



Columbia River Yachting Association
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Minutes of General Meeting November 21st, 2023 Via ZOOM

Meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM by Pres. Alicia Robinson

Roll call was taken by Screen view by Doug Romjue. Present were: DYC, CRYC, MCRYC, NOTS, PYC, TYC, RCRYC, Nautical Safety Foundation, ABC, MCSO, Oregon Sea Grant.

Bridge officers present were Pres Alicia Robinson, Doug Romjue – Exec. VP, VP Ron Bergmann, Treasurer Doug Vandecoevering.

Previous Meeting Minutes: Motion to Approve by Ken Tennefoss, Second by Sean Kearns. Approved as submitted by Doug R.

Treasurer Report- Doug Vandecoevering - \$20,041.91 in savings \$13,475.70 in Checking. 22 paid guests for the annual dinner with one advertiser. Dean Sutherland asked about a large expense, and it was the insurance. Doug V. asked if we were working with the Christmas Ships Insurance contact, but Doug and Alicia had been talking with another agent for some better pricing. Ken Tennefoss asked if we had been tracking commitments of expenses. Doug V. felt that at this time there were none, but also that he was transferring over all the expenses to quick books to better handle the issue of great output of the data. Doug R. gave a quick overview of what Jaime (agent we talked about) and she had noted we were insured very well and we can probably change the way we look at things for a more cost-effective solution. Ken Williams asked when it comes due. It was paid in full back in June.

VP – Ron Bergmann –

Attending Guest: Sgt. Dangler, He mentioned that they have taken off the water 44 vessels from the Covid relief fund of \$1M, and have the post seizure notice for 23 more vessels and at least half of them are on the Multnomah Channel. This is phase 4. That will make a total of 67 boats removed and destroyed. At the high point, about 176 vessels were listed. It's still well over a hundred as they reappear almost as fast as they are removed. A turn in program with Metro yielded 81 boats that have been destroyed since March. 12 removed from the water, 12 from contractors picking them up, and there are still 25 pending applications. The hope is to remove at least 100 boats. Not all of these are the larger boats, and many were still on land. It was a not cost program to help make it work. The program was very successful and will most likely be a program to use going forward. It was for the owners, and not marina owners so there were a few restrictions. Sgt. Matt Adams was introduced at this point as one of the officers going forward with MCSO after Sgt. Dangler retires. Doug R. asked about the runabout boat below I-5 bridge, and Sgt. Dangler said it was still being worked on, but for an insurance case it has gone on way too long. Dean Sutherland asked about proactive work in marinas to avoid boats becoming derelict. Sgt. Dangler said that after the first of the year they do dock walks in marinas to make sure boats are registered and current. OSMB gets their funding from registrations, so it is important that every vessel is registered. 30 to 35% of MCSO river patrol funding is from OSMB so it is their best interest to keep up on it. Doug R. talked about the new Task Force for ADV's and asked what can be done to truly get junk off the water. No motor, no steering station and such can't just be considered junk. Sgt. Dangler mentioned a program in Florida that had a check list, Y-valve, registration, and a few other factors to be considered junk. Doug R. mentioned that the new ADV task force is working to create a special point of contact to identify and get the boats listed that need removal. Oregon's program will need to be

developed but with the help of other states that have created similar programs. Sgt. Dangler said that today, he works with DSL, OSMB, the Coast Guard and their own office. DSL going forward will be the ones running the new program as it has funding and resources Statewide to handle it. Funding came from a lawsuit. The new task force has great representation of all the needed players and is a positive step to create a true process for handling the issue of ADV's. Jolene Walsh who had a question said they were answered by the previous response to Doug R.'s question and gave a positive feedback on the work being done. Ken Williams asked the question about vessel ownership in all of this. He had been doing some work identifying vessels on the Mult. Channel and noticed many times the HIN numbers are gone, no registration on them and abandoned. When there is no way to identify an owner can they just be dumped as trash? Sgt. Dangler's view was similar. He mentioned that we don't need a process for something that is just trash. What they need is to quickly identify it as such and get it removed. Those types of boats should be easy to identify and get them removed. The trouble is MCSO doesn't have funding to remove them. They rely on the Coast Guard, OSMB and other programs to do the actual removal. Ken had a follow up question on if there could be a location where these vessels could be staged. Today there is not according to Sgt. Dangler, and if they take someone's boat into custody they often are told about all the missing items inside of a boat. Leaving them in place avoids that until the process is complete to legally remove the boats. It would be a better option if the process could protect those impounding the boats so that owners wishing to retrieve the boats would have to come to them and follow the rules to do so. Doug R said in the ADV task force meeting today that the Washington Department of Natural Resources (DNR) who handles the ADV program for them said when they identify a boat, a process starts and when completed they come back to him and say take the boat it's yours to do whatever you need to do. That's what Oregon needs to get setup. Currently Oregon's process is a 30 day process. It's a little different for each type of boat especially if someone is living on that boat. When they are living on it suddenly more agencies are involved in the problem. It's important to know it will take time to get it all working correctly. Alicia appreciated that he mentioned that it won't be overnight. It just needs to get started. She also knew from working with Washington State that it's a process and can get messy.

