

# Greater Richmond Sailing Association

## Annual Board Meeting

December 5, 2020

**Board Members Attending:** Commodore Mills Jones, Vice Commodore Chris Cookson, Rear Commodore Jill Reilly, Treasurer Judy Graffum, Secretary Mark Olszowy, Members at Large: Dave Upton and Eric Vugteveen

**Committee Chairs Present:** Membership: Jill Reilly, Facilities/Boat Placement - John Lew/ Pete Cookson, Audit/By-Laws: Ruth McClintock, Sail Programs -Chris Cookson, Race Committee -Tom Gallagher, Social Committee - Gerri Gallagher, Kitchen/Pavilion Rental - Gerri Gallagher, Chaplain - Charles Hunt

**Stockholding Members Present:** Bagenstose, David; Barnes, Mike; Brown, E. Rowland; Cookson, Christopher; Davis, Carrie; Evans, Joan; Folgner, Ken; Gallagher, Tom; Gonzalez, Violet; Graffum, Denis (Judy); Harvey, Hobart; Hendricks, Doug; Hunt, Charles; Jennings, Wayne; Jones, Mills; Keeler, Mike; Kozlowski, Bruce; Leipold, Wayne; Lew, John; Mabry, Mark; Malcan, Jay; McClintock, Ruth; Olszowy, Mark; Padgett Jr., Richard; Racette, Joseph; Reilly, Jill; Richards, Jim; Rochester, Rocky; Rosenkrantz, Mark; Stromberg, Lennart; Swenson, Melissa; Upton, David; Vugteveen, Eric; Walsh, Dan; and Westcott, Peggy

**Non-Stockholding Members Present:** Bisogno, Kelly; Brown, Stephen; Gould, Andrew; Hahn, Scott; Lachance, Michael; Planting, Mark; and Routh, Drew

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**ZOOM call opened: 6:45 pm**

**Call to Order: 7:00 pm**

### **Introduction and ZOOM Process:**

Ask attendees to mute their mic when not speaking.  
Document attendance of Stockholding members  
Explain voting process- raise hands to record votes.  
Allow time for a screenshot so secretary can get official count.

**OPENING PRAYER: Charles Hunt, GRSA Chaplain**

**MINUTES: Mark Olszowy– Present minutes from 2019 Annual meeting**

*Tom Gallagher made a motion to accept the 2019 minutes as presented with a second by Terry Barnes. Motion was approved by majority.*

### **REPORTS:**

#### **Commodore - Mills Jones:**

Over the past year, our entire way of going about things has changed. Words such as “unprecedented”, “New Normal”, Social Distancing have become an everyday part of our vocabulary.

Unfortunately, the pandemic forced us to change the way we do many things around GRSA. Despite this, the GRSA board has worked diligently to take advantage of the time we had to (1) get our house in order, (2) Plan for the future, and (3) encourage safe participation in sailing.

During this time, GRSA accomplished many things, some of which you will hear about in detail during officer and committee reports:

1. A Volunteer committee, led by Judy Graffum, has developed a 5-year plan to ensure the financial health of the club.
2. The Facilities Committee, led by John Lew, completed several projects by utilizing small groups of volunteers in lieu of semi-annual workdays.
3. Pete Cookson, along with Dave Upton, completed an audit of the boat yard and ensured that all boats are properly stickered.
4. The Executive Board has met with Fahrenheit Advisors, our new management company, to establish routines to make our operations more efficient.
5. The GRSA website has been updated and kept current.
6. Racing returned to the club with innovative solutions including, for the first time, GRSA hosted the 2020 Flying Scot Atlantic Coast Championship Regatta with the help of many volunteers under the leadership of Chris Cookson and Kate Gomes.

I want to thank all of the members who stepped up and contributed "Sweat equity" to ensure that GRSA stays the Best Club Ever.

As Commodore, I want to close by recognizing the loss of 2 long-time members of the club. In 2020, we lost both Bill McClintock and Barry Carter. Both of these men were very involved in the life of the club. Bill served on the board in many capacities over the years, including Commodore in 2004. Barry, along with his wife Diane, served as promotional and social chairs and both men encouraged their children and grandchildren to love sailing as much as they did.

