



Minutes

September Board Call

📅 Mon September 21st, 2020

🕒 7:30pm - 9:30pm EDT

📍 Zoom Conference Call

👤 In Attendance

Charlie Arms, Henry Brauer, Bruce Burton, Clerc Cooper, Jack Gierhart, Rich Jepsen, Russ Lucas, Dave Perry, Katie Pettibone, Briana Provancha, Tony Rey, Bill Ruh, John Schoendorf, Cory Sertl, Martine Zurinskas

I. **Call to Order and Roll Call**

Guest: 28 including staff

II. **Announcements - President's Report**

President's report stands as submitted. Cory Sertl shared an overview and a review of actions this Board together with staff leadership have taken over the last 18 months. She explained she was inspired by her attendance at the 2019 USOPC Congress where the USOPC Leadership shared their updated mission and focus on "Journey Towards Excellence." Our involvement in the Olympic movement inspires excellence and we are striving to be a leading National Governing Body. We are raising the bar for ourselves; modernizing and streamlining the governance structure to support competitive services and education that are fundamental to delivering the sport of sailboat racing to the US together with enabling future Olympic/sport performance leadership to be successful.

III. **World Sailing Update**

Gary Jobson gave an overview of the World Sailing election that will occur during the General Assembly. He discussed the strategy the US delegations undertook when assessing candidates. He briefly shared his thoughts on the various candidates and is excited to support Cory as she runs as a candidate for VP. The delegation will be meeting the next 2 weeks to review submissions and agenda items. World Sailing Annual Meeting will happen virtually - October 15- November 1st. Schedule (<https://www.sailing.org/meetings/2020-conference.php>)

IV. **Consent Calendar**

Decision: Motion to approve consent calendar unanimously approved.

a. **Meeting Minutes from August 31st**

V. **CEO and Association Report**

The Association Report stands as submitted. The full report can be found, here (<https://cdn.ussailing.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/2020-September-Association-Report-Summary.pdf>).

Additionally, Jack shared an overview of the implementation planning that the small teams are undertaking for the Strategic Reset. He discussed the continued refinement of our focus and are evaluating and analyze our programs and processes. This will drive the budget planning process in the Fall. A key area of focus continues to in Membership sales and member benefits that can be offered and improving overall communications. He expressed his thanks to our extremely supportive members. Compared to other NGBs, who are seeing a decline in membership numbers by 20-30%, our membership numbers are only down 10%. We are working on an acquisition campaign focused on expanding our base through influencers in our sport. Year End Appeal has been launched look for focused emails.

VI. **CFO Report**

Financial report - Dashboard included in the Association report. CFO Heather Monoson reviewed the monthly financials, the variances, and shared the Budget timeline. She remarked the PPP Loan is still on the balance sheet but is confident that we will receive full forgiveness in order for it to transition to a grant. Cory asked about the confidence regarding our projections for the remaining 4 months of the year. Heather shared she felt confident with the modeling as our publications and program revenue have been better than expected and our spending remains inline.

a. **Treasurers Report - John Schoendorf**

John Schoendorf shared positive feedback regarding a donor presentation and the strides being made in the reduction of payables and accruals which are indicative of good cash management.

VII. **Secretary Report**

a. **Draft Agenda of the November 6-7 Meeting**

Martine Zurinskas share the draft agenda of November Board Meetings which will include the virtual Annual Meeting and an open session for stakeholder participation on Nov 7th.

b. **Updated US Sailing Org Chart**

An updated US Sailing organizational chart was shared with Board members prior to the call. This will continue to be improved upon to ensure alignment with strategic and budget priorities.

c. **Herreshoff Trophy Nominations due October**

<https://www.ussailing.org/competition/awards-trophies/nathanael-g-herreshoff-trophy/>
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The Nathanael G. Herreshoff Trophy is US Sailing's most prestigious award. It is awarded annually to an individual who has made an outstanding contribution to the sport of sailing in this country in any associated activity.

The Board is seeking nominations for the Nathanael G. Herreshoff Trophy. This is US Sailing's most prestigious award and is awarded annually to an individual who has made an outstanding contribution to the sport of sailing in this country in any associated activity. Additional information can be found, here.

(<https://www.ussailing.org/competition/awards-trophies/nathanael-g-herreshoff-trophy/>)

VIII. **Review Board Update**

Justin Sterk gave an update on the progress being made to update Regulation 15. These changes will include adding details regarding the Review Board composition and hearing procedure. This will provide deadlines for submissions and requirements. The appeals process is currently in development as well. Katie Pettibone asked if arbitration rules were looked at and incorporated. Justin discussed they utilized mostly the work done from other NGBs but would follow up with Katie for additional feedback and review.

IX. **Bylaws Update**

Initiation of the Bylaws changes to review the intended changes to be presented in red-line draft for the Nov/October meeting.

The Board of Directors approved the initiation of the Bylaw and Regulation changes will include: general clean up to consistency between Bylaws and Regulations, compliance with USOPC Sailor Athlete requirements, USOPC organizational structure requirements, nominating committee organization and changes to the Olympic structure giving Board full oversight over the Olympic Program. These changes will be forward to the Bylaw Committee for processing and a red lined draft will be provided to the Board at the October meeting for Board review.

Decision: Motion to approve the initiation of these Bylaws and Regulation changes, submit to the Bylaw committee for a draft version of the Bylaws and Regulations to be submitted for Board Review in October and November.

X. **Race Management Task Force Update**

a. **RA Survey that was emailed on 9-18-2020**

Randy Draftz shared an overview of the distribution of the RS Survey. The questionnaire was sent to 2800 people and to date 556 people have completed the survey. He is hopeful from the response so far and is looking forward to culling the data and moving forward to make suggestions. Questions rose as to if measurers

were included in the distribution of the survey and surrounding certifications. Charlie reported they were not because we do not offer any formal training but the measurer committees were a part of the strategy sessions.

XI. **Old Business**

XII. **New Business**

Martine reminded those on the call that committee chairs and members will be reconfirmed at the November meeting.

XIII. **Executive Session**

XIV. **Adjourn**

Motion to Adjourn at 9:30 pm

- a. **Next meeting scheduled for October 19th**