RCRF Board Meeting 07/09/2016

Attendees: Karl Harshe, James Hughes, Kevin Vermeesch

1. Old Business:
   1. Meet with Bryan soon
      1. Karl will be at Club Nationals all week
   2. Launch Engine
      1. Purchase from Ed will be finalized in the coming weeks when he gets back to Karl – Under $2,000
         1. Inter-Department Transfer has been offered by Ed
            1. Might not be a great idea for us
            2. Would prefer that the alumni board purchases the engine and then donates it to the Club
   3. Contact with E-Board
      1. E-mail was sent out from Karl and Joe responded
      2. No other communication has been had between the board and alumni
      3. Board has also dropped contact with Bryan
2. Attempt to get most recent constitution from the Club for our records’ sake
   1. Need to know what changes have been made and what they should be operating under
      1. Karl will e-mail the request
3. Alumni racing at MCI in Ann Arbor
   1. Bryan wants the alumni to race with the oars that were purchased by RCRF
   2. Donations should come in from MCI
   3. Alumni will not cover racing fees up front
      1. Will revisit depending on the success of MCI
      2. Measuring success of event:
         1. Menoch needs to get names and e-mail addresses of everyone
         2. Suggested donations of $30
            1. Added call to action for additional donations
4. Donation Goals for 2016
   1. A set of new oars
      1. Concern over repetition of purchasing the same things over and over again
         1. Need to provide some tangible assets in order to keep people interested right now
      2. Looking more long term because if we need to buy a new trailer in 8 years, we can’t wait until year 3 to start collecting donations
   2. New lights for boats
   3. Long term goals:
      1. Trailer
5. Endowment vs. Alumni Board Donations
   1. We need to pick up people up that who have been donating to the University in order to have funds to help the team in the future
   2. Large donations should continue to be given to the endowment
   3. Smaller donations (under $5,000) should come to us
6. Women on the team
   1. Bryan is open to it
   2. We have examples of teams made up of both only men, men and women
      1. The team is just as uncompetitive now being only men, as the men were when there were both men and women
      2. Women only add to numbers and make the team more financially stable
   3. The coach needs to be on board as well as the alumni board can only do so much to steer the club in that direction
      1. It’s an institutional, systematic issue
   4. The alumni board supports the Club’s purpose to promote and prepare men and women to row competitively at the club and collegiate level.
7. Club’s launch donation drive
   1. Knowing what we know now - The alumni board will collect the money raised, but we do not see this drive and purchase as necessary for the following reasons:
      * 1. Could purchase approximately 4 new 12’ flat bottom launches with 1-year-old engines for each launch for the $10k
        2. It does not help increase the speed of the club
        3. Current launches have the ability to maintain the speed of an 8, as they have at the peak of performance from 2010-2013
        4. The need for a larger launch for safety in moot because the waterway is not too wide or deep for anyone who passes the swim test to drown in (except by the dam).
        5. 1 new launch does not help when multiple boats of varying speed go out together leaving 2 launches to cover 5 boats
8. HOCR 2016
   1. Ideas for what we should push for in fundraising this year
   2. Should have enough for a men’s 8 and a women’s 4
   3. New ideas for events:
      1. Friday night cocktail event
      2. Large group reservations for dinner Saturday night
         1. Look at the tent at CRI
9. Future business:
   1. Expand the board’s constitution
   2. Logo (ASAP)