

ERDBA Board of Directors Annual General Meeting

MINUTES

MEETING DATE / TIME	03/30/23
CALLED TO ORDER	7:08PM
DIRECTOR ATTENDEES	<p>Officers: Ellen Law, Heather Sullivan, Colleen Kunz, Directors: Amy Kuo Somchanhmvong (Ithaca DBC), Barb Fox (Dragon Dream Team), Brandon Chan (Boston 1), Brett Haug Dragonheart Vt), Carlos Costa (Century DBC), Carolina Herrera (Ocean State DBC), Carolyn Lee (Mercer DBF), Chip Park (Philly Police DBT), Chris Wetzel (Bucks County DBC), Danny Martinez (Catch 22), Deborah Golden (Hope Afloat), Erin Davis (Schuylkill Dragons), Helen Quach-Ramirez (Living Root DBC), Henry Chow (Penn DDBC), Jenny Yu (United East Athletic A), Jim Morris (Philly DBA), Joanne Hoffmann (Cooper River DBF), John Sullivan (Relentless DBC), Josh Rubinstein (DC DBC), Julia Chen (Cleveland DBA), Kai Pong (Boston DBF), Kathleen Schnaidt (Wellness Warriors), Kevin Chan (Boston BBB), Len Yang (DCH-NY), Mary Chaplin (NJDBC), Matt Chin (NY Wall St Dragons), Matt Roberts (Gildas South Jersey DBF), Robin Esposito (Dragons Alive), Roseanne Buell (Mov'n Dragons), Thomas Hull (Cleveland DBF), Tommy Leonardi (Independence DBR), Veeravan Mahadomrongkul (Ohana-NE), Wei Chen (Philadelphia Chinatown DBT), Wendy Schwartz (Cooper River DBC).</p> <p>Location: ZOOM CALL</p>
NOTE TAKER	Ellen Law, President (As of 3/30/23: 54 members + 4 Officers // Quorum = 30)

AGENDA

APPROVE 2022 AGM MINUTES	Passed 37-0-0 unanimous (motion by Ellen Law, 2nd by Tommy Leonardi), no discussion
APPROVE 2022 FINANCIALS	Passed 37-0-0 unanimous (motion by Ellen Law, 2nd by Kathleen Schnaidt), no discussion
OFFICER REPORTS	
PRESIDENT, Ellen Law	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 2023 Election Results: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Heather Sullivan - returns as ERDBA VP, unopposed ○ Tommy Leonardi and Kim Junod - returns as ERDBA reps on USDBF BOD, unopposed ○ Silvia Lee applied to succeed Mr Chun Wing Louie on USDBF Technical and Race Committee representing ERDBA ○ Lavina Chan of Catch 22 will be ERDBA Treasurer as the only candidate. She begins her term following this AGM. ● 2022 ERDBA Accomplishments <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Hosted call with US Regional Presidents. ERDBA continues to be unique in our focus on membership development and education. ○ Our members conducted 12 ERDBA Sanctioned Festivals ○ We hosted the only regional championship in the US ○ 4 teams won Regional championships out of 17 team entries ○ 24 ERDBA teams competed at IDBF Sarasota Club Crew World Championships - the most of any region. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ PDDBA finished as the highest finishing USA club, 7th overall with 9 golds, 2 silvers and 2 bronze medals. ■ Kudos to our other ERDBA crew who took home medals: DBDBC's Out of Sight with 2 bronze, Dragonheart Vt's Senior C women with 3 silver, Empire DBC BCP with 2 bronze and Hope Afloat BCP with 2 bronze. ■ Shout out to the other ERDBA teams who competed: Bucks County DBC, Catch 22, CYPN Storm, Penn DRagons, Philadelphia Flying Phoenix, Relentless and Schuylkill Dragons. ○ Collected \$430 from non-ERDBA members attending our clinics and seminars which are free to ERDBA members. ● REMINDERS: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Facebook and the website continue to serve as our primary tools for sharing the latest information. ○ ERDBA dragon boat equipment discount program posted on the website. Includes paddles, pfd's, saddles ○ Directors should join the ERDBA Director's facebook page to promote their club programs / events regardless of ERDBA sanctioning.
VICE PRESIDENT, Heather Sullivan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Ambassador Program sponsored several free events in 2022 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 48 individuals attended our ERDBA steering clinics and coaching seminar. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Pittsburgh Heart of Steel hosted 1 steering clinic ■ Hong Kong DBF of Boston hosted 1 steering clinic and 1 coaching seminar. ■ We covered the registration fee for 9 members to attend USDBF race officials training. ■ Weekend youth paddling clinic in Philly attended by 20 participants and supported by 3 coaches. ■ Sponsored 2 youth teams in ERDBA festivals. ■ 18 individuals participated in Safesport Training ■ Post request on CONTACT US on ERDBA.net if you want to host a steering clinic or Coaching seminar. ERDBA will fund the travel of the clinician for these Programs - attendance is free to all ERDBA members.
TREASURER, Colleen Kunz	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The 2021 and 2022 Financial report was filed with the IRS. ● December 31, 2022 bank balance = \$54,348.92, includes our 20K reserve established in 2020. ● We added 1 new Club: Century DBC and 1 new festival, Solomon Island DBF ● 2022 Financials posted on ERDBA.net. These include 5 club registrations for 2023. ● ERDBA received a \$5300 USDBF rebate check. Distributed to clubs with members who paid for a USDBF membership in 2021. ● 2022 rebate check will be lower as it includes more renewals. rebates for new membership = \$10, renewals = \$5. ● 80% response from ERDBA directors on the 2023 budget. All proposals passed. ● 2023 USDBF AGM was by ZOOM, resulting in \$3k saving for 2023. ● June 1 is the deadline for our 2022 supplemental budget. Submit a budget proposal form to officers before June 1 for consideration. ● Submit your application for access to ERDBA Grant. This is for unexpected dragon boat expenses or for dragon boat development.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- ERDBA Committees
 - ACP - Erica Bernstein (acpcommittee@usdbf.org) - committee seeking more volunteers. USDBF created a page listing festivals with the ACP division. This includes all ERDBA festivals that list an ACP division. Committee is hosting a “Coaches Wisdom” session on April 23 by Annylee Thorstad about pacing for ACP.
 - Race / Competition - Ellen Law spoke for Silvia Lee on
 - Matthew Au - 2022 Philly weekend youth camp a success. Recently hosted a Team USA time trial. Thanks to Bucks and DCH for supporting the camp. 2023 weekend youth (U24-12) will either be in NYC or Boston in May. Working with Ohana and Dragonheart Vt to build their U24, John Hopkins Collegiate team.
- Tommy Leonardi - USDBF Board of Directors:
 - USDBF committees can use folks like those on the ERDBA Board. If you have the time, seek to serve.
 - US Nationals format benefits a strong region as ERDBA. This allows more ERDBA teams to qualify for CCWC vs just the single bid at regionals.
 - April 15 is the deadline to pay your entry into US Nationals. There will NOT be a petition process for entry to 2024 CCWC. Only those teams attending US nationals will earn bids.

