Alumni Foundation Meeting 1/8/2017

Attendees: Karl Harshe, James Hughes, Kevin Vermeesch, Dave Ringham

1. Old business
   1. Website is fully functioning with proper redirecting for all buttons
   2. PayPal is working and we’re receiving donations
   3. Upgraded website
      1. $216.00 for the upgrade for 2 years
   4. Year-end email was sent out
   5. Logo is set and in use
      1. Facebook is also updated along with tax ID letters
   6. Gifts for CRI in regards to the boats and oars that were donated
      1. $200 - Karl will do what he feels best on that budget
   7. February mailing
      1. Email for year end summary and financial report
         1. Mailchimp listserv
         2. Dependent on Jimmy (mostly) and tax filings
      2. Mail date of February 15th (tentative)
   8. Physical mailer
      1. Send post Spring Break
      2. Ask for pictures from Bryan on Spring Break to be sent out - Karl
      3. Look into non-profit rates - Karl
2. New Business
   1. Team taxes
      1. Jimmy completed with thanks to Ben (team VP)
         1. Issues arose with accounting and tracking on the team’s behalf
         2. Took some effort to work backwards and figure out what the team spent – need to identify issues within the team to better the process because filing taxes is more difficult than it should be
         3. Proposal to fund tax filing services through a local accountant rather than having Jimmy do it
         4. According to records, team should have enough money to pay for the services anyways
      2. Accounting Issues
         1. Problem has been consistent through years of a lack of proper accounting
         2. Issues have arisen with the team/Bryan/the alumni not knowing how much money is there and whether or not the team will make it through the year
         3. Bryan called last February due to a fear of lack of funds – alumni and Bryan spent 3 hours re-working their budget to figure it out
            1. Turns out it wasn’t necessary because there was money not accounted for that no one knew about
         4. Need to consider resolutions to problems stemming from lack of transparency, proper accounting, failure to oversee problems until after the issues become too big to fix
      3. Proposals:
         1. Fund a scholarship for team Treasurer (and possibly President) to incentivize people to take the position and do it thoroughly
            1. Pay for dues (not fundraising or just fundraising)
            2. Need to identify mechanism to oversee the position to make sure that the scholarship should be maintained through the year
            3. Whether that be direct oversight by the alumni board, the coach, the e-board, there should be oversight and the ability to cancel the scholarship if the officer is poorly executing their job
            4. Monthly call with the officer and alumni or coach and alumni to have a review process
         2. Pay for Quickbooks Online so that financial information is not living on a spreadsheet that vanishes when the Treasurer leaves
            1. Can have the coach, other officers, and alumni have access (not to edit, just to oversee) so that everyone can have a hand in the process
         3. Have the team not charge dues to the Treasure
            1. Oversight would be from the team at that point
      4. Concerns on proposals:
         1. Without oversight, the job could be done poorly and the person would still be getting out of paying dues
         2. If the person has to be relieved of duties, it’s a sunk cost and the person would have to start paying dues immediately
            1. Would the team backtrack the dues to when the original issues arose?
   2. Accounts
      1. Jimmy opened an IMMA account at MSUFCU and moved the trailer money into that account ($2000)
         1. 0.15% interest
         2. Ally Bank has 0.99% interest
         3. Exploring more options for better returns
   3. Other alumni involvement
      1. Eric Kettler has expressed interest in participating and inquired about meetings/membership
      2. Can set up conference call system so people can call in whenever
         1. Post number and access code to website
      3. No membership requirement
         1. Anyone who rowed for however long is a member
      4. Incentivizing people to help facilitate donations
         1. People who spend time bringing in donations for the foundation, receive a cut of the donations brought in
            1. Karl - For it
            2. Jimmy, Kevin, & Dave (for the most part) - Against it
         2. Specifically ask people to volunteer their time to help fundraise
   4. Dave’s position
      1. Interim VP at this time - Dave wants to help and do work, but is willing to leave the position for someone else who may want it
      2. Look for people to fill the position
         1. Eric, Diane, Pipp, whoever to expand
            1. Kevin - Reach out to Eric
            2. Karl - Reach out to Pipp
            3. Jimmy - Reach out to Diane
            4. Dave - Reach out to Katharine
      3. Both the VP slot and Board of Directors
3. Future Business
   1. Prep for mailing and taxes
   2. Draft proposals for Treasurer (and possibly President) to incentivize taking on the role
   3. Speak with Bryan/board about phone call for trying to correct Treasurer issues
   4. Email Pipp, Eric, Laurissa, & others about fundraising/involvement
   5. Foundation *swag* - Karl
      1. Bumper magnets - Send out with donation letters
         1. Logo w/words
      2. Lapel pins
      3. Ties
         1. Cheap in small quantity
      4. “Crew Club” instead of “Men’s Rowing” (wrong!) logos
      5. Clothing order
         1. Coordinating with team
         2. Issues with shipping
   6. Polo for officers to wear down to Vails this year so the members know who we are and why we are here
   7. Grant money eligible for the State of Michigan - Karl
      1. To restart women’s team