



2014- 2015 US Sailing Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
January 25, 2015
Miami, FL

In attendance: Board: Josh Adams, Steve Benjamin, Vice President Bruce Burton, JJ Fetter, Executive Director Jack Gierhart, George Hinman, President Tom Hubbell, Secretary Patty Lawrence, Sheila McCurdy, Maureen McKinnon, Ben Richardson, Cory Sertl, and Treasurer Taran Teague and Dave Ullman.

Via WebEx: Chuck Hawley and Jim Walsh

Guests via WebEx included: Carol Cronin, Steve Freitas, Brian Geraghty, David Jones, Bill Lee, Zack Leonard and Dan Nowlan

1. The meeting was called to order at 8:08 am EST and a roll call established a quorum.
2. In the announcements, President Tom Hubbell thanked the Board for coming to Miami and its support of World Cup Miami.
3. The consent calendar, consisting of December meeting minutes and the updated Committee Chair and Member List, was moved, seconded and approved.
4. President Tom Hubbell reported that he is delighted with progress on NSPS including the ISAF Training. NSPS enjoyed record attendance this year in New Orleans.
5. Executive Director Jack Gierhart submitted a written report which included the staff's end of year report. He thanked them for dedication and hard work and highlighted the following:
 - Meeting member of PHRF fleets remains a priority.
 - Fundraising had a strong year as the First Sail campaign resonated with sailors. While the budgeted is not yet audited, he expects a budget surplus in the neighborhood for 150K.
 - Membership growth in 2014 was 1.4% and the MVP did not deliver expected results.
 - Expect variations on financial reporting as some membership dollars are reallocation to development.
 - The Keelboat Program saw a 30% member retention rate which is a big increase that is due to improved targeted communication and new benefits.
 - The Race Administration Division continues make progress, but could use Board guidance as there are many agendas.
 - Creating stronger relationships with local sailing organizations remains a work in progress. The Regional Sailing Representative funding is not available.
 - The 2015 membership goal is 3% and that has been communicated to the staff. The plan has 3-4 components that are spread throughout organization.
 - 11th Hour Racing has supported the REACH program with a 100K grant.
 - Grow Sailing Initiative is shaping up well with 65 sailing leaders attending. Brain Dorval will moderate. The goal is emerge with a consensus and a steering committee and to be able to announce plans at Leadership Forum.
 - First Sail grant criteria are being hammered out by Stu Gilfillen and Georgia McDonald.
 - NSHOF relationship is going well.
 - Office relocation is dependent on Roger Williams University and the State of Rhode Island reaching an agreement on the sale of the building.



5. In her Treasurer's Report, Taran Teague stated that the unaudited financial draft looks good. The office continues to work on 2013 audit suggestions. Diana Kareta will distribute the financials to the Board before the next meeting.

Stu Neff retired from Windhaven.

6. Josh Adams presented the Olympic budget in his report. One of the OSC goals is to raise one million dollars each year via the Medalist Program. After a discussion, a motion was made and seconded to approve the budget as presented. The motion carried.

The US Olympic Sailing Program, working in partnership with AmericaOne Foundation, announced Project Pipeline 2024 which is a 10-year plan for establishing an advanced development system for young sailors. The plan will launch in 2015 with a starting budget of \$7.175 million including a \$5 million donation from AmericaOne. Paul Cayard made the announcement at the team dinner on January 24th.

7. Vice President Bruce Burton presented the Olympic Program Review by the Independent Committee. The committee, comprised of sailors knowledgeable of the Olympics and other sailing leaders, has completed one part of the review which included interviewing people connected with program. The committee will continue its work and report again at the Board's May meeting. Due to the sensitive nature including personnel matters, this part of the meeting was in executive session. Bruce thanked Josh Adams and Ben Richardson for their support and cooperation. This project is being done in the spirit of podium places with all parties working together.
8. Jack Gierhart kicked off the discussion about the Offshore Project. The department continues to develop its business plan. Due to sensitive nature including agreements and personnel matters, further development of the business plan, and agreements with rule-related organizations, this part of the meeting was conducted in executive session. The work will continue with a target date for finalizing the Offshore Renewal Plan execution on May 15.
9. Old Business
 - The Board will have discussion about the Management Division at a future meeting.
 - The Sports Medicine Committee would like their report on helmets to be released as a recommendation and be included on the website.
 - A final version of Regulation 10 Championships and Other US Sailing Events policy, for drugs & alcohol is expected soon.
 - The board would like to see a draft document stating the procedures for dealing with errant certified instructors. This should be aligned across departments.
12. The meeting was adjourned 11:40.