

Spartan Alumni Rowing Association

Annual General Meeting Minutes

April 14, 2012

I. Call to Order

- a. Doug Rathburn called to order the regular meeting of the Spartan Alumni Rowing Association (S.A.R.A.) at 12:22PM on April 14, 2012 at the Cleveland Rowing Foundation Boathouse, 1785 Merwin Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio

II. Roll Call

- a. The following persons were present: Tim Marcovy, Fraser Hewson, Tom Hudak, Nate Uber, Katie Puttmann, Lauren Boucher, Chris Shoemaker, Miranda Cullins, Patty Wolford, Jessica Schneider, Sarah Rubin, Dan Bachmann, Doug Rathburn with Brian Chorney via teleconference
- b. Visitors included: Patrick DelBarba, Doug Brubaker, Mallory Miller, Caitlin Bowerman, Ken Klicka and Gary Pillar (from CWRU alumni relations)

III. President's Report

- a. Fundraising Update:
 - i. Paul Buchheit has agreed to provide \$50,000 to SARA to support coaching for the team. The funds are to be expendable and not go into the endowment. The target is to pay a part time coach for the next 3-5 years at \$8-12,000 per year. We are currently working on the details with the University and will not turn over the money until we are satisfied with the progress.
 - ii. Alumni Victorious Campaign concluded with the donation of the Stefan James in the fall of 2011. Total campaign donations reached \$75,000 and included 2 new Pocock fours, a shell trailer and \$34,000 toward the coaching endowment. Named shells were:
 1. *Dorothy A. Hudak* – 2008 Pocock Hypercarbon 4+ with lead donation from Tom Hudak '92 and his father.
 2. *Stefan James* – 2011 Pocock Hypercarbon 4+ with lead donation from Dan & Gina Bachmann
 3. Coaching endowment paperwork is signed with the university and the target payout is 5% per year indefinitely. Funds are restricted to pay for coaching (head and/or assistant) and coaching expenses (e.g. travel). The Spartan Alumni Rowing Association Endowment is open to new donations and we should target building this fund over the coming years to secure permanent coaching for the team.
 - a. Lead donation to the endowment from Doug and Erynn Rathburn.
 - b. "Founding" donations received from Dan Bachmann '97, Tom Hudak '92, Stacie Ringleb '97 and Mark Schoenenberger '96. Founding donors recognize by the university.
 - iii. Other updates to the fleet:
 1. *Zusammen* – 2011 Pocock Hypercarbon Pair. We traded in the *positive alpha* for this new shell. Lead donation from Doug Rathburn '97.
 2. *Jolly Scholar* – 2011 Vespoli 4+ bought by the student board to replace the *Hot Sauce*.
 3. Tim Marcovy also donated his old sculling blades to the team.

4. The team now has a full complement of women specific shells at their disposal for the first time in team history: *Stefan James* (4+), *zusammen* (2-), and *sagamore* (1x).
- iv. OarSpotter.com and RegattaCentral continue to generate small donations on the order of about \$500-1000 per year
- v. Amazon.com provided \$1,465 in 2011 and \$586 for the first three months of 2012.
- b. Strategic Plan Update
 - i. Chorney and Rathburn working on update to SARA strategic plan to include direction for fundraising, structure, university relations, coaching, recruiting, communications, etc.
 - ii. Need to discuss/investigate a committee structure for SARA to distribute work load and increase effectiveness. Proposed committees:
 1. Event Committee: Alumni Regatta Banquet, etc.
 2. Racing Committee: Head of the Cuyahoga, Head of the Charles, training, etc.
 3. Fundraising Committee: capital campaigns, identify and manager bundlers, communication. Funding Pillars:
 - a. Annual Fund
 - b. Coaching (possibly with endowment funds)
 - c. Boathouse and Tanks
 - d. Shells (possibly with endowment funds)
 - iii. Web site update
 1. Shoemaker and Rathburn working on re-design of SARA Web site. Since we now “official” with the University we need to restructure things a bit to include more links to the team and university web resources.
 2. Archive photos received this year from Heather Brown, Mark Schoenenberger and Pat Rathburn. Keep them coming!
- c. Motioned by Tim Marcovy to approve the President’s Report. Second by Jess Schneider. Unanimously approved.

