

Row NS Annual General Meeting - Minutes

February 21, 2024

1. Call to order

The meeting was called to order at 6:55pm, Warren moves, Laura seconds.

2. Identification of voting delegates

Antigonish Rowing Club: Katie Edwards

Halifax Rowing Club: Jasmine Frickleton, Melissa Barker

MicMac Amateur Aquatics Club: Mark Sebestik

North Star Rowing Club: Peter Webster

Lunenburg Yacht Club: Joan Backman

Board: Laura Graham, Maddy Horne, Warren Laybolt, Tracy Stuart, Emily Jago, Austin Cameron (joined at 7:08 pm)

Quorum is met.

3. Approval of the agenda

Maddy moves to approve, Tracy seconds.

4. Approval of the previous year's minutes

Tracy moves to approve, Laura seconds.

5. Reports from the Board of Directors

(All reports available in 2024 AGM presentation on Row NS website)

Membership Statistics

- Overall, slight growth in membership - 3% overall
- Some clubs have fluctuated, as well as gendered statistics.
 - Slight increase in men, slight decrease in women. Numbers remain fairly constant.
- U19 - 38% increase
- Biggest decrease - 19-29 age category (approx 20 members)
- 70+ membership down

President's Report (Emily Jago)

External Work

- Continued work with RCA and PAC to establish a more cohesive vision for rowing in Canada
- Emily Jago also served on the Accountability Committee

Community Participation

- Hosted meet and greet with Marnie McBean—have the goal of continuing community events in a non-competitive setting
- Continue to work with PCA on a coastal strategy to host events in Nova Scotia

Organizational Effectiveness

- Moving forward with lots of SafeSport initiatives - RowNS has been a leader
- Made great progress with the strategic planning process
- Hired new staff, had programmatic planning

Coaching and Officiating

- Having Technical Director (Rob) has been great
- Looking toward increased certification and engagement of coaches moving forward

Looking Ahead

- Canada Games Rowing coming back (flatwater rowing) - 2029 - looking forward to that as we continue to build programs
- Pat, Rob, Tracy have done considerable work engaging with Coastal rowing programs
- Strategic Planning has been ongoing
- Looking to re-establish committees and recruit people to join these

Technical Director Report

- Vision for 2024
 - Regatta & event development
 - Looking to coastal development opportunities
 - Looking to host the national selection event - have good standing to host this year
 - Coach Development
 - Outreach
 - Coastal development
 - A way to reach out to other parts of the community
 - E.g., come and try coastal events - have something earmarked for June on the Arm and something near Lunenburg as well

Coastal Committee Report

- Coming from Brienne, but presented by Iain
- Lunenburg touring was primary event, otherwise took a step back
- Working on developing a loan program for the coastal boats

- Row NS has applied for a coastal coordinator position—had attempted to do so last year but ultimately unable to fill the position
- Row NS is in discussions with RCA re hosting a beach spring in Nova Scotia - early stage discussions, will update
- Joan adding:
 - Lunenburg will be advertising for another coastal tour - July 30, 31, Aug 1

High Performance Report (Tracy Stuart)

- Took our NSPPI - highlights of that
- Recently had 7 athletes named to Team Canada (goal was 3)
- Representation at CanAmMex, U23 World, World Rowing Games, PanAm Games
- National Rowing Championships (4 medals - Emerson Crick, Emily Munroe, Claire Ellison, Melanie Elfenstein)
 - Particular shout out to Emerson Crick for his success
- Talent Identification - some conflict with the ringette season
- Emily Munroe was a TID athlete - performing very well
- Coaches Impacting Excellence Programs - long list of coaches (albeit only men)

Treasurer's Report (Warren Laybolt)

- Regatta revenue - continues to be the largest source of non-government revenue
- First year of additional excellence funding
- Successfully hired and onboarded a Technical Director (Rob)
- Purchased two new singles for the Provincial Team
- Rowing Canada has announced they will be increasing dues and fees by ~4%
 - Row NS may adjust seat fees to maintain flat \$ amount for ease of regatta administration
- Overall, small cash flow gain
- Draft 2023 financials are posted on the website - just need to confirm with the Sport NS bookkeeper
- 2023 was generally pretty similar to 2022 - review of 2023 provided by Warren
- Building from that, budget 2024 is substantially the same as 2023

Budget 2024 Review (Warren Laybolt)

- We will post a version online - note that budget does not currently include anything with respect to hosting beach sprints
- For now does not include Canada Games, but need to look to do that again in the future, but not something we've considered for 2024 just yet
- Have a draft multi-year budget - looking to project expenses for 4 years

6. Election of officers

Outgoing 2023 Board of Directors

President: Emily Jago

Vice President: *Vacant*

Secretary: Laura Graham
Treasurer: Warren Laybolt
DAL1: Brienne Miller
DAL2: Tracy Cameron-Stuart
DAL3: Maddy Horne
DAL4: Austin Cameron
DAL5: Morgan Jarvis
DAL6: *Vacant*

2024 Board of Directors

Proposed slate of new board members for 2024:

President: Laura Graham
Vice President: Jonathan Tyson
Secretary: *Vacant*
Treasurer: Warren Laybolt
DAL1: Brienne Miller
DAL2: Tracy Cameron Stuart
DAL3: Maddy Horne
DAL4: Austin Cameron
DAL5: Mark Sebestik
DAL6: *Vacant*

Unanimous vote in favour of new board members for 2024.

7. New business

None.

8. Meeting adjournment

Katie motions to adjourn, Maddy seconds. 7:25pm.