

Attendees: Joe D, Peter L, Ida L, Chip M, John C, Janet S, Aija K, Camille P, Karen F

Call to order 7:05 pm

Timekeeper Karen

I Action Items

Corporate filing (J. DeFranco) CLOSED: Annual report will be filed when due in August.

Bank of America resolution (C. Munk) OPEN: Delayed due to COVID-19 restrictions

II Meeting Minutes Adjustments by Joe will be reflected in final Minutes.

Joe moved Ida, seconded March Minutes approved

III Treasurers Report Treasurer's report was approved. Karen moved, Aija seconded, budget approved.

IV Commodores Report Peter reports that Mike Smith has given back his Recognition Award money. The club appreciates the gesture. There are currently no schedule changes. Peter and Teresa had a conversation to discuss a misunderstanding related to presentations at the Annual Meeting.

Vice Commodore Janet reports that In preCOVID times we had a confirmation that SUS would be welcome for the Harlem Yacht Club July 4 barbecue. However, the status of their July 4 celebration and barbecue is still not decided because of COVID. Also, no active report on moorings and launch service yet.

V Member Communication Nothing reported

VI Directors Reports

- **Membership** John reports membership has been inactive due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Petra needs a password - Ida will provide it.
- **Newsletter** The April Newsletter went out. Ida will send an e-blast to the club asking to share their experiences during the pandemic and those stories will be published in the Masthead. Peter to remind Skippers of the April 10 deadline to submit information about their boats. Ida will put together a page displaying the boats & skippers.
- **Programs** Camille emailed all speakers of the program cancellations. Ken Brown was the only speaker not to respond.
- **Public Relations** No report
- **Special Events** Aija reports that events have been cancelled. Cedar Point YC has refunded the deposit and a check will be forthcoming. The Greenwich joint holiday party is on hold because of the virus and she is waiting to see how events unfold. There is concern that because SUS membership is small (total 59 members) how will that play out in terms of meeting minimums.

VII Unfinished Business Regarding the open VP position. Joe presented his understanding that according to SUS By-laws (Article III, Section 4), when only one member is on the slate, that member is to be elected for that board position. No final determination was made and further review is required.

VIII New Business Joe spoke about the evolution of the club and recruiting and retaining new members.

Joe proposed that the club be divided into two separate organizations, east and west. The clubs would operate with separate land activities including programs & meet-ups, separate boards and separate treasuries. The common thread being sailing. Membership would be open to either the NY or CT club regardless of residence.

Joe submitted the following comments to clarify his proposal.

“Observing the growing trend of land activities being scheduled this year along the shoreline from Stamford to the west, Joe proposed a Westchester-based club be created to provide land events in that area while the current club provide those in the Fairfield County area. The common connection would be sailing events which would follow one cruise itinerary and one sailaway schedule. Skippers and crew from both organizations would continue seamlessly contacting, mixing, and sailing with one another as we always have. Members could join either or both organizations regardless of their residence. To support the two different land activity calendars, there would be separate treasuries and two boards to administer them. Initially, the current treasury would be allocated proportionately between the two matching the percentage of current members selecting one club or the other (Joe felt that the majority would select to go with the NY organization). Joe believes this would help member satisfaction, retention, and recruiting in Connecticut as well as New York.”

A round table discussion was held to hear the opinions of each board member. There was near unanimous judgement by 7 of the 9 members present that this would not be a good direction for the club. The opinions expressed were based on the fact that the club is already small and splitting it into even smaller factions would not result in more membership; no economies of scale; recruiting volunteers for two separate clubs, boards, treasury and agendas is not realistic as it is difficult enough with one club to recruit volunteers; a division such as this would cause serious internal upheaval; friendships would be divided based on residence; negative impact on the cohesiveness of the club; no member, with one exception, was aware of any difficulty by any member of being together as one club, no matter residence. This discussion was tabled at this time.

Dues Compensation: Some type of dues compensation because of the pandemic was presented by Camille. Peter suggested a club activity when times are safe, that the club would pick up for members. Tabled

IX Good & Welfare Nothing to report

X Adjournment 9:15 pm. Chip moved, Camille seconded. Meeting adjourned.

Minutes submitted by Karen Ferris - Secretary