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| **Attendees:**  **Board Members** |  | | | | | | |
| x **Chris Cookson,**  Commodore  x **Jill Reilly,**   Vice Commodore  x **Grant Smith,**   Rear Commodore  x **Dan Walsh,** Treasurer  x **Joan Evans,** Secretary | | x **Mike Keeler,** Member at Large  x **Michelle Leipold,** Member at Large  X **Jay Malcan,** Member at Large  x **Rocky Rochester,** Member at Large | | **Committee Members**  x **Grant Smith,**  Membership  x **Ruth McClintock,**  Audit/Bylaws  x **Charles Hunt,**  Chaplain  x **John Lew,   x Pete Cookson,**  Facilities/Boat Yard | | x **Dave Upton,** Races  ☐ **TBD,** Promotions  x **Gerri Gallagher,**  Pavilion  ☐ **Kate Gomes,**  x **Chris Cookson,**  Education  x **Michelle Leipold,**  ☐ **TBD,** Social | |
| **ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED:** | | | | | | | |
| **Item** | | | **Person Responsible** | | **Time Allocated** | | **Outcome** |
| **Commodore calls meeting to order/opening remarks** | | | Chris Cookson | | 5 minutes | |  |
| **November Monthly Board Minutes** –  motion and approval | | | Secretary | | 2 minutes | |  |
| **Board Reports** | | |  | |  | |  |
| 1. Treasurer 2. Members at Large 3. Vice Commodore 4. Rear Commodore 5. Secretary | | | Dan Walsh  Jay Malcan  Michelle Leipold  Rocky Rochester  Mike Keeler  Jill Reilly  Grant Smith  Joan Evans | | 15 minutes | |  |
| **Committee Reports** | | |  | |  | |  |
| 1. Membership 2. Audit/By-Laws 3. Chaplain 4. Facilities 5. Race 6. Pavilion 7. Promotions 8. Sail Programs/Education 9. Social | | | Grant Smith  Ruth McClintock  Charles Hunt  John Lew, Pete Cookson  David Upton  Gerri Gallagher  TBD  Chris Cookson, Kate Gomes  Michelle Leipold, TBD | | 15 minutes | |  |

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| **OLD BUSINESS/TASKS** | **PERSONS RESPONSIBLE** | **NOTES** |
| New Membership Policy | Chris Cookson | Revisit proposed change from last year. See November 2020 minutes. |

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| **NEW BUSINESS / TASKS** | **PERSONS RESPONSIBLE** | **NOTES** |
| 2021 Budget | Dan Walsh |  |
| 2021 Calendar | Chris Cookson, Michelle Liepold, David Upton, Kate Gomes |  |
| Discuss New Social Member Applicants | Chris Cookson, Grant Smith, Jill Reilly | Ron Gahagan, Agustin Rodriguez, William Shaughnessy, Joe Hudart, William Harris, Ann Watson |
| Discuss New Legacy Member Applicant | Chris Cookson | Nicole Allen |
| Unpaid Dues/Resignations/Potential Number of New Member Offers | Grant Smith, Jill Reilly |  |
| Proposal by Beverly Light that the board consider lowering to eight years of membership the requirement needed to fulfill before a change could be made to social membership. | Chris Cookson, Grant Smith | Rationale: You could possibly open up sooner to new members but still retain income from older members. Each time you retain an older member but gain a new member, the total dues is $650.00. If someone can no longer sail but is short of the 10-year requirement, you may get a new member when they leave but lose the additional $100 of someone who has been a member for quite a while.  —Beverly Light |

**Minutes**

Meeting held on Feb. 11, 2021

Called to order at 7:02 p.m.

**Opening remarks by Commodore**

Chris Cookson:

1. Chris called meeting to order. He called on people to help on committees, but only one person has emailed back about it. Help is needed for invitational. Kate is very busy. We have no one for promotions.
2. Grant Smith says that if he can get promotions moved online, we don’t really need a person to do it.
3. Chris wants to institute new membership policy.

**Approval of Previous monthly meeting minutes**

Motion to approve November 2020 meeting minutes as proposed: Rocky Rochester

Motion seconded: Grant Smith.

