



ST. CATHARINES ROWING CLUB
2021 Annual General Meeting

Via ZOOM
January 21, 2021

In Attendance:

<u>Board of Directors</u>			
Sam Baio	Chris Blackwood	Karl Bowley	Rick Crooker
Dave Derry	Brian Fisher	Michele Fisher	Louise Hastings
Lorna Hay-Gaudet	Michelle Kerr	Craig Kozun-Young	Nancy Love
Jim Marino	Marion Markarian	Kathleen Powell	Bob Schenck
Brian Thorne	Wendy Wiebe		
<u>Members</u>			
Scott Anderson	Rae Ceccato	Arrin Falk-Dotan	Liz Iannizzi
Kelly Lauren	Doug Kerr	Janet Lancaster	Richard Moreau
Mike Petrychanko	Michael Powell	Erin Sharpe	Steven Smith
Mary Lynn Somogyi	Matt Wilson	Ross Yeo	

MINUTES

1) Call to Order

- Called to order at 7:05pm
- Michelle Kerr, Immediate Past President appointed as Scrutineer
- Chris Blackwood, Board Secretary appointed as Recording Secretary

2) Confirmation of Quorum

- Quorum achieved with 33 members (25 required) – confirmed by Michelle Kerr

3) Review of 2020 AGM Minutes

- Motion to review and adopt the 2020 AGM Minutes: moved by Dave Derry; seconded by Kathy Powell; and carried. The 2020 AGM minutes will be posted to the SCRC website.

4) President's Report – Rick Crooker

- Report as tabled
- RC quickly recapped the year of COVID19 and the unfortunate consequences of the worldwide pandemic on the 2020 rowing season: no official regattas; cancelled plans for competing at the HRR2020; no Spring Gala or Captain's Dinner; no 'normal' high school, summer and fall rowing season; the resignation of our Mark Welsh, Club Captain after 14 years of service to the Club.
- RC expressed thanks to Board of Directors, Coaches and Athletes, and Volunteers for the modified rowing activities that did take place.
- RC finished his report, optimistic that the forthcoming COVID vaccines would allow the sport of rowing to soon return to normal.

5) Vice-President of Finance Report – Brian Fisher

- Report as tabled
- BF began by thanking and congratulating the Directors, Coaches, Volunteers, Sponsors and Athletes for all their work to get rowers on the water in 2020. It was a great accomplishment to keep the club active and solvent during the COVID pandemic.
- A special thanks was given to CHRC for their understanding and the suspension of the normal capital fund contribution requirements in Q2, Q3 and Q4
- BF wanted to especially recognize and thank Larry Masse for serving as SCRC Treasurer since 1987, recognized Nancy Love who served as the Club Treasurer for the first 2/3rds of 2020, and Wendy Wiebe and Karl Bowley who are now the Club's Co-Treasurers.
- BF provided the meeting with an overview of the Club's 2020 Year End Finances, indicating that Karl Bowley will present details in his report:

6) Treasurer's Report – Karl Bowley

- Report as tabled
- Overall the club remains solvent and in a secure financial position largely due to Government COVID grants/loans, donations, reduced insurance and capital expenditures, reduced operating costs, the resignation of Mark Welsh, and membership revenues.
- The report shows:
 - Revenue \$ 73,475
 - Expenses \$ 87, 153
 - Fund Raising \$21,745
 - Net Income \$8,067
 - Year End 2020 Surplus \$106, 572

7) Vice-President of Rowing Report – Bob Schenck

- Report as tabled
- BS began his presentation with the Club's original plans to purchase equipment and send crews to HRR2020, which were cancelled due to the COVID19 pandemic. By mid-March the regattas for high school, HRR, Henley and elsewhere were being announced and it was obvious that the normal rowing season(s) would be lost. The Club did hold a virtual Mother's Day and Early Bird Ergatta.
- Mark Welsh's contract required renegotiating, and for a time his salary and hours were reduced and supplemented with Government grants. Mark Welsh, Club Captain for 14 years did resign on June 16, and BS thanked Mark for his years of dedicated service to the Club.

