

STEERING COMMITTEE MINUTES – NOVEMBER 6, 2019

Sue Hughes's House
Sue Hughes, Note Taker

PRESENT:

George Ottenhoff, President
Clark Strickland, Past President
Dave Hustvedt, Treasurer
Jud Hurd, Paddle Coordinator
Tim Fletcher, Onshore Coordinator
Brian Hunter, Instruction and Safety Coordinator
Jim Dlouhy, Incoming Instruction and Safety Coordinator
Marsha Dougherty, Membership
Andy McKenna, Webmaster
Sue Hughes, Publications Editor

1. The Year-to-Date **Treasurer's Report** from Dave Hustvedt was discussed, amended and accepted.
 - a. It showed that the combined total of our RMSKC monies and the Memorial Safety and Instruction Fund is \$7079, which is \$377 less than 2019's starting figure.
 - b. A motion passed to pay the cost of the lunch food for the First Aid Class taught in March from the club's monies instead of the Memorial Safety and Instruction Fund.
 - c. Survey Monkey's fees, for the survey about members' interests, have been donated to the club by Andy McKenna.
 - d. ACA fees are due the end of November; the paperwork was signed by **President George Ottenhoff** and given to Dave to submit.
2. **Elections** were discussed; as usual there were no nominations and the slate of incoming and returning SC members will be "elected" by voice approval at the Winter Party. Changes and additions to the SC were:
 - a. Jim Dlouhy will become the new Safety and Instruction Coordinator; Brian will assist him.
 - b. Clark will provide unofficial consulting help to the Membership Coordinator. He offered to follow up with people who became members of ACA and listed RMSKC as their Paddle America Club but who didn't actually join RMSKC.
 - c. A standing invitation to SC meetings was extended to Clark, in whatever capacity he selected to serve the club.

3. **Membership and Membership Renewal Procedures** were discussed:
 - a. Marsha suggested that we open enrollment for 2020 membership now, so that anyone joining in the next month or so would be paid through March, 2021. This suggestion was approved.
 - b. She will work on reducing the membership form to one page.
 - c. Andy will explore the possibility of having it be a .pdf which can be filled out online.
 - d. It was affirmed that the RMSKC Bylaws do require RMSKC members to have an up-to-date ACA membership; just being in a family membership with a club member with ACA membership is not enough. **George will write the person in question a note about this.**
 - e. The issue of sending the all-club emails via the Google Group to non-members was discussed. It was decided that having nonmembers on the Google Group email list was not a problem.
4. **Onshore events** were planned, and questions about their design were considered:
 - a. The Winter Party will be January 18 (or the 25th in case of snow) at Atonement Lutheran Church. Having people talk, briefly, about 2019's longer trips, with photos, was discussed. **No decision about who would organize the speakers or how the photos would be shown to the whole room was made.**
 - b. People wondered if we'd have greater participation if we offered door prizes; this idea didn't get much traction, but Clark said that he would bring some of his sturdy new red tail flags. **Someone (who?) will bring the orange boat stickers and the RMSKC decals. Dave Hustvedt will order more business cards and bring them.**
 - c. PaddleFest was scheduled for July 11, at Chatfield with the exact location to be announced. The low attendance at PaddleFest 2019 was troubling. It was decided that the event should have a longer paddle, possibly starting earlier, and then perhaps some more formal games or a casual competition.
5. **2019 Paddles:** Jud handed out a wonderful summary of the levels of participation in 2019's events, and a listing of members who had participated. It was noted that there had been wider participation than we've had in the past: 52 club members were involved in at least one event.
6. **Additions to the calendar**, mostly for the 2020 Season:
 - a. Andy will lead a Black Friday paddle at Cherry Creek on November.
 - b. Other suggestions for 2020
 1. Return to Marsha's cabin in New Mexico
 2. Seminole or Pathfinder Reservoirs in Wyoming, led by Dave
 3. Lake McConaughy, first Saturday in November
 4. Maine in August, with Matt Lutkus
 5. Lake Powell Houseboat, 3rd week in September, maybe with HASK
 6. Aransas, Texas for birding in February

7. Safety and Instruction:

- a. Could Helen Wilson, who taught “Stupid Kayak Tricks” at Lumpy Waters come to PaddleFest? **Jim Dlouhy, our new Safety and Instruction Coordinator, will see if this is something Helen would do, and how much she would charge.**
- b. Jim Dlouhy talked about plans to offer more formal instruction, starting with pool sessions:
 1. A formal Safety and Skills Assessment, presented as a benefit not mandatory, but it would be useful as a measure of members' abilities before including them in more technical trips.
 2. Perhaps new members need to be assigned buddies to help them feel comfortable coming to the pool? **Who will organize this?**
 3. Jim also hopes that there will a cadre of members who become trained to assess members for the Basic Safety and Skills Assessment.
 4. The need for a rudimentary syllabus or description of the course to advertise it to prospective students was mentioned.
- c. The point was made that many of our better paddlers need wind and waves practice, the scheduling of which is dependent on the weather.
- d. Sue mentioned that many of us also need instruction in interpreting tide and current information. [See attached list.]

8. Minutes of SC Meetings:

- a. It was decided that they did not need to be posted on the web.
- b. Where the minutes are archived was discussed. There may be a complete collection of paper copies in the President's Box. It was noted that summaries of the minutes from all meetings have been published in *The NEWS* since the Winter, 2012, edition. [Treasurer's Reports have been published annually since before that.]

9. Website Review

- a. Several people turned in their reviews to Andy.
- b. One question was the wording that said that getting accepted on a trip did not imply that the participant was necessarily qualified for anything that might happen on the trip. **(This statement was in the old “Trip Leader Checklist”. It does not appear in the revised *Trip Leader Guidelines*, but it could be added easily if we think it's necessary.)**
- c. It was pointed out that several of the club documents have been revised but the most recent versions are not every place they are referred to on the website:
 1. “Trip Leader Checklist” was completely rewritten in 2018, and its title changed to *Trip Leader Guidelines*. It can be identified by the date “March, 2018” in the footer.

2. *Participant Guidelines* were also rewritten. The latest version of these has February, 2018 in the footer. **[Both of these documents are attached.]**

10. SC Meeting Times:

- a. It was agreed that times during the day worked better for people coming through the Denver traffic. It was decided that Friday mornings were a time that worked for most of us.