



Westerville Rowing Club
October Board Meeting Minutes
October 29, 2025, 6:30pm
Easton Community Room, Columbus, Ohio

Invited Attendance

- o Present:
 - Chair- Jeff Lattimer
 - Vice Chair- Melissa Kappes
 - Secretary- Allison Marshall
 - Treasurer- Bruce Binnig (also Master's)
 - Members-At-Large:
 - Jeff Klima
 - Victor Rosenberg
 - Nate Rhone
 - Coaches:
 - Howard Bruss: Director of Rowing and U14 Head Coach
- o Not Present:

Summary of Votes Made During Meeting

MOTION to approve September Board Notes. Seconded. Passed 5/0/0.

MOTION to approve September Board Minutes. Seconded. Passed 5/0/0.

MOTION to approve September Board and Coaches Notes. Seconded. Passed 5/0/0.

MOTION to approve September Board and Coaches Minutes. Seconded. Passed 5/0/0.

MOTION to purchase two new Concept2 erg bikes for \$1100 each plus tax. Seconded. Passed 5/2/0.

MOTION to make winter dues \$500. Seconded. Passed 6/1/0

1. Approval of Notes and Documentation

- a. MOTION to approve September Board Notes. Seconded. Passed 5/0/0.
- b. MOTION to approve September Board Minutes. Seconded. Passed 5/0/0.
- c. MOTION to approve September Board and Coaches Notes. Seconded. Passed 5/0/0.
- d. MOTION to approve September Board and Coaches Minutes. Seconded. Passed 5/0/0.

2. Old Business

- a. Discussed LTR dates for next summer (from Sept)
 - i. Weeks of June 1 & 8 (second week is Nats)

- ii. Weeks of 15 & 22 or 22 & 29. Howard says a week between sessions is good for coaches so preference is the second option
 - iii. Weeks July 13 & 20
 - iv. M-Th 630-830
 - v. Discussion about whether participants can repeat sessions without paying. Will do the same as 2025 and let them pay \$100 to row with us for the rest of the season.
- b. Recruiting
 - i. Genoa next week - Tanya Holman's gym class W&Th
 - ii. Howard working with Blendon and Walnut Springs
 - iii. Pulling 6-8th graders.
- c. Sending novices to Hooch - resolved? (from Sept)
 - i. No issues, the plan is going smoothly
- d. Coaching self-evaluations and review (Lattimer, from Sept)
 - i. No update
- e. Addition to code of conduct about rumors (Melissa? From Sept)
 - i. No changes to COC, but we will add this specific example to our presentation when talking about the COC.
- f. Boat valuations/clearing out inventory
 - i. General discussion about our inventory and how to have them evaluated. Goal is to clear inventory to reduce fees to the City and also insurance premium.
 - ii. Decision made to contact insurance company to ask some questions.
 - iii. Discussion about bringing in a third party to value existing inventory so we have an independent data point to make informed decisions.
 - iv. Time and Change (bar in Westerville wants a boat to hang from ceiling). Single? Or an 8? Need to find out. We will reach out.
- g. Board Succession
 - i. Discussion about potential candidates for Treasurer. We have a draft of a call for applications. Will finalize and send out soon.
- h. Bat Logic
 - i. Nothing yet
- i. Roles and responsibilities
 - i. Club hierarchy and structure
 1. Summary of small group session on Monday, which proposes a structure where each board member oversees a small group of committees, with each group having a chair/liaison as point person with the board.
 2. Discussion about including team captains to the structure.
 3. Discussion about next steps. Will refine plan and discuss at Board retreat.
- j. Nutrition proposal (Howard from summer)
 - i. Discussion about the proposed plan to bring a nutritionist in to work with athletes and parents.

- ii. Decision made to ask about a way to reduce the cost. Intention is to start with winter season.
 - k. Vespo demo 4s
 - i. Discussion about the one we got, which was not a good weight class. Too heavy for women, too light for men.
 - ii. Have another one coming at Hooch.
 - l. Boat covers (Grace's request from Board & Coaches meeting last week)
 - i. Discussion about the covers; the need is clear but they're expensive. Will look at options.
 - m. Singles on site
 - i. Discussion about plan for returning unused or unpaid for personal boats to their owners.
 - ii. Plan is to reach out to owners that we know for more. There may be a list Derek maintained somewhere to discover other owners.
 - iii. Plan made to use SportsEngine to track and register personal boats going forward.
 - n. Erg bikes
 - i. Discussion about the need for more erg bikes for Winter. Earlier this year Board approved buying two used ones. Found a couple listed on FB but it was a scam.
 - ii. MOTION to purchase two new Concept2 erg bikes for \$1100 each plus tax. Seconded. Discussion:
 - 1. Discussion about options. It was determined that they retain value like Concept2 ergs, so used are essentially the same price as new.
 - 2. Can buy them at Rogue Fitness (local) so we don't have to ship.
 - 3. MOTION to purchase two new Concept2 erg bikes for \$1100 each plus tax. Seconded. Passed 5/2/0.
- 3. Budget (Bruce)
 - a. Discussion about the budget and current financial numbers.
- 4. Coaching
 - a. AED Training (Allison)
 - i. Discussion about the need for training coaches and others as a requirement of our grant.
 - ii. Discussion about who to train, the cost, and the possible organizations to do training.
 - iii. Time to bring AED indoors. Need an indoor storage case.
 - b. Masters program
 - i. Discussion about changes to the program with the Binnigs stepping away.
 - ii. Discussion about the survey Lattimer sent existing Masters athletes.
 - c. Coach hiring
 - i. Discussion about hiring to replace Cory after he leaves at the end of Spring.
- 5. Board Meetings

- a. Discussion about Board meeting dates in November and December to avoid conflicts with holidays.
 - b. Decision made to shift December meetings back by one week. No November meetings, but Board will hold annual retreat on Nov 15.
- 6. Boathouse (update since last week?)
 - a. No new updates
- 7. Programming/Seasonal Updates
 - a. Fall - anything?
 - i. Melissa to send out costs to Hooch parents.
 - b. Winter
 - i. Dues \$500 - is this final?
 - 1. MOTION to make winter dues \$500. Seconded. Passed 6/1/0
 - c. Future plans - select regattas, dues, volunteer incentives (Melissa)
 - i. Discussion about select regattas for spring- Will be dogwood again. And also Nats.
 - ii. Discussion about Spring dues. Will finish conversation at retreat.
 - iii. Discussion about introducing a volunteer incentive program in Spring. Will finish conversation at retreat.