



Columbia River Yachting Association
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Minutes of General Meeting October 17th, 2023 Via ZOOM

Meeting was called to order at 7:02 PM by Pres. Alicia Robinson

Roll call was taken by Alicia Robinson Present were: DYC, CRYC, MCRYC, NOTS, TNW, PYC, TYC, Nautical Safety Foundation, ABC, MCSO, CCSO

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 Doug Vandecoevering. Approved as submitted by Doug R.

Treasurer Report- Doug V. Current Balance is Savings \$20,041.91 Checking \$13,457.70 for a total of \$33,499.61 with \$1.27 interest. He also mentioned that he has the link set and ready for the Annual Appreciation Dinner.

VP – Ron Bergmann – Not Available at start of meeting.

Attending Guest: Lt. Shaun McQuiddy – Columbia County Sheriff Office River Patrol – Alicia introduced Shaun and told of their meeting a few months ago on the docks. He apologized for missing the meeting last month, but we are glad to have him with us. Shaun gave us an overview of the problems they are facing with abandoned boats with many showing up literally overnight. He said currently he has about 25 abandoned boats in his area. He has been with the patrol since about 2017, and noted that when he was in the marine program before he just didn't see the high number of abandoned boats each year. He had 4 in one overnight event a few weekends ago all at the end of the Multnomah Channel. He mentioned how much different getting a boat towed versus a car on the road. The process is long and time consuming. Why can't it be simpler if everyone knows that an abandoned boat is a piece of junk? 60 to 90 days in some cases. That and when a boat sits out there long enough vandals will make it even worse when trying to remove boats. He mentioned that the goal of river patrol was presence and safety, not abandoned vessels. But they were instructed to do just that. Clear direction is his need for all this.

Doug Romjue noted that the new ADV task force is meant to help solve many of these issues for the State. It has \$18 Million to work on these issues. He mentioned that the Tiffany was removed as part of this new fund already. He mentioned that MCSO has the exact same issues as him with tagging and trying to get rid of vessels. No place to take them after tagging them. Shaun thought that the Tiffany was still there, but it has been removed. He said he would send Shaun information on the group.

Ken Williams mentioned that when he was investigating vessels on the channel, many had no numbers, no VIN numbers or way of figuring out who owns the vessel. In his opinion these should be treated as trash which would speed up the process. Shaun agreed 100% and also mentioned that an adjuster/appraiser could come out on a car and say it's worth nothing. This language exists for Motor vehicles, why not for boats? It would bypass the lengthy process in place today. Ken's follow up question/statement was why can't we move these still floating vessels at least be taken to a place where if they sink they are in a confined area and shallow water for ease of removal when possible. Shaun has been trying to take boats to Scappoose Bay at this

time, and he feels he knows where they came from, but he couldn't elaborate. The Port isn't happy with River Patrol on these issues but his hands are tied without more help. Doug R. again reiterated that he had sent the information to Shaun and they should get someone attending those meetings.

MCSO was asked if they had any inputs from their standpoint, and Kevin McAfee said he felt like things have been updated pretty well in the conversations we just completed.

Ken Tennefoss noted that we should try to get more preventative measures in place rather than reaction after the fact. Going to marinas and making sure every boat is licensed, insured and noted so that we don't have this "who owns the boat" issues. Alicia mentioned dock walks a few years ago and it appears both Multnomah and Columbia Counties do them. Shaun made the comment that all Marinas need to mandate that. He noted a case where he did a dock walk and one marina had 46 boats out of compliance, and they really didn't care. They need to be mandated to care. Ken W. noted maybe the submerged land lease provided by DSL may also need to contain that language. Doug R. also mentioned that a turn in program is also on the table like Portland Metro had this summer. Get them before they are dumped. Alicia mentioned that in Washington State they will absolutely revoke your lease.

Doug R. thanked both MCSO and CCSO and told of a recent encounter with Clackamas County River Patrol where the talk with the officer was less than social. Basically saying that no dock should have been ever built at Foothills Park in Lake Oswego. Sadly that dock and his salary are covered by the OSMB, and there must be over a few hundred private docks on that part of the river. Boaters need to be more aware of their wake!

Standing Committee Reports –

Bev Hamlik – The revised annual recognition dinner is now open for reservation. She mentioned this years location will be the old Spaghetti factory downtown on Dec. 12th. This year we have a plan to try and have our delegates help us with a fundraising effort for sponsors. We will offer the sponsors a chance to talk at our dinner and cover the cost of their meal as well. If each delegate was able to get 2 or 3 sponsors we could make close to \$7500 which would come very close to putting us back into the black each year on budget. Doug R. and Bev are working on a script for this as well. Ken Tennefoss had questions as to how this was going to be paid as in how much of a check will CRYA need to write the night of the dinner? It was noted that we had previously thought that this might encourage them to donate but that only after donation would the dinner and offer to speak be offered. In the end it nets about \$222 for CRYA if they attend and we pay for their meal. This does cut into the profits for sure and we knew that but wanted to push the awareness and reach of CRYA. Bernie Bacon said we should be sure to get donation before paying for the meal. Doug V. also made sure of the wording because we had talked about inviting them first, but we have changed that tune. Tony Bacon said if it is a recognition dinner then they need to do something first.