**Treasurer Report**

Dan Walsh:

1. December 2020 and year-to-date financials submitted.
2. Missing actual depreciation amounts.
3. Need to work with accounting firm who does our tax return to get final amounts in.
4. Sent out January financials. Added percentage columns. Looking for proposed budget with modifications from Chris, John, and Kate.
5. Haven’t finished with budget items yet from John Lew.
6. A $3,900 charge will be added for replacement picnic tables.
7. Heather Reineke helped with IRS 1099s. Need to file with state and federal.
8. Dan has credit cards to get to Chris, John, and Michelle Leipold.
9. Chris asked if we should decide now to approve the report or if we should approve next month. It was decided that the board would finalize at March board meeting after everyone has had a chance to review.
10. Dan said with regard to dues that we can finalize over next month what the number is. Might get more feedback from Kate Gomes re sail program.
11. Chris recommended that we table budget until next month and for board to send suggestions to Dan.
12. Jill Reilly said that the initial presentation looks good.

**Members at Large**

Mike Keeler:

No comment.

Michelle Leipold:

Nothing to report.

Jay Malcan:

Hobie’s 3-year rabies shot is coming due and will be paid by Jay personally.

Rocky Rochester:

Need to hear about proving worthiness in permanent member status.

**Vice Commodore Report**

Jill Reilly:

1. Did research on “hold harmless.” 92 members have not signed. 27 members have not paid. 3 members signed electronically. Need Heather to send out reminder.

**Rear Commodore Report**

Grant Smith:

1. Re membership front--Heather sent out updated spreadsheet today. As of Tuesday, 41 members haven’t paid dues. Of those 41, 10 are confirmed as non-renew or social membership. Rest are of unknown intent. Grant will email or call all who are unknown.

According to Chris, people were expecting paper statements. They weren’t expecting email. We will need to physically talk to people because some people aren’t getting emails.

Grant said it’s 21 people so not a problem going down the list and calling.

Pete Cookson said some are moving to social membership.

Chris said to give them little wiggle room.

Joan said that mail has been slow so some payments may be in transit.

Dan and Gerri are also willing to help with contacting people.

1. Re social membership, we have 4 people who want social.
2. Non-renewals include Amy King, Dianne Carter, Jeff Bobbio, Ron Hagan, who has donated his boat to the club.
3. Augustin Rodrigues will renew his normal membership.
4. Ruth will check with Kate re Ron’s Sunfish. Grant said Ron needs to get with Chris re title transfer.
5. According to Chris, Ann Watson wants to donate the Thistle; she is honorary member.
6. We will be freeing 7 spots so far. Ann Watson remains as honorary stockholding member: All in favor and none opposed.
7. Pete will look at spots for opening.
8. Joe Houdert, Bill Shaunessy, Bill Harris, (social)
9. Chris will reach out to Nicole re legacy membership. Not sure if she had a boat.
10. Grant will reach out to them for social membership.

Chris made a motion to approve the request for legacy membership for Nicole Allen.

Ruth seconded the motion.

**Secretary Report**

Joan Evans:

No report.

**Membership Report**

Grant Smith:

Covered above.

**Audit/By-Laws Report**

Ruth McClintock:

Nothing to report.

**Chaplain Report**

Charles Hunt:

No report.

**Facilities Report**

John Lew:

1. Re work day, not sure about one in March due to Covid concerns, but hopefully we can do one in the fall. Rocky asked if John needs people for an abbreviated work day. John said yes: wants to pull out posts and replace them. Some at the front by sail folding area and lamp post need look-see. Need to re-sheetrock kitchen and women’s bath. Need to replace globes for lamp posts. Jay (I think) said he can replace globes.
2. Everything is on track. This year we have added 3 gray picnic tables. $1,300 a piece and would like to have 4 of them.
3. Gravel and grading—Wants to regrade driveway. Contractor he has in mind will remove dips and add gravel to runs along water by Sunfish. He will grade whole thing and will fill pot holes. Will discount for this time of year.
4. If we order tables before end of February we can get 10 % off. None were done last year. Also wants to get split Hollywood benches. Ok’d by Chris and Ruth.
5. Dan asked for finalization of numbers for budget.
6. Grant asked about bug spraying, and John said it was very dry, so bug spraying was not needed. Grant said that the bugs are worse in the back row up against the woods.

**Race Committee Report**

Dave Upton:

1. Tentative race schedule but Frost Bite schedule is in concrete: 4 races with 5th date for makeup. Hold holiday races whether social included or not. Proposes we have a Friday night “twilight series” in the cove. Can throw up some flags and hold small races. Will try that in July. Grant said the Friday night series July sounds good.
2. Nothing done with invitational. Haven’t heard from any one in Thistle fleet. Work in progress.
3. Flags are ok. May need air horn or two. Flag stanchion on committee boat is down and being reworked. We are ready to go. Thanks to Mr. Gallagher for volunteering.
4. Chris said we have a smaller yellow ball for changing course. 3 new main marks being ordered. Similar to the orange marks but a little bigger. Didn’t replace pin. Approved last year.

