership under new business at the annual meeting.

Treasurer Breault reported that we have not received the past due royalties from Club House. Vice Commodore Geary has contacted Club House and has drafted a one year written agreement for future business arrangements. After considerable discussion, it was agreed that we should give Club House a deadline of May 15th to pay the past royalties and then sign the written agreement. This should be done before we give them the entry data for the Spring Series.

New Business

Steve Purdy and Sarah Porter discussed the planning for the anniversary year. There does not appear to be much interest in a separate one-design event however we may be able to incorporate a cruising element into our race series. We have a tentative agreement with Seaman's Inn for the Anniversary Dinner on April 5th, 2008. It was noted that the River Room would be a good location for showing the movie. "Rock of Ages" has been contacted for entertainment and commemorative jewelry/glassware/race plaques are being looked into. The idea of a rendezvous at the Seaport during the summer of 2008 was also discussed.

The Treasurer submitted a draft financial audit procedure. It was moved and voted to adopt the proposed audit procedure.

Race Secretary Purdy presented research on using the low point scoring system for Spring and Fall Series race results. Steve summarized that low point scoring is a fair and contemporary method of scoring and noted that we presently use the low point system for our one year/two year perpetual trophies. Steve reviewed the results of re-scored standings for 2003 thru 2006. Most of the changes were one up/one down kind of changes, the details of which are shown in his report. Race Chairman Chorlton emphasized that low point scoring would be more equitable for the competitors and would simplify the scoring process and the sailing instructions. It was moved and voted to use low point scoring for the Spring and Fall Series.

Race Secretary Purdy presented a listing of frequently asked questions (FAQs) which will be put on the OSC website. It was moved and approved to put the FAQs on the website.

Treasurer Breault discussed some feedback he received on the subject of Lifetime Membership. Based on the limited feedback (i.e., one letter) it was decided not to proceed with this category of membership at this time.

Treasurer Breault asked about the timing of implementation of e-mail for OSC communications. PC Bohlen suggested we consider what the transition is going to be and then "go for it". Walter Pratt suggested that during the transition, we should communicate both with hardcopy and with e-mail as a test. PC Bohlen added that if we post OSC documents on the website we should e-mail "alerts" to the membership.

PC Maxwell submitted the recommendations of the Nominating Committee for the Board of Governors which is made part of this report.

There being no further formal business, motion duly made and approved to adjourn at 1721.

Respectfully submitted,



David G. Dickerson
Secretary

Financial Report	Mar actual	Mar actual	2007 Income	2007 Income	2007 Expenses	2007 Expense	Comments
Budget Category	income	expenses	Budget	Actual	Budget	YTD actual	
Annual Dinner Meeting	4897.00	275.40	4700.00	4197.00	5100.00	275.40	\$300 deposit paid October, 2006; Feb 07 mailing
Membership Dues	3710.00		23205.00	19800.00			
Royalties	0.00	0.00	1500.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$1466.89 overdue
Interest	81.41	0.00	800.00	235.93		0.00	
Norcross Account interest	5.19	0.00	40.00	14.38	0.00	0.00	
Norcross Account other income	0.00		0.00	350.00	0.00		\$350 in donations for video project
Spring Race Entry Fees		0.00	6100.00			0.00	
Spring Race Management		0.00			3900.00	50.00	
Spring Race Committee		0.00			4500.00	1050.00	BI Deposit
Spring Entertainment	0.00	0.00	7400.00		4500.00	0.00	
Spring Launch Services		0.00				0.00	
Spring Tent		0.00			1000.00	0.00	
Spring Trophies		0.00			2100.00	0.00	
sub total Spring	0.00	0.00	13500.00	0.00	16000.00	1100.00	
Fall Race Entry Fees	0.00		5600.00				
Fall Race Management		0.00			3800.00	50.00	
Fall Race Committee		0.00			5400.00	704.64	Greenporter Deposit
Fall Entertainment		0.00	6871.00		4500.00	0.00	
Fall Launch Services		0.00			0.00	0.00	
Fall Tent/related exp		0.00			1500.00	0.00	
Fall Trophies					2200.00		
sub total Fall	0.00	0.00	12471.00	0.00	17400.00	754.64	
Club Management							
Dues		0.00			225.00	225.00	US Sailing; ECSA
Commodore		435.95			900.00	435.95	Winter Letter
Past Commodore		0.00			500.00	487.58	Jan meeting expense
Secretary		0.00			3000.00	10.08	
Race Secretary		0.00			200.00	77.10	
Treasurer		119.59			900.00	769.87	dues mailing; misc exp
Measurer					200.00		
Membership		280.36			150.00	280.36	Feb 07 mailing
Web Site		424.98			250.00	573.98	renew domain name for 9 years; email survey costs
sub total Club Mgmt	0.00	1260.88	0.00	0	6325.00	2859.70	
Race Management	0.00	0.00			200.00	0.00	
Contributions	0.00	250.00	0.00		1750.00	250.00	Block Is Rescue
Insurance	0.00	3929.00	0.00		5800.00	3929.00	
Perpetual Trophies	0.00	0.00			2700.00	0.00	
OSC 75th Video	0.00	0.00			0.00	0.00	project cost est \$5000
Miscellaneous (Reserve)	0.00	0.00			941.00	0.00	
Grand Total	8493.60	5715.28	56216.00	24397.31	56216.00	9168.74	
Treasury Report	12/31/2006	Income YTD	Expense YTD	3/31/2007			
B of A Checking	612.37	23797.00	9168.74	15240.63			
Fidelity OSC	30514.56	235.93	0	30750.49			
Norcross Funds (Fidelity)	1666.60	364.38	0	2030.98			
sub total Fidelity Funds	32181.16	600.31	0	32781.47			
Total Cash	32793.63	24397.31	9168.74	48022.10			