- June 6 saw a return to the water by athletes in singles only. Strict protocols were put in place that followed all the government requirements. Jim Marino volunteered to take on the Club Captain duties. By early July rowing was expanded to doubles in a very controlled manner. After confirmation that the normal Fall rowing season would be cancelled, the Club offered an alternative fall program for its athletes who wanted to continue to row.
- Thanks to all lead coaches and assistant coaches for the modified season. Thanks to all volunteers who contributed time and effort to SCRC in 2020. Thanks especially to Jim Marino of offering to serve as Club Captain from mid-June onwards. Thanks to our summer student Pat Morris for his work around the Boathouse, especially the preparation of the club blades for painting this off-season by Carl McCullough.
- BS noted that the HRR Committee continues to plan and organize SCRC crews for 2021 if the regatta is not cancelled.
- BS was especially pleased to report that there were no confirmed COVID cases linked to rowing on Martindale Pond in 2020.

8) Vice-President of Special Projects Report –Louise Hastings

- Report as tabled
- Special thanks were given to Mark Welsh and Jim Marino, to the Board, and to the coaches, volunteers and athletes; for everyone’s efforts and sacrifices that allowed for some rowing this past year.
- LH recognized all the RCA/RO Award nominees for the year (see report)
- LH reviewed the grant applications that are pending for the 2021 rowing season:
 - Service Canada – Summer Employment Grant (for a summer student)
 - Canadian Women in Sport – to promote a program that would introduce Grade 8 girls to the sport of rowing
 - Ontario Trillium Foundation – to fund the purchase of eight single sculls and blades

9) Club Manager / Head Coach’s Report – Jim Marino

- Report as tabled
- Congratulated all the rowers and coaches from 2020 for complying with all the COVID restrictions put in place. The Club held two competitive time trials and head-to-head racing events. Our rowers competed with both Brock and Ridley rowers.
- JM thanked our summer student, Pat Morris; all the volunteers who made rowing possible this year; the Board of Directors; Mark Welsh for 14 years of service and help with the transition after his resignation; and to Bob Schenck and Brian Fisher for their guidance.

10) Constitutional Items

- No constitutional items were presented. It was noted however that the last time the constitution was updated was 1994.

11) Approval of Actions of the 2020 Board of Directors

- Motion to approve the actions of the Board of Directors for 2020, moved by Marion Markarian, seconded by Louise Hastings. Motion carried

12) 2021 Membership Fees – Brian Fisher

- Proposed 2021 fee structure was emailed to all club members on January 15, 2021. The fee structure assumes a normal rowing season will take place.
- The fee proposals held club fees at the original 2020 levels in all categories.
- Motion to approve the 2021 fee structure by Bob Schenck, seconded by Michele Fisher. Motion carried.

13) 2021 Membership Fee Adjustments due to COVID

- It is highly likely that the COVID19 pandemic and restrictions will continue to affect the normal rowing season into 2021. In the event that this does occur, the Board would need to return to the General Membership in order to adjust the membership fee structure. Moved by Brian Fisher, seconded by Tracey Newman, to authorize the Board of Directors to adjust membership fees if required due to COVID19 restrictions on the 2021 rowing season, without calling a Special General Meeting. Motion carried

14) 2021 Board of Directors

- In order to facilitate the nomination and election of Directors for the 2021 Board, a nominating committee was established in December 2020 to solicit nominations and hold online elections. The Nominating Committee consisted of Dave Derry, Louise Hastings and Kathy Powell. They were responsible for soliciting and vetting nominees. Michelle Kerr and Scott Anderson were responsible for setting up the online election process using SCRC website, the 2020 membership list and Election Buddy software.
- The 2021 Board of Directors are:
 - Sam Baio
 - Chris Blackwood
 - Rick Crooker
 - David Derry
 - Brian Fisher
 - Michele Fisher
 - Louise Hastings
 - Lauren Kelly
 - Nancy Love
 - Jim Marino
 - Marion Markarian
 - Tracey Newman
 - Kathy Powell
 - Bob Schenck
 - Mike Thompson
 - Brian Thorne
 - Matt Wilson
- Michelle Kerr continues to serve in the role as Immediate Past President.
- The election for Board Executive positions will take place at the first meeting of the 2021 Board on Friday, January 22, 2021.

15) 2021 Board Election Ballots/Records

- Moved by Brian Thorne, seconded by Lorna Hay-Gaudet to destroy the ballots/electronic record of the 2021 Board elections. Motion carried.

16) New Business

- No new business was presented

17) Motion to Adjourn

- Moved by Nancy Love, seconded by Craig Kozun-Young to adjourn the 2021 AGM. Motion carried

Minutes by Chris Blackwood, Secretary

N.B. These minutes are DRAFT until approved at the 2022 SCRC AGM.