

# Saint Paul Yacht Club

Board Meeting Minutes

August 24, 2020

Virtual: via Zoom Meeting

Board Members Present										
Commodore	Vice Cmdre	Secretary	Treasurer	Board	Board	Board	Board	Board	Board	Past Cmdre
Steve Nelson	Greg Jorgensen	Bill Tschohl	Jeff Tentinger	Peter Kramer	Brett Cummings	Kevin Goodspeed	Mike Patten	Bill Gibbs	Annie Stone	Dennis Sando
X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
8/24/2020 Minutes Approval										
x	x	x	x		x		x	x	x	x

Call to Order: 6:40 p.m.

**Guests:** Daniel Delude, David Nelson, Jonathan Leck, David Mckusick, Ruby Mckusick, Carol Pine, MJ Babcock, Carol Janisch, Barb Haake, Craig Frethem,

**Determination of Quorum:**

yes, there is a quorum.

**Open forum:**

- 1) David Nelson requested an update on the preferred routing of the new waterlines in the lower harbor. Steve reminded the group that we have proposed moving the boats from Miller Dock to the shoreside which would shorten the utility loop considerably. Running the waterlines underwater is not preferred due to the difficulty of dealing with a damaged hose under the ice. David N. suggesting a looped system running along the existing docks. Plan is to be reviewed with Dan Delude and Brian Koskie and then to proceed. Question asked about the cost of this project and the estimated cost at this time is \$2,000-\$3,000.
- 2) Upper harbor dredging. Discussion of options currently on the table for purchasing or renting dredging equipment. Topic tabled until dredging topic on agenda. Dave Mckusick would like to reignite the SH committee and requested information received to date for spoils storage. At this time the board has already taken the lead on executing a dredging plan and handing the efforts off to a separate committee at this time would not be efficient. The Board will review the sample analysis expected next week and then will meet take action based on the results.
- 3) Ruby Mckusick noted that with fall coming boaters should really consider locking their boats. Ruby noted a concern that someone may have been on their boat and all boaters should take caution
- 4) Carol Pine discussed the history of the name of the SPYC. Founded in 1912 as the St Paul Motorboat Club but was changed in what is thought to be an effort to change the perception of the club. Carol is requesting that the board consider changing the name back to the St. Paul Motorboat Club to better reflect our mission of safe and affordable boating. Jeff T. noted that a change in name is far more than a simple application and fee when you consider the effort involved in changing the name with all of our vendors, accounts, etc. This is a matter that would need membership approval and would likely need to go onto the ballot during the annual election. Steve suggested that if this idea is to proceed it would be appropriate to spend enough time reviewing and getting feedback from the membership in advance of a vote. With this in mind the 2022 General Election may the earliest time to consider such a change.
- 5) Meeting held with Rebecca Noecker regarding dredging of lower harbor on July 9<sup>th</sup>. Rebecca showed support for the dredging efforts and indicated she was willing to make a motion to the City Council requesting line item funding for the USACE to dredge the lower harbor.

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## **Agenda items:**

### **Old Business:**

- 1) Cameras on Docks? We shut down the WiFi. The WiFi cameras no longer operate without the WiFi. Item Closed
- 2) Water Department Rebate on water charged during winter 2019-2020 This was discussed and resolved to be read and submitted for rebate monthly. Item Closed
- 3) Beaver Control in Upper Harbor. Beaver control is not something the SPYC board has discussed. We have discussed that beaver's have killed trees. We've had the park service remove damaged trees and have requested they plant some replacements. Greg J talked to a couple of beaver control companies and was referred to the DNR which has been difficult to contact in recent months.
- 4) Grant Writing (progress?) A grant has been found that is intended for dedicated transient slips. Dahlgren Dock was identified as an option for dedicated slips. It was suggested that the club consider adding laundry and shower facilities at those docks. This grant would require that the club fund the project and then the grant would reimburse up to 75% of the cost. Annie is sharing a document with the board that outlines the grant requirements and process. A separate grant could be used to fund a new pumpout system in the lower harbor. Ruby is gathering cost information for a new pumpout system and will present to the board for a vote to move ahead with these grants.
- 5) Fencing for Lower Harbor to eliminate uninvited people. We have not discussed this previously. I'm don't know what is expected. I may have missed something on this. Fencing was investigated and may be cost prohibitive for the amount of protection that it would bring. No motion was made at this time.

### **New business:**

- 1) Upper Harbor Dredging progress report - Test samples have been taken and results are expected back next week. If the material is level 1 we can remove it and store on site. If level 2 that material would need to be taken off site which requires a facility willing to take it and an understanding of the costs associated. Dave McKusick requested Board support for the SH committee continue finalizing our options based on the test results. A plan for a spoils lagoon or method of drying the material is needed to proceed with any of the options. The Board is prepared to take action on a dredging solution as soon as the testing results come back and we understand the material we are dealing with. Therefore, the Board will continue to oversee this effort.
- 2) Lower Harbor Dock Reconfiguration - recap of progress -
  - a) Install gas lines and pump-out lines New pump out lines are expected to be complete by the end of August. Vendor is fabricating final gas lines now and is expected to be complete by the end of September.
  - b) Reading of gas meters - install gas meters on each boat. No update. Main focus is completing new lines by fall.
  - c) Pump-out facility lower harbor Pumpout system is operational to just past the Raspberry island bridge, Dahlgren docks is all that remains.

