

ERDBA Fall Meeting: November 12th 2016 at 1:00 pm

701 Lake Shore Drive, Lake Parsippany Club house, Parsippany, NJ

The meeting began at 1:15 pm.

Roll call was taken, quorum was achieved with n= 31 Directors in attendance:

Present in person (n=12 Directors + 1 guest): Ellen Law (President), Bob Mina (Vice President), Nina Rebmann (Treasurer), Denise Santoro (Machestic Dragons), Wardell Lee (Wall St. Dragons), Pam Brinkmann(NJDBC), Hugh Fang(DCH), Marybeth Harrington (Philadelphia Flying Phoenix), Leigh Vlasbloom (Relentless), Lora Dunnigan (Schuylkill Dragons), Katie Peck (IDBR), Amy Anjorum (NJ Dragon boat , guest), and Chris Wetzel (Bucks County DB Festival)

By telephone (n=19 Directors + 2 guests): Lisa Kennard (Secretary), Laurie McHugh (Bucks County), Matt Chin (WSD), Jean Kowalski (Hope Afloat), Stacey Scanlan (Schuylkill Dragons), Marie O (Machestic), Veeravan Mahadomrongkut (Ohana NE), Peter Lew (Boston DB Festival), Maureen Kane (River Sirens), Jeff Kuhn (DCDBC), John Dyer (Lake Champlain DB Festival), Linda Dyer (DH VT), Randy Ng (DCH, guest), Dave Winter (DC Dragons, guest), Sheila Platt (Dragons Alive), Henry Chow (Penn Dragons), Carly Pedersen (Boston One), Liisa Reimann (Malia), Lori Ashyk (Cleveland DB), Mina Hare Rubenstein (Pittsburgh Paddlefish), Ken Wong (PDBA), Irving Tan (Catch 22)

President's report

Ellen Law welcomed everyone to the meeting. It had been a very good season with the first ERDBA Championship at which nine clubs had competed.

Treasurer's report

Nina Rebmann presented the preliminary budget for 2017 (Appendix 1). The current balance in the checking account is \$24,507.72

Vice President's report

Bob Mina discussed the nomination process for the upcoming 2017 elections for the ERDBA Vice President and Treasurer . The nomination process is now open and will remain open until March 3rd, 2017. Voting will then take place for one week with the final announcement being made at the Spring GM to be held mid-March 2017.

Secretary's report

Lisa Kennard reported that membership remained at an all-time high of 34 clubs and 16 festivals (2 festivals that had to cancel for 2016 will be back for 2017) and an additional three clubs had expressed interest in joining for 2017.

ERDBA 2017 Championship

The 2017 ERDBA Championship will again be held in conjunction with the Mercer DB Festival along with USDBF National Club Crew Championships. One bid for the CWCC, to be held in Szeged in 2018, will be awarded by USDBF and one bid by ERDBA. No club will be able to get two bids. Entry to the ERDBA championship will be only for those ERDBA clubs who are paid up members by Feb 28th 2017.

VOTE: After some discussion it was voted unanimously that the rules on qualifying for the ERDBA Championship would be the same as 2016 in that each club would have to participate in two eligible ERDBA Festivals.

Randy Ng will meet with the Race Committee to finalize details including the fee structure, and the question of festivals taking place after Mercer – are these still qualifying festivals?

Update on Bylaws

Existing committee consists of Ellen Law (Chair), Marie O of River Sirens, Betsy Powell of Paradise City Paddlers, Paula Humphries of Schuylkill Dragons and Sean Scott of Baltimore DB. The committee has met three times and is discussing issues such as the most efficient number of directors for the Board and how the directors should be elected.

The issues with the current by-laws are:

1. The current by-laws are outdated - interpretation is very vague.
2. The number of Directors needs to be scaled down to a manageable number, e.g. n=7-11, not the current n=54.

VOTE: It was voted unanimously that *“the bylaws committee shall produce a draft proposal by March 15th 2017 to present to the Board of Directors for consideration”*

Several New Funding Proposals were discussed and voted on. (See Appendix 2-14) for details.)

1. 2016 ERDBA Fall Meeting Location and Expenses - **passed** unanimously \$450.00, 27 yes, 0 no
2. 2017 ERDBA Spring Meeting Location and Expenses – **passed** unanimously \$600.00, 27 yes, 0 no

Paula Humphries joined the meeting to give **USDBF report**

Paula is in charge of the new USDBF process for obtaining certification as a race official. The basic course will be available on- line. When this has been passed a candidate will have to work 2 days with supervision at each component.

The 2017 Pan American Federation Club Crew competition will take place March 17-19, 2017 in Ponce,

Puerto Rico. These are 10-man boats and there is no qualification required, except being a member of one of the regions. Currently there are 40 crews registered of which 19 are from the US. Deadline for registration is November 30, 2016.

(Paula left the meeting and discussion on the proposals continued)

New Funding Proposals - continued. (See Appendix 1 for details.)

3. 2017 ERDBA Fall Meeting Location and Expense – **passed** unanimously, \$550.00, 27 yes, 0 no

4. 2016 ERDBA Officers Expense Account– **passed** unanimously, \$500.00, 27 yes, 0 no

5. 2017 ERDBA Officers Expense Account– **passed** unanimously, \$1,500.00, 27 yes, 0 no

6. ERDBA Lapel Pins - **rejected** by a vote of 18 to 10

7. 2017-ERDBA Officers Travel Expenses to USDBF AGM, **passed** by a vote of 26 to 1, \$2550.00

a. Proposed Financial Guidelines for travel expenses

8. Sell ERDBA ID maker - **passed** unanimously (voted in conjunction with #9.)

The printer will first be offered to USDBF, and if not Ellen will sell on Ebay.

9. Repurpose ERDBA ID maker for alternate use -- **rejected** during discussion of #8, no vote taken

10. ERDBA World Nations ERDBA Youth Scholarships- **passed** by a vote of 23 to 5, \$300.00 fund 6 youth scholarships on TEAM USA

A committee will be formed to determine the basis for awarding the scholarships. Katie Peck of IDBR will chair the committee.

11. ERDBA Steering Clinic -- **rejected** by a vote of 14 to 14

12. ERDBA 'All Star' Program – **rejected** 1 to 24

13. Add BCS/Supporter Division to all ERDBA Events It was agreed that this would be investigated by a newly -formed committee. Karen Koronkeiwicz (korinkk4@gmail.com) of Pathways Team SOS volunteered to chair and other volunteers were Ann Carricato of Machestic Dragons and Linda Dyer of Dragon Heart Vermont and Pam Brinkmann of Pathways Team SOS. Ellen Law will be the liaison.

14. Indoor regatta at Pottstown expense for medals – **rejected** by a vote of 8 to 19

ERDBA and USDBF

In response to a question regarding the three ERDBA directors for USDBF Ellen responded that the current selection process is by presidential nomination, with officer approval. This protocol followed the

existing process. Ellen agreed to include this in the revised Bylaws.

It was agreed that more effort should be made to share USDBF information with the ERDBA membership.

With respect to the ERDBA representative on the USDBF Ethics Committee Nina had been asked to vet candidates and had forwarded two names to the Committee Chair, Andrew Szymanski.

At this point the meeting was concluded as the facility had to be vacated. However, several members expressed concern that the Q and A part of the agenda and new business had not been discussed. Therefore, it was agreed that a follow-up teleconference would be scheduled for Saturday Nov 19th. Lisa Kennard will send out email requesting the best time for people to meet.

The meeting concluded at 4:45pm.

(Prepared by Lisa Kennard)