

RHODE ISLAND STATE YACHTING COMMITTEE
P.O. Box 3673
NEWPORT R.I. 02840

April 25, 2012

Dr. Robin Wallace called the meeting to order at 12:26 PM and welcomed Senator Dawson Hodgson and David Holley as newly appointed members. The following members were also present: Messrs. Field, Gowell, Hall, Hazelhurst, Herreshoff, Hilton, Hogoboom. Hoyt, Jones, Magee, Olsen, Plumb, Stevens and Willis. Apologies for absence had been received from Messrs. Elwell, Hopkins, Keyworth & Mrs. Sheehan.

The minutes of the previous meeting were reviewed and approved unanimously.

Chairman's Report & Matters arising from the Minutes:

The Hess LNG proposal for a Mount Hope Bay "offshore" unloading platform has been withdrawn.

The letter to Newport City Council regarding the Ann Street pier expansion had been received and CRMC is reviewing the application and objections from abutters.

The Governor's America's Cup Committee has been holding meetings every other Friday.

Dyer Jones reported that the America's Cup Hall of Fame induction ceremony will be held at Marble House on June 29th.

The latest plan is to have Ft. Adams open to public June 23 -26. Racing starts June 27th through July 1st and admission and parking fees will be charged on those days.

NBC TV will cover the racing live on Sunday, July 1st

Jonathan Stevens reported that Governor Chafee's new interstate gateway beautification program, featuring new intensive landscaping, includes a new mural on I-195W celebrating the AC event.

On Friday June 8th: the America's Cup Gala will be held at Ft. Adams.

This is our 5th year without legislative grant funding to support committee activities but it continues to make recommendations to Newport City Council for event support in the City.

Dr. Wallace had met with Colin Kane to discuss the appointment of the America's Cup committee & a possible relationship with RI Commodores that needed to be pursued. The Committee's insignia had been produced courtesy of Sally Helme at Bonnier Corporation.

Discussion of Newport submitting bid for Volvo Ocean Race stop-over. There will be infrastructure built for the Cup that should help sell the venue for other sailing events.

Depth is a problem for the Volvo boats.

In other discussion:

Carl Olsen offers to build-out page as part of www.RIYachting.com

The 2010-2011 Financial Report was received.

The 2011 - 2012 funding recommendations to the City of Newport were approved based on the expectation that funding would continue.

Appointment for Treasurer:

Bill Plumb had offered to take on the position of Treasurer - approved unanimously.

Recommendations for appointments by the Governor:

Yet to be acted-upon: Norman Bailey and Chris Mueseler. Mr. Elwell wishes to step down from the committee at this time but offers to assist as needed.

Other recommendations should be submitted in writing to Dr. Wallace.

Other business:

Halsey Herreshoff complimented the City of Newport on their continued support and discussed new approaches to other towns and government entities for support. He volunteered to assist with this effort.

Other business:

Dr. Wallace: The MOD 70 Group from Switzerland will be coming to Newport during AC event. They will be running a race on July 2 to NYC. The possibility of a race in 2014 from France to Newport with up to 12 competitors had also been discussed.

The improvements underway at Fort Adams were already attracting other major marine events to that facility.

There was a general discussion of positive momentum re competitive sailing visibility and future State support based on the increased visibility from the AC event.

A discussion regarding changing the Committee's name from "Yachting" to "Sailing" followed. Gary Hoyt observed: "We are all yachtsmen and we belong to yacht clubs but the activity we enjoy is sailing".

Dr. Wallace appointed Mr. Hoyt to head-up subcommittee to look-at the mission and name of the Committee.

Mr. Holley suggested that inmates at the ACI could benefit from education in the marine trades and that RIMTA should be asked to follow up on this.

Meeting adjourned at 1:51 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Chase Hogoboom