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3) Install new winter water lines to save on winter water billings. – new See open forum item #1

4) Garbage/Dumpster Costs - Investigation - No Update.

5) Meeting with St. Paul Councilwoman Rebecca Noecker (Motion for Dredging at MM839.6) - Motion made by Brett Cummings: Motion for the Board to support the Government Relations Committee in working with Councilwoman Rebecca Noecker and the St. Paul City Council in preparing a letter to Congresswoman Betty McCollum requesting line item funding from the USACE for dredging the lower harbor.

Motion seconded by Annie Stone.

Discussion: Board needs to remain informed along the way. Motion approved unanimously.

Brett also noted that no marina money is to be spent on the dredging of the lower harbor. Our argument is based on a legal agreement that the harbor is required to be dredged and spending marina money on dredging would establish a precedent that contradicts our primary argument.

6) Consider historical designation for our club - Go back to our original 1912 name: St. Paul Motorboat Club - See open forum item #4

7) Coast Guard Inspections 2020 cancel? Hold \$200/charge per boat until 2021? This was already discussed, but as a course of business not as a board item. No inspections ability means we can't and couldn't require the inspection to be done. The Coast Guard Auxiliary was directed not to do inspections due to COVID-19. All members will have their accounts credited the \$200 deposit. Refund will be in the form of an account credit. Item closed.

8) LH meeting w/partners, i.e. MN Boat Club; West Side Flats; Covington Inn; SPYC RE: Gate on Raspberry Bridge to minimize racer/tuner cars - disruptions. - Barb, will provide a report at the meeting? Meeting held with secretary of MN Boat Club and conversations have happened with West Side Flats management. All parties are experiencing issues with the noise and the idea of a gate at the park entrance has been discussed as a way to curb the car racers.

9) COE's new depth reading chart for lower harbor. COE soundings were received at the office just after last marina update. Dan will send with the next marina update.

## **Reports:**

**Finance:** Currently about \$190k in the bank. USCG rebates will be a hit when they are issued. Taxes are nearly complete with the accounting service and still within the extension deadline. Conversations happening with Dockwa to expedite utility and winter storage bills as well as collection of unpaid bills. A significant number of utility bills remain unpaid in Dockwa and we need to get all members signed up and utilizing the system to keep our receivables under control.

**Operations:** Focus is on completing gas line and water line projects. Idea suggested to hire additional help for 4-6 weeks to help complete these projects. If anyone knows someone with these skillsets (remembering that these are gas lines and any help would need to be properly qualified) that may want short-term work talk to Dan.

**Harbor Maintenance:** See notes above for new discussion on this topic

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## Other Updates:

**LH gas lines** - We will be postponing the LH sewer extension to the Dahlgren and instead redo the gas lines. Each liveaboard will have their own meter on their boat and that will allow us to get a proper reading of usage. The current system is such a tangle of lines so as to be unreadable.

5/26/2020 update: Dan, Brian and Dan Todora reviewed and determined we should increase the main line coming down to the docks. Right now, it isn't properly sized for our future needs. Life expectancy on the mainline is really past and should be replaced this year. We will have a project budget by the next board meeting for review and approval. Meters will be connected to each boat rather than residing in groups on dock panels.

6/22/2020 update: deferred.

7/27/2020 update: see update above in operations.

8/24/2020 update: see update above

**WIFI** - We will be terminating the WIFI throughout the marina.

5/26/2020 update: Working to discontinue service, but Comcast is proving challenging to work with on this and would 'prefer' to possibly lower our rate.

6/22/2020 update: deferred.

7/27/2020 update: Wi-Fi is shutdown except for office and SPYC business use.

8/24/2020 update: no update, item closed

**Gate E (Miller Dock)** - The cover that protects the stairs is in bad shape. We are going to gather a cost estimate to replace the frame and the cover. Dave Nelson agreed to put the cover on. We would be the fabrication of the frame as a rainy day project or after the season as a late fall project and then the new cover would be installed. More to come on this.

5/26/2020 update: No new update this month, future slower day project.

6/22/2020 update: deferred.

7/27/2020 update: deferred for fall

8/24/2020 update: Still need to complete before winter but could wait until after haul-out is complete

Meeting was adjourned at 8:10pm.

Attest: Bill Tschohl

Upcoming planned meetings:

September 8th SPYC General Membership Meeting 7pm

September 28th SPYC Board Meeting 6:30pm

October 26th SPYC Board Meeting 6:30pm

November 23rd SPYC Board Meeting 6:30pm

December No SPYC meetings

January 12th 2021 SPYC General Membership Nominating Meeting 7pm

February 9th SPYC Annual Meeting and Election 7pm

Attachments:

Current SPYC Standing Rules and By-Laws

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SPYC-ByLaws2019.pdf



SPYC-StandingRules2  
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