New Officers for 2024 – Doug Romjue noted that we have some new officers to help us going forward and we need to confirm them. Tony Bacon has committed to 4 years as a Standing Committee member, Bernie Bacon committed to be the VP for 2024, and Jason Resch has committed to be Secretary. At this point Doug R. asked about any concerns about this? Ken Teneffoss made a motion to move forward. Sean Kearns asked for some discussion about having two people from the same household on the board if that might cause some kind of ability to control the board. Doug R. said that our bylaws were modified during the times of Covid and even some before of getting volunteers to fill the roles. For sure the Sect./Treas was identified as able to be one person. It was noted a number of NOTS members on the board, but many NOTS members also belong to other clubs as well. Bernie Bacon then jumped in to say that she and Doug V. were working to get our Articles of Incorporation from the State. That document will tell us what we can and can't do with our bylaws in working as a not for profit corporation. She also said some research should be done before we vote in something opposed to our bylaws. Jolene Walsh talked about her history of 24 years with the group. It used to be that officers had to be from different clubs. She is technically now on a special committee and not a standing committee member. She noted that it had become increasingly difficult to get volunteers. Doug R. said that the current bylaws have a 5 year clause for some ability to have more than one club represented and his thoughts are to have positions filled, but with due diligence. Sean K. said that he agreed and that if we need to change the bylaws then so be it. He said that having NOTS well represented was a positive for him being a NOTS member. Ken T. brought up the existing bylaws and it dropped the single member per club and also noted that there have been many husband/wife teams, and the question is are we concerned about the issue at hand. He noted that he felt the original intent was to keep the larger clubs from dominating and that's not what we are talking about here. Ken T. felt we should move forward and Sean K. agreed. Tony Bacon stated that for him, it's all about boating. He struggled to think how being concerned for good boating for all would be an issue. It was agreed after some banter that we should move forward with the boat. Ken T. said we had a motion on the floor, which Doug R. said we should move forward with the vote and that we can address any issues going forward. Dean Sutherland seconded the motion to move forward. It was unanimously agreed upon to move forward.

Standing Committee Reports –

Bev Hamlik – She says all the invitations have been sent to current commodores as well as delegates. The sponsor list was also divided up so that we can hopefully get more sponsors as well as attendees for the dinner. Others being signed up were the

daughters, and we also want to get notice to the Sheriff and some patrol officers as well such as Sgt. Dangler. Bev also contacted everyone involved in Opening Day and get them some of our gift glasses. Doug V. tried to confirm guests that he might need to pay for. The Daughters were signing up out of some funds they had gotten for raffles during the year. It was discussed that we should get them a gift that isn't a drink glass. A water bottle fanny pack idea was suggested as Alicia mentioned they all had water bottles everywhere they went. Jolene also mentioned the law enforcement was also asked to come and be comped for the meal. Sgt. Dangler gave Sheriff Nicole Morrisey's email, but we would also like Steve (Dangler) to join us. He said he was open, and we'll see if Matt Adams can join us as well.

Ken Williams – Nothing at this time.

