

Singles Under Sail

Minutes of SUS Board Meeting

January 9, 2020 Approved

Norwalk City Hall

Attending: Joe DeFranco, Ronnie Ross, Aija Klebers, Ida Lowe, Chip Munk, Peter Luciano, John Cravenho, Janet Steinberg, Karen Ferris, Leisa Bell & Teresa Nilla (retiring members)

Called to order 7:07 pm

Time Keeper Chip Munk

II November Minutes approved with one modification. Ronnie moved, Peter seconded. Minutes Approved.

III Treasurer Report Chip informs the Board that if SUS continues at the rate of net worth today, it will result in a negative balance for the club in two years.

Budget Review Discussion: To reduce costs and create a viable budget going forward, several cost saving suggestions were discussed such as budget cuts in Special Events, Skipper incentives and meeting location costs.

2020 Budget Reductions proposed and approved:

\$500 Special events (down from \$1000)

\$650 Skipper incentives (down from \$850)

\$140 Skipper gifts (down from \$600)

\$2775 Meeting rooms (down from \$3500) Total cost reduction for 2020 budget resulted in \$1885.

Chip moved to accept reductions, Peter seconded. Motion passed unanimously

Reduction of meeting food & beverage costs will be researched by Leisa and was tabled until February meeting. Chip sent the numbers above in confirmation of accuracy.

Revenue generating possibilities include discussion of raffles, more socials/events at restaurants because no cost to club.

Insurance Policy Renewal Further cost savings may result from modifying the current Insurance policy. It was generally agreed that the current \$2M policy, which is aggregate coverage rather than per incident, is sufficient for SUS. Leisa will shop the policy to compare competitive market rates & policies.

IV Communications \$100 will be donated to a fund for Susan Brady who passed away. Aija will take care of this. Leisa moved, Ronnie seconded. Approved.

Gmail confirmations: All correct except Peter Luciano will use his personal email not Gmail

V Director Reports

Nominating Committee To date, no VP has been elected

Commodore Peter no new business

Programs Camille was not present but reports that several speakers have been lined up.

Vice Commodore Janet reports that she is exploring safe boating courses and will get the information to Ida for Masthead publication

Membership Teresa & John The new SUS Application is complete with a couple of edits. To be sent out next week.

Newsletter Ida notes she will not be available in April

Public Relations January 26 Brunch will be posted and promoted. It was agreed to open this event to Meet-up. Ronnie will post. Meet-up event at Mediterraneo Jan 16, has been cancelled.

Special Events Aija January Brunch at Long Ridge Tavern is on. Cash at the door.

VI Unfinished Business Bylaw Amendment #C1 now reads, " All new members must complete an SUS Membership Orientation Class (MOC) to be eligible for participation in sailing activities." Peter moved, Teresa seconded. Amendment approved.

Bylaw Amendment proposal: #2 II "The course requirement will be waived if the member can prove they hold or once held a US Coast Guard Captain's license." Amendment change to be voted on at February meeting.

Open Membership Survey results – No discussion at this time

Draft 2020 Calendar Review – several comments about the large number of events and the need to reduce. Board to review and decide on any changes at Feb. meeting.

VII New Business Joe DeFranco – presented his vision for SUS as newly elected President. Summary of comments include: Sailing in the US has been on the decline for many years and SUS must take active measures to correct course keeping SUS viable in the future; Suggested actions – add charter sailing events (bareboat yachting); include charters regional such as Lake Champlain and others; barge canal chartering; motor boating as part of the club; adding a paddle craft component - based on huge numbers of members in local kayak clubs this could be a significant resource for new member, possibly include these people in Meet-ups to promote boating synergies. More discussion on all topics is required .

Action!! Starting Point -John C will look at SUS membership to determine how many have paddle craft. Aija will investigate regional charters.

Annual Meeting is scheduled for March 5. Meeting Packet needs to be developed

Peter suggested reducing the number of Board members to seven.

Meeting adjourned at 9:53pm

Minutes submitted by Karen Ferris, Secretary
