

# International Model Power Boat Association

## General Board Special Meeting Minutes Thursday, February 24, 2015

- Phone Conference •

### **Present:**

President, Chris Rupley	District 12, Don Ferrette
Vice/ Past President, Kevin Sheren	District 13, Doug Smock
Secretary, Lynne Rupley	District 14, Mike Schindler
District 1, Luc White	National Nitro Director, Don Ferrette
District 2, Tom Kelly	National Gas Director, Chris Rupley
District 4, Alan Archer	National Record Director, Doug Smock
District 5, Paul Traufler	Past President, Bill Zuber

### **Absent:**

Treasurer, Brian Schymik	National Scale Director, Joe Wiebelhaus
District 3, John Otto	Technical Review Mono, John Finch
District 6, Larry Conrad –voted by proxy	Technical Review Hydro, VACANT
District 7, Jim Nissen	National Safety Director, VACANT
National Fast Electric Director, Chris Harris	National Technical Chair, VACANT
National Outboard Director, Bob Kensill	

### **CALL TO ORDER:**

President Chris Rupley called the Special General Board Meeting to order at 8 p.m. ET / 7 p.m. CT. The Secretary took roll call. The president suspended the regular order of business. The item on the agenda is the website.

### **WEBSITE:**

President, Chris discussed the IMPBA website. Marc Levac our current webmaster will no longer be able to continue handling of the site or hosting. The website recently shut down due to a security issue, and required a \$200 repair. Marc would like us to move this forward as soon as possible.

Lynne called several companies for quotes and to have them review our current site. Our current website is built on Joomla 2.5 version software which is no longer going to be supported. Upgrading of that software to 3.3 and upgrade to a compatible membership module would be approximately \$4,000 dollars. This would continue to need to be done approximately every 4 years and also requires a webmaster who is familiar with the Joomla software. Security updates would also be our responsibility. This would not include hosting costs. We have found no one internally that wants to take this over. We have asked for quotes or ideas from members who are web designers and have not received responses.

We looked into sites that offer membership management software and for the number of members we have the costs average \$350 per month and up. This would not include a website.

One option being explored is to set up an e-commerce site. We looked at several different vendors, and several build-it-yourself type services. There were some limitations on the free build-it-yourself sites that would not allow us to fully utilize a website for what we do, and important was the lack of support. We have contacted GoDaddy and they could setup a basic 5 page website and e-commerce pages for an initial fee of approx. \$1,600.00. (They are discounting the regular price of \$1,900 and we may be able to negotiate an even better package price as a non-profit.) This includes the design, set-up, domain transfer, hosting, and a 1-year support package of 30 minutes per month. Additional support is available for a fee. Unlimited pages can be added after the initial design. Year two price would be a 40% discount and run around \$600 per year, and we can maintain the site. Support is available for purchase and tech support by phone is free. (Our current hosting is \$300 per year.)

Kevin Sheren joined the meeting at this time.

A form page would be utilized for our online membership. A data sheet would be sent to the secretary (similar to current online form). Memberships would be purchased through a shopping cart. There would be no log in to access the site. Currently the log in was utilized for voting. We will come up with a solution for voting. Several free ones are out there to use, or we could use an additional form page on the website.

Questions about the domain name and links were addressed. Everything would stay the same [www.impba.net](http://www.impba.net). Board members also discussed that while it is an expense for the organization, they felt having a website was crucial to functioning.

Chris mentioned that there will not be a calendar like the one we currently have, nor a forum. These items can be added later if the board feels we should have. Most board communication takes place via email at present. He stated that this solution would give some stability to the organization since the support is there for now and in the future. Lynne mentioned that she has called at all hours –even 1 am on a Sunday night and has gotten someone to talk to right away. She also noted that the compatibility for user devices like tablets and iPhones would be there and that is important going forward. She talks to more and more members who do not have a laptop or desktop type setup, or a printer any longer.

Tom Kelly joined the meeting at this time.

Financial aspects were discussed. We are doing well and stable compared to last fiscal year. Profit margin should be over previous years. Even with the \$2,300 increase in insurance. Costs are being kept down. We could always explore eliminating early renewal in future or a minor increase if we felt margin was too close. Shouldn't be necessary for several years.

It was noted that members will have to fill out an application EVERY time. This will be a change, but it will keep records updated as many members never updated the stored data on their profiles which caused much confusion. It will help with the mobile devices issue as it is mobile compatible automatically.

The site we build should focus on the main needs: Renewal, Rule Book, Roostertail storage, Forms needed by clubs and members.

All District directors should copy and paste any forum postings because they will not migrate. Lynne will copy all other data and information.

Luc discussed how a free forum (like [proboards.net](http://proboards.net)) could be utilized and linked from our website. It *would* be password protected and moderators could be set up. There are file size limitations. This would be possible in future if board wishes to expand.

We will have the ability to proof any designs before going live. Current site would remain in operation until the day we redirect the URL to the new site.

**MOTION** by D5 Paul Trauffer to proceed with the GoDaddy site proposal and move forward with designing a new site to launch as soon as possible. **SECOND** by D1 Luc White. **Motion carried without dissent.**

Lynne will contact board when we are ready to proof, and she will try to negotiate an even better rate with them. Hoping for late March early April.

Meeting adjourned 8:57 PM. ET.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynne Rupley,  
Secretary