**Conibear Business Meeting Minutes**

September 17, 2013

**Present:** Joy Knopp, Nancy George, Sara Amies, Caroline Perkins, Gail Schueler, Rita Sheckler, Ellie Horsnell, Jennifer Helgeson, Ronda King, Catharine Reid, Sara Lopez, Eleanor McElvaine, Beth Upton, Jeanne Iannucci, Ginny Calvin, Tara Morgan, Alice Lippett

Beth called the meeting to order. Minutes from the June 11 meeting were distributed and reviewed. Minutes were approved.

**Uniforms**

Caroline reported that the final uniform order has been submitted to Henson. From now on, individuals can order a uniform on their own at any time. Loose-fitting and tight fitting tops are available, as are unisuits. Hats can be ordered again if there is interest. The jackets from JL and Boathouse are available with a minimum order of 6.

**Financial report and scholarship policy**

Catharine distributed budget spreadsheets. Of note was the expenditure of $ 4,774 to replace the clogs and footboards in our boats. New footboards were required to accommodate the new sandals (original estimate was for sandals only at $2,000). U.S. Rowing no longer allows boats equipped with rowing machine-style clogs in their regattas.

The next equipment purchase will be a set of 8 sculling oars. We currently have $540 in our equipment fund.

Catharine hopes to learn Quickbooks software over the winter break, and use it for Conibear finances.

Beth reported that Mt. Baker’s annual fund drive ends in September. Conibear will not make a contribution at this time; we contribute at other times of the year, and through events like sculling camp.

The new scholarship form was distributed and discussed. The form will be available to download from the Big Tent files section. Members can fill out the form and submit it to the executive committee. All information submitted will be confidential within the executive committee.

**Fundraising / Auction**

Funds raised this year could go toward new sculling blades. Other possible future purchases include a Row Perfect, another Eight, or a Quad. Tara M. suggested that we continually add to our equipment budget, regardless of whether we have a specific goal. Sara L. added that our success with the last two auctions allowed us to make two major boat purchases fairly close together. Ellie also suggested we consider a new set of sweep oars.

Katie and Sharon will be joining the Auction committee for this year’s effort. Procurement begins September 18. Members should consider donating trips, special food items, or interesting experiences. The auction will be open October 2 through the 9th.

**Coaches’ report**

Sara and Eleanor reported on the success of our two sculling camps, which raised $600 in profit for our club. They pointed out the value of time spent in small boats, which builds skill, and also the value of experiencing a different style of coaching from the guest coaches this year. Participants learned new drills and heard new explanations of rowing concepts. Seattle Rowing Center loaned four small boats for our use during the camps.

Sara L. talked about the possibility of building a fleet of small boats that could be shared with Mt. Baker programs. Perhaps purchasing two per year, up to a fleet of eight, and supplying a rolling rack for storage. This effort could be beneficial to the juniors program as well and to our club members, and could help build good will between Conibear and Mt. Baker crews.

Two rowers have inquired lately about joining CRC. New members will be accepted during the winter after being evaluated by our coaches.

Membership will vote as to whether to participate in the San Diego Crew Classic tomorrow at practice.

**Self-care**

Beth stressed the importance of self-care in our competitive and inclusive club. She advised members to focus on their individual strengths. Eleanor added that we should focus also on what is good in the boats that we row; and build on that.

Closing comment about the importance of using Big Tent to rsvp for races, and also the need for consistent attendance at practice to prepare for races we sign up for.

Meeting adjourned.