**Pavilion Report**

Gerri Gallagher:

1. We are not renting it out until we get notification from someone from the county, and Chris agreed on holding off on renting pavilion right now until we have more guidance.

**Promotions Report**

Grant Smith:

1. Grant has small pile of cash and checks and just needs to meet with Dan. Involves ordering all the logo gear.
2. Grant is looking into doing an online option that allows members to order what you want rather than club ordering and having inventory. Currently our provider doesn’t do that. Pete said Grant might want to look at Coral Reef.
3. If we don’t find anyone, Michelle has offered to help Grant with promotions.

**Sail Programs Report**

Chris Cookson:

1. These are open right now through Chesterfield County Parks and Recreation.
2. Contracts for instructors going out tomorrow. Mr. Kitchens is no longer running program due to move out of state.
3. Need committee for Covid guidance—suggests staggering class sizes, coming in different times, etc. Kate and Chris can’t do this on our own. Mark Gentz, MD, might be able to give his input. Grant and Rocky said they can help with this.
4. Parents have been inquiring about summer camp. Kate suggested June 1 as a drop-dead date for deciding on kids’ camps.
5. Adult sailing classes are one weekend a month. Doesn’t affect parents with kids.
6. Still need to replace the Scot. Grant said that Carlos is selling his but that the mast is bent. Pete can send out a letter to Scot fleet to see if someone wants to sell or donate one.

**Social Report**

Michelle Leipold:

1. Nothing to report at this time due to Covid guidance.
2. Maybe limited socials?
3. Could try for July – December if Covid guidance allows and wants to be prepared.
4. Gerri has box of folders to give to Michelle from last year.
5. Michelle said she will need help.

**Old Business**

**Membership Committee:**

Revisiting Bylaw change to GRSA stockholders with the following addition to Article 4, Section 1.1:

*Non-stock Members who join the Association after January 1, 2021 will join under a 2-year probationary period in which they must demonstrate their ability and interest to actively participate in the life of the Association.  During their second year of membership, these non-stock members must make application to the Board to maintain their membership in the association.  The application and review process will be governed by the Board of Directors and will be provided to the members upon original offer of membership.  Non-Stock members may apply to remain as Non-Stock members or apply to become Stockholding members, subject to the discretion of the Board of Directors.*

1. Chris: A 2/3 vote by the entire board (not just those in attendance) would be needed. Must notify membership as well. Would like to resubmit wording to membership. We on the board do 98% of the work that’s involved. It has changed a lot over last several years. Want to get more people involved, require new members to be active, and then have members re-apply to be full-time or stockholding members.
2. Ruth: Proposal came out of a committee on how to restructure the membership. People are looking more divided between stockholder and non-stockholder.

*Comments by Board Members:*

Rocky: It needs to be presented in the right way.

John: We aren’t a marina.

Chris: We need more participation.

Pete: We need to support what we have in the bylaws, which is to get into sailing. Our assets suffer over time.

Grant: I don’t remember having a list that said you have to be reviewed for your participation or provide proof of participation.

Pete: Expensive place to just store a boat and come out once in a while. We are trying to improve so that everyone is going in the same direction. Make club better not bigger. Need participation.

Rocky: This could be confusing or disconcerting. What are the expectations? Application and review process will be presented to new members so that they know what’s expected.

Gerri: Always impossible to get help.

Charles: Brings up question as to how to maintain membership.

Chris: Same people have been doing it for many years

Dave: Sent email out. Concerned that we would be moving forward without metrics to measure participation.

John: Can raise dues.

Pete: Not just the physical things. Is your boat just a parking place? Maybe that needs to be criteria—mowing under your boat.

Chris: 46 families on the wait list.

Grant: Last year more people were sailing their boats than I have seen before.

Pete: Some sailed, and some never moved their boats.

Rocky: Make it a requirement to just participate in one social event.

John: Twenty people showed up a couple years ago for a social.

Chris: Open to suggestions to get people more active.

John: Covid will make it a tough year.

Dan: What about moving holiday events to weekend before or after due to family obligations making it hard to get people on the holiday itself?

Rocky: Start out with new members with this process.

Chris: That is the point of it.