Kirk Lance – N/A

Exec. VP – Doug Romjue– He talked about most of the ADV things already being covered in conversations with Steve Dangler. But that he was pleased with the progress so far. Sponsors for 2024. Got a new one today from Dish TV that allowed service to be turned on and off which for boaters is a big deal. He's on the website now. The Rain Tax is another issue he's been working with and talked about listening session's on Tuesday and Thursday setup by Commissioner Mapps. He joined the session as a CRYA representative mainly for boathouses. His input was all boathouses owners have land based homes and already pay taxes on this. He mentioned one guy mentioned his house was registered to the OSMB, so when are you going to start taxing my boat because the rain runs off of it as well. A great point. WOOO had a solid coverage of the floating homes. He also mentioned that the moderator had no clue that this had been implemented before and rescinded due to the lack of proof they were doing anything. Sean Kearns noted that people protesting in the past has helped to defeat things like this. Doug said he was right, and that this tax or fee had no deliverable. Sean had some input as to the downtown Portland area is struggling from all the antics, and that the Vancouver waterfront is doing great because of that. Ken T. asked if we had seen the Willamette week article. I hadn't, but he said the article was great and brought the general public opinion into the issue as well. It's just so stupid that everyone see's the irony in the whole thing. Ken Williams asked about legal representation for this effort and a fund setup? The answer is yes and no, in the sense that the account has been set up but hoping to wait until for sure they need it. But, Rick Buck from Sundance Yachts had already hired a person to drive the PR for the issue. Jolene found a link on the WOOO website to donate. Dean Sutherland mentioned that CRYC has already donated 10K to help stop the issue.

Public Relations – Jolene Coats – She said that the cruise schedule looks complete. She would like to get a head start on opening day events to try and get more people back into the parade and the celebration. She suggested Newspaper, TV and other sources to promote the parade. Covid hurt participation. She has an old press release she can send us. Doug has some contacts and had done this before with Channel 12. Sadly Rose Festival has kind of snubbed us over the years as part of their event. Bev Hamlik said the area to view it from is not all that great. 42nd street ramp is OK, but not the same idea. Ken T. though all the boats should show up at Riverplace. Tony Bacon said how about the Vancouver Waterfront? Bev said we would be in the shipping channel, and it was asked what Christmas Ships does. Bernie mentioned that the judges could be up on the Grant Street pier for viewing. It was asked about restaurant support from that area for Christmas Ships. And the answer was yes for many years they've supported them. Sean said it was a great opportunity to engage a new partner. Lots of suggestions and ideas were provided as to where the judges could be, as well as working with the City to help promote the event. Sean mentioned the upcoming Christmas Ships escort of Santa on a Tug. It was decided to create a special committee to drive for Vancouver Waterfront 2025 for opening day. Sean K offered his support for this as did Tony Bacon. Mike K wondered if an event was already happening on the waterfront in May. Given so much lead time we can find a possible event to work with Vancouver for it. Ken W. suggested a new event for them. Bernie believed that would be an easy sell to the City event workers. Sean said it would mean more to him to participate in opening day if was more community oriented he would be more likely to participate. Ken T. again said making it a more public event would be truly great. The 2024 theme is "What Glows Under Pressure". Bev also said the CG permit asks about being in the shipping channel. Doug R. said after 30 years of Christmas Ships if you're not anchored you can get out of the way as we see commercial boats coming. Notice to mariners could also help get the word out. Lots of great ideas. Making sure clubs understand our reasons, and potential outcomes of moving this parade area is key. Get more public interest in clubs and boats in general. Jolene suggested that we all bring early feedback to the January meeting that we gather our thoughts as we talk with club members about the possible change to location. Nobody in the meeting felt it would be an issue and that change would be welcome.

Americas Boating Club – Mike Kondrat mentioned that there would be some upcoming classes and that he would get us that information soon as the schedule is not set yet. Marine Navigation, basically chart reading then followed up with a weather course.

Nautical safety Foundation – Mike Kondrat – Just placed an order for about 1500 life jackets for 2024. Some group needs were low but new organizations have asked for help. Used jackets, typically the 3 buckle vest type are preferred. Some loaners for a Christmas Ships Meet and Greet would be useful mentioned Alicia. Mike has some but is leaving soon for Germany.

Unfinished Business –

New Business – Looking for 2024 Daughters of Neptune. Many events planned for 2024 so a good

Good of the Order- Sean K and Doug V will be taking a cruise in mid January in the lower Columbia Sloughs for a few days. If you have interest in joining them get ahold of them. Ken W also said he would like to join them.

R/S

Doug Romjue