Bev also talked about the need to look for new sponsors since so many businesses are approached by almost every club for advertising. We need to stress Sponsorship for the work we do, and the exposure that we give via our website and newsletter. Alicia said the daughters did a fundraiser at the Halloween Cruise, and we could pay for their dinners out of that if we approve. It as agreed that was a good use of the money. Bev asked what the budget goal was, and Doug R. said that he felt about \$10K a year was the number. About \$2500 from dues, and \$7500 from advertising would be a great start. Doug V. agreed that Doug R was pretty close on his \$10K number.

Ken Williams – Ken said that he had made it down to Martin Slough and stained the docks after Doug R. had stopped and pressure washed the docks earlier in the week. He and his wife put 10 gallons of stain on the docks as well as reattached a few loose boards. He will get the stain cost to Doug V, which was already approved a few months ago. He said they look great and it will protect them over the winter.

Kirk Lance – N/A

Exec. VP – Doug Romjue - Starting out with the ADV task force, he felt that we had covered a lot of the work in the talks with the River Patrol group earlier. The next meeting is coming up in one week, and he had noted to bring up holding marina's responsible for their tenants, as well as streamlining the process of removal of obvious junk/trash boats. He will be the backup for Stan Tonneson for two more meetings so has a member role at these times.

He then talked about the new “Pumpout Nav” app that Connie Sullivan from The Oregon Pumpout Extension service had shared with us last month. He added links to the Newsletter for downloading the app for either iOS or Android devices. Some had mentioned they downloaded it and liked it. She was on the call and pleased. Doug then also mentioned the new Newsletter that Connie developed called the Excrement Gazette which was also linked in the most recent newsletter by CRYA. She was again pleased and received good comments about the publication from the group. Sean Kearns asked about the name of the app, and it is “Pumpout Nav”.

Doug said that even though we talked about sponsorships for the dinner, it doesn't have to stop with the dinner. Alicia asked if have had any restaurants on the list. Right now no. She felt they would be good choices to hit up. Puffin and Island Café come to mind.

WOOO – Doug is a director of the group, and noted that going forward each year they will allow CRYA Presidents to be honorary members each year going forward. Because WOOO and CRYA are very complementary groups it helps to have two forces driving on legislation coming from more than one group. He was pleased by the offer. This led to the discussion about the Rain Tax. Multnomah County is trying to come up with a Tax/Fee for overwater structures to pay a Rainwater Services tax. Even when all of these overwater structures directly drop all the rainwater directly back into the river. He mentioned that larger clubs are involved now, and pay tax on the parking lots even though they too drop that water directly back into the river. There are links in the newsletter to WOOO communications with sample letters to send to city council to express your feelings. The city had planned to take it up at a council meeting on the 18th, but has chosen not to put it on the agenda after in person meetings with Mingus Mapps appears to have cooled the process. Dean Sutherland asked if this was that BES meeting and Doug said yes. Dean was pleased it got enough attention to put a pause on it.

Public Relations – Jolene Coats – NA

Americas Boating Club – Steve Gatton mentioned some upcoming classes and thanked us for helping with getting the word out. He will get us the information to get out and listed. He said they are working on things for early in 2024 right now along with trying to be ready for VSC's early in the year to get that started. He also thanked us for talking about Marine Flare disposal as that is a topic near to him. Also pleased to get their cruises into the schedule.

Nautical safety Foundation – Mike Kondrat – He said forecasts are around 1500 for 2024. He noted that their have been no drownings in the area of current Kiosks. He mentioned that there are 3 or 4 new organizations needing vests, one of which is the Boy Scouts for summer camps. Doug R. asked if they already had budget money for the order? Mike said previous fundraising years monies are used to jumpstart the program each year. Ken Williams asked about the St. Helens Kiosk didn't have any youth loaners available and who maintains it. Sean Kearns mentioned boater Dean Sutherland had some to use for the need. Jolene Walsh handles that Kiosk. Mike mentioned her forecast wasn't for much for next year. Sean Kearns noted it is possible that responsible parents may have taken one to use on the ferry boat to the island. Maybe some will be returned. Mike also talked about the discount they get from US Distributing gets upset when NSF donates vests to any business. Marinas and the like are businesses and should provide their own safety devices. Especially the shuttle to the island. Mike also mentioned there is a “pirate” kiosk at Hadley's Landing where a few of them put in a Kiosk and keep it supplied. Dean Sutherland asked the question about infant vests and how to fit them. Yes they supply infant and child vests, but not any fitting instructions. Alicia asked about donating used vests, Mike said to contact him and they will work it out.

Unfinished Business – Martin Slough – Project Completed.

New Business – Looking for 2024 Daughters of Neptune. Alicia said the program is moving along, but Imwa needed to step back from the leadership but will help Alicia until she finds a replacement. Looking for someone to help. The daughters did a 50/50 raffle at the Halloween Cruise and were awarded the full pot from the winner. Ken Tennefoss asked if they had a schedule for 2024 and Alicia said they have a good start on program. Ken said it helps when promoting the program.

Good of the Order- Doug R. said that he would be sending out notice of elections for 2024 officers at the November meeting. It is a verbal notification and mail would be coming as well. It would be for Vice President – Bernie Bacon, Standing Committee – Tony Bacon, and one other for Secretary.

Ken Tennefoss made a motion to adjourn, it was seconded by Sean Kearns. Meeting adjourned at 8:37pm by Alicia.

R/S

Doug Romjue