Pete: Two things--How can people successfully participate? What are the benchmarks? May need minimal list of criteria.

Chris: Can we send out next week for voting on next month?

Pete: Willing to help with this.

Gerri: Will help.

Rocky: Will help.

Grant: Happy to help.

Pete: Will send out email to board re criteria.

Michelle: Need to look to membership—need to give them options to meet criteria. Need to clarify. Must be careful in how to roll out. Need to help in some way.

Grant: We can keep it such that it’s simple for people; there would be any number of ways to “qualify.”

Chris: “Buy the boat, and you’re good.” Must change this thinking.

Pete: Thankfully made up of newer members so maybe input may be different now. Club based on the members. Nearly everything done by volunteers.

Chris: Huge culture change over 20 years. Will have Heather send out the wording to membership. We can come up with a checklist. Use your boat and help out where you can. Will revisit next month. And if it passes, will send out to membership for overall vote. Active membership is getting older.

Grant: Either this or hire management team.

Chris: We are not an elitist organization. We may need to increase dues but would rather go the volunteer route.

John: Some socials that were the best had potlucks. Bigger turnouts.

Dan: Could try “pop-ups” on Friday nights—bring a dish; potluck.

Grant: With Covid, bring all your own stuff.

Dan: Pop-ups--bring own stuff and enjoy.

Chris Cookson made a motion to change the bylaws. Notification will be sent to the membership of the proposed change and the Board will vote on it at the March 2021 board meeting. The following is the proposed change to the bylaws:

*Non-stock Members who join the Association after January 1, 2021 will join under a 2-year probationary period in which they must demonstrate their ability and interest to actively participate in the life of the Association.  During their second year of membership, these non-stock members must make application to the Board to maintain their membership in the association.  The application and review process will be governed by the Board of Directors and will be provided to the members upon original offer of membership.  Non-Stock members may apply to remain as Non-Stock members or apply to become Stockholding members, subject to the discretion of the Board of Directors.*

Ruth McClintock seconded the motion.

Motion passed.

**New Business**

**2021 Budget**

Dan Walsh:

Report given above.

**2021 Calendar**

1. Chris gave tentative dates for events coming up. It’s our year to host Swift Creek Cup. Want to get on calendar. Kate is working with Heather on updating calendar.
2. Pete said we need to get invitational related stuff on calendar asap.
3. Chris said May 22 is the Commodore’s Cup race.
4. Chris said the June invitational – would either be the first or second weekend in June or in the fall.
5. Fishing Bay Yacht Club (FBYC) Annual One Design (AOD) Regatta, located in Deltaville, is not scheduled, nor are ACCs or others at this time.
6. Grant said that fall would be better for planning stuff.
7. Chris said ACCs for Scots tend to be in fall.
8. Jill made motion to approve calendar; all were in favor.
9. Michelle said to not overcommit if we don’t have the support to make an event work.

**New Social Member Applicants Discussion**

Chris Cookson:

Reported on above.

**New Legacy Member Applicants Discussion**

Chris Cookson:

Reported on above.

**Membership**

(Unpaid Dues/Resignations/Potential Number of New Member Offers)

Grant Smith:

1. We need to get handle on how many invites to new members we can make, according to Chris. Currently have certain spaces:
   1. 2 small, 1 medium, 8 large.
   2. 3 smalls for social members.
   3. 15 total of those who haven’t paid dues, but 12 guaranteed avail spaces (including Watson).
2. Ruth recommended offering what’s available right now.
3. Grant said if membership changes, then we need to wait until next month.
4. Chris wants to get applications out next month, so need to have better idea of who is renewing their membership.
5. Drop-dead date for dues is 2/15/2021 but won’t hold them to that due to timing issues.
6. Dan asked if can we add 5 – 10 spots somewhere on the property. Maybe look at additional boat rack area to reconfigure space?
7. Ruth said we are not limited by the county any more re adding some boat spaces.
8. John said we could take out a couple more trees to create space but would prefer to work with what we have before going that route.
9. Jill said the club never bought the adjoining property because the owners didn’t want to sell.
10. Pete added that the property we have needs buffer anyway.
11. Ruth said the long-term goal for every board has been to get the extra property.

**Proposal**

(Lowering the requirement to qualify for change to social membership to eight years of membership)

Chris said this was to make it more palatable. May need to make social membership wording more clear.

**Adjournment**

Chris Cookson made a motion to adjourn.

Michelle Leipold seconded the motion.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

**Next Meeting**

March 11, 2021

Site: GRSA