I wish the best of luck to the incoming board as they tackle many of the same issues going forward. Please come out and support them. Volunteering and sweat equity is what makes this club great.

#### **Vice Commodore - Chris Cookson**

Welcomed everyone and thanked them for coming to the Annual meeting via Zoom.

**Rear Commodore/ Membership - Jill Reilly** No report.

#### **Membership Chair:**

1. Current waitlist is @ 42.
2. New Members for 2020

The club welcomed 17 new member families for 2020. Due to COVID-19 we could not have our in person new member orientation but had 2 successful virtual new member orientations to welcome our new members.

3. Hold Harmless Agreement (HHA)- New Process for 2021

As a GRSA member each year with your annual dues you are required to sign the hold harmless agreement. Starting in 2021 when you receive your invoice you will read and sign the hold harmless agreement and it will remain effective for as long as you are a member. You will no longer have to sign the HHA every year.

Signing the HHA will be a simple electronic signature.

You will log into your membership profile on the GRSA website, read the HHA and then check the box to sign.

Step by step instructions to sign electronically will be sent out to the membership.

The board kindly asks that you sign your HHA in January when you pay your dues.

Please reach out to me or membership chair if you have any questions regarding the process.

#### **Secretary - Mark Olszowy**

We had one stockholder redeem their stock this year: the Taminger family. We had two members become Stockholders: John & Elizabeth Lew and Wayne & Michelle Liepold.

#### **Members-at-large:**

##### **David Upton -**

The slate of officers we will be voting on shortly, have already accumulated many hours of service to your club. They also face, just as the outgoing board did, a number of challenges regarding the day to day operations and also the overall direction of the club.

It is our responsibility as part of the general membership to reach out to them and offer our support and help. It is not enough to wait to be asked, but to take the initiative and ask how can I help.

There are clubs, such as Fishing Bay, that require, as a condition of membership 2 days service from each member. Be it social, facilities, race, administration....as a member you sign up early in the year for two events to serve on. I would like to think at GRSA we do not need to take such an approach that we can rely on our members to be there ready to serve.

I understand the difficulties we all faced this year and still we had a number of members who stepped forward, most of them are very familiar faces always ready to respond. We need others to step as well. If there is something you see that needs attention, or you have a particular skill which might be useful please step up and make your willingness to help known to a member of the board. Do not wait to be called, in fact if you are waiting to be called consider these words as the phone ringing. Now answer it.

**Eric Vugteveen -** No report.

**Jim Hudson -** Not in attendance.

**Andy Parsons -** Not in attendance.

## **Treasurer - Judy Graffum -**

### **Annual Treasurer's Report:**

There were many changes this year due to COVID19 with cancellation of things like sail programs, sail events and social events. Without those events we were slightly above target.

Overall, expenses were down for sail events, insurance, sail camp and no social events. Management fees also lower than before with OMG. Facilities was on budget while race events was over budget due to the race committee boat being reupholstering. We still have some remaining expenses and bills for 2020 but Judy projects we'll be 18K-20K above budget. We have only about 19K in reserves so Judy recommends using the extra income from 2020 and bolster the reserves.

*Jill Reilly made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report as presented with a second by Wayne Leipold. Motion is approved by majority.*

### **Dues Process for 2021:**

Fahrenheit Advisors, our management company, is working with the appropriate GRSA members to confirm that all the information in our Membership database is up to date as to boats on site, non-sail craft storage, etc.