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS - TOPIC: PARADragONS

Video recording of this portion of the presentation available on [Facebook “Eastern Regional Dragon Boat Association”](#).

- Rene Roberts-Nijinsky
 - To attract ParaDragons, look to your own team, be open, share the sport. Just ask, folks will join.
 - ParaDragons need dragon boating just as much as everyone else.
 - Coaches - it’s OK to have high expectations.
- Fred Nielson
 - Continued research needed, seeking more feedback from those who have dragon boat with military veteran experience because I know dragon boating will help my friends..
- Tracey Turri
 - Our Out of Sight team is the only active Paradrasons team in ERDBA. We started as a fun social team and today we area competitive crew with US Nationals and IDBF CCWC medals! It’s not about limitations, some paddle with the DCDBC crew too.
 - Ok to ask if your help is needed.
 - Be flexible, be open, give folks a chance.

OLD BUSINESS

- none to address from the last meeting.
- ERDBA will continue to schedule a pre-vote call for anyone who may want to have a discussion or clarification on items up for a vote.

NEW BUSINESS

- Matt Roberts - 2025 PanAm Federation races scheduled in Montreal’s Olympic Basin in conjunction with the 22 Dragons Montreal Challenge. Expect to be in July 3-6, 2025.
- Colleen Kunz: Motion: “ To amend the ERDBA By-laws for a trial period of 2023-2025 memberships to waive the ERDBA Festival membership fees for Clubs who paid their membership that also run an ERDBA Festival”.
 - Purpose: to help promote more events and support efforts of clubs that host festivals.
 - seconded by Kathleen Schnaidt
 - Friendly amendment to “not waive Festival membership dues for clubs that make money for their own membership use” not accepted,
 - Motion requires a 2/3 approval vote to pass since this an amendment to current by-laws
 - Vote = 31 ayes, 2 nays (Tom Leonardi, Jim Morris), 4 abstained (Barbara Fox, Chris Wetzel, Matt Roberts, Wendy Schwartz). With greater than 2/3 voting to approve - Motion adopted.
 - Question: Would ERDBA accept \$300 membership dues from Festivals whose dues are waived? Answer: ABSOLUTELY YES.

ADJOURNED

8:47 PM

POST MEETING NOTES

- Contact Info for our Keynote speakers:
 - Rene-Roberts-Nijinsky - renecoach03@yahoo.com
 - Fred Nielson - use [ERDBA.net contact form](#) to message and it will be forwarded.
 - Tracey Turri - use [ERDBA.net contact form](#) to message and it will be forwarded.