

Minutes, OAR Planning Meeting

Preliminary, February 23, 2019

Don Rowing Club, Port Credit

Attendees: Peter Jepson, Ernst Peters, Homam Michael, John Murphy, Donna Spiegel, Patrick Vincent, Richard Vincent, Cynthia Warn

Regrets: Julie-Ann Fiori, J-P Marly, Arnold Vandermeer

Sanctioning and Registration for Tours

Sanctioning, designed for safety and insurance, will continue. Regatta Central registration, which did not work last year and is not designed for touring, will be discontinued. Organisers are free to sign up participants in any way, though on-line registration is encouraged.

Tour Schedule

The Draft Tour Schedule was discussed with the proviso that changes would still be required.

Equipment

Coastal double: The coastal double will be rented to the Niagara Rowing School for \$725 for this rowing season. The School would have to make the boat available for the Coastal Sprints Regatta at Port Dalhousie and potentially one other tour.

Coastal quad: The coastal quad will be offered for rental to member clubs for \$1,450 for this rowing season. John mentioned that the provision of a dolly may help to rent this boat.

Action: Arnold will look into acquiring a dolly for the coastal quad.

T7 double: There is a damaged T7 at ONEC which is available. John Murphy of the Niagara Rowing School was interested in buying it 'as is' and fixing it up. After the meeting, a price of \$350 was agreed upon.

Hanlan will help Arnold maintain the existing touring fleet. This is scheduled for April 7, 2019.

We will repay Arnold \$1,500 of the loan he gave us to purchase the coastal quad. This is the last payment.

Action: Donna to issue a cheque to Arnold for \$1,500.

Preliminary thoughts on Strategy

River touring and marathons: Should we acquire a fourth quad, so that the mobile touring centre has a capacity of 20 rowers, instead of 17 as now? Action: Peter J. offered to look into techniques to make the Wintech quad (presently rented to ONEC) more quickly rigged.

Should we offer more marathons and relays to coax more competitive rowers to get into our boats?

Now that the Mobile touring centre is no longer at QRC, should we consider another location at a Club?

Coastal touring: Should we acquire another coastal double or quad and an appropriate trailer and establish a coastal boat mobile touring centre? Where should the mobile touring centre be located?

FISA World Tour 2022: Should we aim to have a FISA World Tour on the 20th anniversary of the FISA World Tour on the Rideau Canal? The initial suggestion was to row from Queenston to Jordan Harbour to Hamilton to Toronto, however it was felt that this route was too exposed to high winds and waves.

Possible more protected coastal routes are:

- Thousand Islands (Kingston to Brockville or Bay of Quinte to Brockville)
- Thirty Thousand Islands (Georgian Bay)
- North Shore of Lake Ontario.

N.B.: There are currently not enough coastal boats in Ontario.

Possible river routes are:

- Rideau Canal
- Trent / Severn Waterway.

Draft Five Year Financial Plan

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Revenues from Capital Expenditures	\$725				
Capital Expenditures	\$1,500				
		Touring boat?	Coastal trailer?	FISA World Tour?	Coastal double or quad?

Richard notes that we have an account with True Sports which facilitates the issuance of tax receipts for the acquisition of equipment.

Marketing / Attracting new members: What can we do to attract more members among the rowing community in Clubs and outside Clubs?

There was not much time to discuss this, but spending more resources on promotion is desirable. Instagram would allow tour participants to post pictures by themselves of tours.

Cynthia did not know of the OAR newsletter and felt that it should be distributed more widely among rowers at her Club.

Action: Homam will make the ‘subscribe’ feature on the website more visible. After this is done, he will send out an e-mail inviting Clubs and members to subscribe.

AGM Reminder

The AGM is scheduled to be in Barrie at the Barrie Rowing Club on March 23 at 10 am. The terms of following two year Board members expire in 2019: Peter Burstyn, Pat Hyslop, Jean-Christophe Marley, Homam Michael, Donna Spiegall.

Elected in 2018 for a two year term to expire in 2020: Elaine Burstyn, Julie-anne Fiori, Peter Jepson, Richard Vincent, Arnold Vandermeer, Cynthia Warn

Ex-officio: Liz Hoffman (cheque co-signer), Bruce Green (Florida))

Richard stated that his preference would be to have all Board Members be given a responsibility so that things get done and the workload is more evenly spread out.