1. All members should go to the GRSA website before Christmas to verify that their profile information is correct and update any email addresses.
2. Invoices for 2021 dues will be sent out on January 1. They will go out via email to the primary email address on the account. Please keep an eye out for them.
3. Dues payments can be made once your invoice is received on Jan 1.
4. Payment is due by 1/31/2021. If paying by check, envelope must be postmarked by 1/31/2021 to avoid a late fee.
5. If paying by credit card, you will need to contact Admin@GRSA.org and show "Dues Payment by Credit Card" in the subject. There is a 2.9% add-on convenience fee to pay by credit card. Once you have emailed Admin, she will contact you back to advise the total amount due and call you to get the cc information.
6. We are also looking into the option to pay by Zelle which is a direct payment from your banking account; there is a 1% add-on convenience fee for this. More information will be included in the email with the invoice.
7. Any check payment postmarked 2/1 or after, and any credit card or Zelle received after 2/1 will incur a \$100 late fee. The late fee must then be paid no later than 2/15/21.
8. After 2/15, if GRSA has not received your payment, we will consider that you have resigned your membership and proceed accordingly.
9. If you have questions about anything during the Dues Process, please contact Admin@GRSA.org.
10. Mailing Address for GRSA is: GRSA, P.O. Box 1552, Midlothian, VA 23113
11. Dues for 2021 are:
  - a. \$400 Stockholder. \$550 Non-Stockholder. \$100 Social.
  - b. \$200 Non-Stockholder with 2nd trailer-able boat on site.
  - c. \$75 Non-sail Craft storage.

Wishing you a joyful and healthy Christmas and holiday season! We look forward to being with you again in 2021.

## **Facilities/Boat Placement -**

### **John Lew -**

We weren't able to have our Spring and Fall work days this year but daily maintenance still had to be done. Projects completed:

1. Dumpster procured and damaged boats and old watercraft removed along with general cleanup of property and boat house.
2. New 2020 stickers placed on all boats and boat spaces organized.
3. Flag pole area was cleaned up and mulch replaced. Flag pole repaired.
4. General clean up and power washing of all furniture for the ACC races.
5. Over 25 dock boards replaced and new dock bumpers installed.
6. New side deck completed with appropriate floodlights and christened as the John Reilly Overlook.
7. Misc. electrical repairs done in pavilion and bathrooms.
8. Cupola and roof repair completed

Many members individually stepped up this year to help keep our club great. They will be recognized via a Facebook post shortly. The club remains in good shape.

### **Pete Cookson -**

1. Committee boat has been refurbished with new seats and improved cover protection. The lower fittings to the boat's flag masts to be repaired.
2. The boat yard and stickers, information and records are up to date.
3. We do need to make sure we have 2021 stickers WITHOUT NUMBERS ready to go for next year.
4. I would suggest, like last year, we put together a team of people to put the stickers on rather than having the membership do it themselves.....more effective and efficient.
5. Need to keep up the effort for everyone to maintain their boats and sites.
6. New gate system is working wonderfully.
7. I welcome any ideas.

### **Audit/By-Laws - Ruth McClintock**

One bylaw change to Article 4 section 13- added sentence "*There will be no boat storage of any type permitted on club property, this includes sailing and non-sailing craft.*" A second proposed bylaw change did not pass due to not reaching the required 2/3 majority of the board to be approved.

### **Sail Programs - Kate Gomes and Chris Cookson**

Both youth and adult sail programs were cancelled for 2020 due to COVID19. Plans are being made to go ahead for 2021. Searching for a new director and Chesterfield will be handling registrations like in the past. Unfortunately, Lucky Charm as damaged by a tree and the cost the repair the damage exceeded the value of the boat. So the boat was stripped of all useful parts and the bare hull was disposed of. Currently searching for new boat to get the training fleet back to 4 boats. Looking forward to 2021.

There was a question if Lucky Charm was insured. Unfortunately it wasn't due to an oversight that occurred while OMG was managing the insurance. This oversight prompted a review of the current insurance policy this year for necessary updates along with regularly planned reviews in the future.

Chris thanked Kate for all her hard work and extensive organization efforts.

### **Race Committee - Tom Gallagher**

Race Committee started off with a bang this year in January with the Frostbite Series. The first couple of races went very well and then.....weather got funny and some other things, including the early stages of COVID. Just as we were to get into GRSA racing & social season, quarantines and caution took over. As a club, we took a cautious and practical approach.

