

## IRC Board Meeting Minutes

August 10, 2015, PSRB Board room

**Present:** Ryan Hurd (Outreach chair), Pete Blum (events chair), Lisa Lee (VP – acting president in Janet’s absence), Liz Kryder-Reid (past president, acting secretary in Sue’s absence), Mike Burroughs (Boathouse manager, Jr. Program director), Jen Floyd (ED); Erik Johnson (capital campaign chair)

Lisa called the meeting to order and noted that because there was not a quorum, there would be discussion items only and no voting decisions. Votes may be taken via email if decisions are required prior to the next board meeting.

### 1) ED report (Jen):

#### a) **Tower**

Discussion of estimates for work on the tower to repair the slumping judge’s tower –

The problem is the piers have slipped and the stairs are twisting. Jen did research, and we are not required to have external stairs to host events – just a permanent structure within certain distance to finish line (see ED report).

Smock Fansler Corporation estimate was presented by Jen and Erik. 3 options ranging from \$15 K to \$105k

A) option – loosen bolts, and stairs will realign, allow it to be leveled. Don’t know what might happen – metal fatigue as a result of the forces from the sagging blocks and twisted metal. Level and then reattach to existing concrete bases. Will have to be done as a 1<sup>st</sup> step for any of the options, so can try this and see if it solves the problem. Might last 20 years or might not work at all. (\$15K)

B) option - 20+ foot steel I beams – drive them in (20’ below water) with horizontal beam attached (creating an H shape frame) and the platform would be attached to the horizontal beams – like a pier. Cement left in place but not still used (\$46K) – includes a portion of \$15k step A (loosening bolts).

C) option – aluminum pier caisson and pump out, pour a new cement base as piers, fill in crib with rock. Tower would look like on a rock base. (\$105K)

Mike raised question about impact on the beach and communication with park? – heavy equipment, visual impact, (past work was done when water was low, beach not used. Need to coordinate with Park Staff)

Mike: If we unspring it and it becomes unsafe – and we will have to fix it immediately or cut it off and remove it. (now it’s crooked, but safe).

Jen: What would it cost to cut it off at the stairs and/or walkway and leave 4’ by 2’ cantilevered deck/landing on the outside of the deck with a railing and supports? (and removing the current steel.)

Erik will get estimate for this cutting and stabilizing option –

#### b) **Docks –**

Review of estimates: We can purchase and do installation ourselves for any of the options; we can do maintenance ourselves (regular upkeep) that will also help extend the life of the docks.

Thomas docks = pricey (\$96k?)

Cube docks = \$20k

Jet float = \$20-\$24k

Discussion of options: New cube and jet float designs are more stable , especially with side connectors. Mike and Jen tested the ones Cincinnati and they're good.

We will also benefit from reconfiguring the docks to make better use of them and to reduce purchase costs. Mike noted the right wing is rarely used (esp. when water low) – and even in ideal conditions it is only used by singles and doubles.

Barge dock – windward side boats always sink because it catches all the westward winds.

Mike and Jen are exploring a new pattern – running parallel to the shore; Mike plans to reconfigure with current wooden docks to try out new pattern and recommend purchase in January for spring 2016

In the new proposed configuration: fingers in new jet float; main docks in wood. Est. \$20K

Additional and longer term capital improvements:

Lisa: - possible appeal to city and its amateur sports capacity building goals (after 2016 election) for this or other capital assistance to improve the Eagle Creek facilities. (NCAA and Big Tens could write letter of support).

### **Action items:**

- Mike & Jen will finalize plans for docks to be purchased in January 2016 and installed after spring thaw in 2016; try out new configuration with existing dock pieces for fall season
- resubmit proposal to Finish Line Youth Foundation (accepting grants on a quarterly basis – Sept. 30 deadline) and open to capital
- build into annual campaign appeal and mobilize fund dev. committee to pursue this goal
- make a priority for 2016 operating budget

c) Big Tens –

Discussed draft of Jen's letter re 2016 bid; clarified strength statement of our position (must be financially viable with a min. \$10K profit); Jen will revise, re-circulate to exec. comm. and events chair and submit to Big Ten before their Sept. meeting.

2) Outreach –

Ryan updated board on adaptive program and coaching search. A paid coach is needed to have training, support multiple boats on the water, and for continuity of leadership

Tim is working on recruitment video (for rowers and volunteers); anticipating growth and want to build capacity to support on-water

Challenge – volunteers intimidated by physical contact needs in helping to transfer people into boats; orientation would help – “learn to volunteer” with adaptive program and have trained person from RHI come to do our training.

3) Old business –

Fund raising – identify priorities for 2015-16

capital: docks – \$20K

fleet development: boat - \$?? – TBA

scholarships: \$5k

**Action items:**

Increasing fundraising capacity –

- Clear messaging re goals above (revise existing print pieces, web site)
- Plan re communicating the goals –
  - announce at key events (jr. call out; maters’ meetings; opening party)
  - track donations in signage at boat house
  - communication (electronic) targeted to all IRC members, stakeholders in early fall and again in spring
- Build leadership – fund raising committee under Jen’s supervision mobilizing fund development chair and committee members, recruit leadership in key constituencies (masters, jrs., board, members) for peer-to-peer asking

4) New business

Concussion policy discussion

- need to protect IRC re liability (minimum requirement) – if diagnosed with a concussion, need a medical clearance before can row)
- need to protect rowers –

**Action items (Mike will take lead):**

- research model policies (IHSAA, Brebeuf, etc.)
- explore training options for coaches
- consider other screening options (require physical? self-reporting questionnaire in more detail than release states?)

**Next meeting is October 12, 2015**