

SUS Board Meeting
Minutes – 14 November 2013

Present:

Joe DeFranco, President
Minnie Ingardia, Membership
Chip Munk, Treasurer
Terry Lagana, Vice Commodore
Susan Anderson, Newsletter
Peter Luciano, Commodore
Sequoia Sun, Programs

Dawn Daly, Membership
Zoran Dacic, Director of Skippers
Joan Billows, Secretary
Jim Tiernan, Education
Lory Crisorio, Public Relations
Janet Steinberg, Sailing Events

Melissa Donovan, Observer
Leisa Bell, Observer

Absent:

Ellen Burke, Special Events
Danielle Swanson, Special Events

The meeting was held at the Norwalk City Hall in Norwalk and called to order by Joe DeFranco, President, at 7:10 p.m. Time Keeper, Jim Tiernan

Past Minutes:

Since there was no quorum at the August and September meetings, the minutes were approved as “Records of Meeting”. Terry moved to have minutes accepted, Janet approved, all in favor.

Treasurer’s Report:

There is a gain of \$3300 and \$17,000 in the bank. Chip noted this is without spending for the amount budgeted for the website. There is a drop of \$1000.00 in due’s income from the stable level of the past several years. Membership is declining and attendance at meetings is dropping. Despite this, we continue to save because we are not using allocated monies for budget items. Jim Tiernan moved to accept budget. Terry seconded, all in favor.

Communications:

Discussion on “bullets of meeting” in Masthead President’s Report. Peter thought them confusing (due to brevity) while Joe thought them still helpful (and will try to elaborate). No change. Discussion of changing SUS to a singles and married group. Lory objected to the word “young” in wording to attract a second tier of SUSer’s.

Committee Reports:

Special Events:

No report. Chip is still unable to get credit for End of Cruise party. Terry offered to call Longo for the \$169.00. Will follow up in “action”.

Membership:

147 paid members. 4 lifetime members, 151 total members.

Programs:

Bruce Kirby is booked for November meeting. April is booked. Sequoia stated we have some good potential speakers for 2014.

Public Relations:

Lory Crisorio said Amy Brooks of CBS is interested in doing a write up on SUS. He will forward her Masthead and copies of articles from past. Joe asked him to steer her to the Facebook page for information.

Newsletter:

Newsletter not published in December. Jane Peter's pictures and article about her will be in January issue. Please submit articles prior to December 15th deadline.

Education:

Feedback on marine VHF radio workshop, good turnout. Handouts will be available at the next meeting.

Sailing Events:

No more sailing events on the 2013 calendar. No one is coming to Janet to get on boats. It is easy for crew to find skipper, but not vice versa.

Skippers:

Zoran suggested SUS have more sailing instruction onboard boats. Peter offered we are not a sailing school but he and Jim could talk to skippers about offering instruction if requested. Preparation for next year's cruise is underway.

Tommy Z had volunteered to represent crewmembers for input on 2013 gifts to skippers.

2014 kick-off will be at Black Rock. Terry said club will have to know how many people will show (land and sea). Possibility that skippers can get the number of people coming so appropriate amount of food is ordered. Need to have a way to get numbers attending before event.

Website Development:

Rick not present. Proposed budget not to exceed \$4400. Developer did not get back to him. Suggestion presented to look into SOS.org website format. Cost of \$2800 with \$150. Monthly maintenance charge.

So far number are as follows: \$2600 initial fee, \$1800 follow up, total \$4400, padded to \$5000 as a safety net.

Discussion on Norm's email. Question: Can we make our current website more user friendly? After some discussion the answer was "no". There was a comment made that the present website is not formatted for iphones or ipads.

Unfinished Business:

Wording for new counseling bylaw finalized. Peter L made a motion for finalized wording to be put in bylaws which will then go into MOP.

Vote on 2014 Budget:

Corrections and discussions: \$800.00 allotted to Skippers. Changed from \$1500. Website budget will remain at \$2100. If more is needed, Rick will have to ask for it. Program meetings are under budget. Ponus meetings are not part of the budget. Marriott still has not given SUS a price for meetings. Future meetings can be held at Norwalk or Hyatt.

Vote: Jim T. made motion to accept budget. Terry LC seconded. Then Peter L suggested president's slush fund be increased from \$100 to \$500. After discussion, slush fund increased to \$200. Jim T. made motion to accept increase. Terry LC seconded. Again, Tim made motion to accept budget, Terry seconded, all accepted.

New Business:

Concepts were discussed to attract and retain younger members. Possibilities include Meetups for younger people with Friday night happy hours in a pub. More focus on Meetup, racing, and activities.

Elections of Board Members:

Nominating Chair presented slate. Chip made motion to accept slate as presented. Many seconded, all accepted.

Good and Welfare:

Terry LC will find out where to give \$150.00 from sunshine fund in memory of Jane Peters. Joe made motion to change amount, Peter proposed all monies given in memoriam should be same amount. Zoran made a motion to establish a policy of \$100.00 for gifts in memoriam. All accepted.

Adjournment:

Joe made a motion to adjourn. Tim seconded, all accepted. Adjourned 9:30 pm.