IV. **Treasurer’s Report**

- a. SARA assets are just over \$38,210 at the end of 2011. The asset decreased from 2010 due primarily to reduced values of the shells (depreciation) and a lower cash balance.
- b. Total cash and bank accounts is \$2,400 as of April 13, 2012
 - i. All equipment is paid off
 - ii. Cash balance slightly lower than previous years due to the purchase of the Stefan James and lower annual fund donations in 2011.
 - iii. Donations in 2011 were \$35,409
 - iv. Total expenses were \$40,000 with the majority devoted to equipment purchases.
 - v. Outflows of \$3,600 for insurance, rack rents, and boat maintenance. Expected \$1500 rack rent due for 2nd half of year in September.
- c. Marcovy discussed a possible change to the CRF assessment structure to be more focused on rack rent vs. rower numbers. For Case/SARA in total not a huge change, but will dramatically increase our assessment since we do not have individual CRF members, just boats.
- d. Due to our increased donations we have crossed the threshold where we have a more complicated filing status. Therefore we have engaged an accountant for about \$350 per year.
- e. Motioned by Jess Schneider to approve the Treasurer’s Report. Second by Patty Travis. Unanimously approved.

V. Election of the Board of Directors

- a. Board of Directors: Dan Bachmann, Lauren Boucher, Brian Chorney, Meg Grady, Fraser Hewson, Tom Hudak, Tim Marcovy, Doug Rathburn, Chris Sheridan with the addition of Chris Shoemaker.
- b. Motion by Tim Marcovy, second by Dan Bachmann to approve board
- c. No opposed, by acclamation Board passed unanimously
 - i. Welcome to our new board member – Chris Shoemaker!!!

VI. New business from the membership

- a. Discussed mechanism to allow expense reimbursement for assistant coaches. Tim and Doug to discuss with university officials to make sure this is possible with the new coaching funds.
- b. Tim Marcovy motioned to ratify and approve the actions of the officers and SARA Board of Directors since the last Annual General. Nate Uber seconded and the motion passed unanimously by the membership.

VII. Date of Annual Meeting in 2013

- a. Date to coincide, with proper notification, with the 2013 alumni regatta in Cleveland, Ohio

VIII. Adjournment

- a. Jess Schneider moved to adjourn AGM, second by Katie Puttmann. None opposed.
- b. Doug Rathburn adjourned the meeting at 1:06PM

Immediately following the SARA Annual General Meeting (AGM), the newly elected Board of Directors met to elect Officers and discuss new business.

I. Election of SARA Officers

- a. SARA Board of Directors meeting called to order at 1:08PM on April 14, 2012.
- b. Board of Directors present: Tim Marcovy, Fraser Hewson, Doug Rathburn, Tom Hudak, Chris Shoemaker, Dan Bachmann, Lauren Boucher. Quorum present.
- c. 2011 Officers: Doug Rathburn (President), Dan Bachmann (Vice President), Fraser Hewson (Treasurer), and Brian Chorney (Secretary)
- d. Doug moved to re-nominate slate of officers, Lauren seconded. Passed unanimously.
- e. 2012 Officers: Doug Rathburn (President), Dan Bachmann (Vice President), Fraser Hewson (Treasurer), and Brian Chorney (Secretary)

II. New Business

- a. Discussed the Endowment Draft Proposal
- b. History of Athletic Department Fundraising and future goals were provided by Gary Pillar from the alumni development office. Thank you Gary for attending and providing your insight.
- c. Lauren will work with Alumni Chapters to plan possible general alumni events to coincide with regattas.
- d. Doug and Tim will draft an agreement to move the Survival (wooden single) to the Jolly Scholar on Case's campus. The Jolly Scholar would like to place the shell over their bar and we'll put a sticker or two on the shell for advertising. Concerns include ownership and insurance for the shell when housed in the restaurant.

- e. Shoemaker will continue to work on web site development
- f. Hudak will look into the Pittsburgh college recruiting night for high schoolers.
- g. Hewson looking at web site payment options and new accounting software

III. **Adjournment**

- a. Doug Rathburn moved to adjourn Board of Directors meeting, second by Lauren Boucher. None opposed.
- b. Doug Rathburn adjourned the meeting at 2:18PM

Minutes submitted by: Dan Bachmann & Doug Rathburn

July 28, 2012