Most every racing outreach took a backseat to care and compliance.

We did have several races throughout summer, pretty much on an ad hoc basis. Regattas were cancelled and what races were held were without any social interface.

Same through the fall. GRSA did win the Swift Creek Cup, our annual competition with Brandermill's Sailing Club.

Our club did hold a seminar for members to learn how to work and manage a race committee. It was well attended. Thanks go to Pete Cookson for his outstanding creativity and presentations and Hobart Harvey for his super technical management of the events. Attendance was strong of GRSA sailors anxious to learn the ins and outs of RC. We're most grateful to Pete, Hobart and the members who stepped up to learn committee leadership committee going forward.

We're also most grateful to those members who filled in on RC when we could run a race day.

No seasonal awards are to be given for 2020.

I'll ask Chris Cookson to report on the superb ACC Championships held at GRSA this year.

From Chris Cookson: GRSA held the ACC Flying Scot National Event was a big deal. With less than a month before the regatta was scheduled GRSA stepped up in to take over for another sailing club that had to cancel. We had a great turn out with 15 boats attending and people really enjoyed themselves. From within GRSA, we had several current and past members step up to support the event along with 3 additional support boats on top of the Race Committee boat. We were also able to secure a very experience PRO to run the event for us.

### **Social Committee - Gerri Gallagher / Marcia Pflugrath**

No report due to all events cancelled in response to COVID 19. Mills recognized Gerri's successful efforts to roll the deposit from this year's cancelled Annual dinner to December 2021.

## **Kitchen/Pavilion Rental - Gerri Gallagher**

No report due to all events cancelled in response to COVID 19.

## **Chaplain - Charles Hunt**

Most of my work is behind the scenes, known only to those with whom I am communicating. There have been several pre/post-surgery contacts; ongoing bereavement care with several members; a few counseling sessions; and, happily, a wedding. Please know that I am available to provide a pastoral listening ear when desired -- just let me know. Lastly, I encourage all to stay safe and well in the coming year -- (so I can spend more time on the lake). Thanks.

## **Promotions - Grant Smith**

Grant couldn't attend but Mills let it be known that GRSA merchandise is available for purchase before the holidays!

**Old Business:** No other old business presented.

## **New Business:**

The Nominating Committee (Mills Jones, Jim Hudson, Kirsten Sisco, Eric Vugteveen and Chris Cookson) presents its slate of officers for 2021 as presented to the Board on October 12, 2020. The candidates are:

<b>Commodore -----</b>	<b>Chris Cookson</b>
<b>Vice Commodore ----</b>	<b>Jill Reilly</b>
<b>Rear Commodore -----</b>	<b>Grant Smith</b>
<b>Secretary-----</b>	<b>Joan Evans</b>
<b>Treasurer -----</b>	<b>Dan Walsh</b>
<b>Members at Large-----</b>	<b>Jay Malcan</b>
	<b>Michelle Leipold</b>
	<b>Rocky Rochester</b>
	<b>Mike Keeler</b>

*Pete Cookson made a motion to accept the 2021 Board as presented with a second by Ken Folgner. Motion is approved by majority.*

**Adjournment:** Motion to adjourn by Tom Gallagher and seconded by Jay Malcan. Motion approved. Meeting adjourned at 7:58 pm.

**2021 Annual Meeting:** Saturday, December 4, 2021

Appendix:

## **GRSA CLASS of 2020**

- Tom & Beverly Walsh
- Mark & Caroline Planting
- Deirdre & Sonny Turner
- Ronald & Kathleen White
- Joseph Haddad & Leila Abou Assi
- Kira & Drew Routh
- John Hossack & Elena Andreeva
- David & Maritere Font
- Bob & Joyce Stringer
- Drew & Andrea Gould
- Laura Chessin & Don Leister
- Earl Holloway
- Stephen & Helen Brown
- Danielle & Bryan Son
- Nico & Celeste Colaiocco
- Samuel & Kathryn(Katy) Brennen
- Sarah & Tracy Marks