

Rochester Canoe Club – June Board of Governors’ Meeting

Monday, June 30, 2025 - meeting held at the club

Commodore Mary Ellen Ingham called the meeting to order at 7:05

RCC Board of Governors		
Position	Person	Meeting on 6/30/2025
Commodore	Mary Ellen Ingham	√ present
Vice Commodore	Bill Dexter	√ present
Rear Commodore	Mark Weider	√ present
Harbor Master	Kevin Lofftus	√ present
Secretary	Lawrence Jones	√ present
Purser	Diane Ahlman	√ present
Past Commodore	Tom Lee	√ present
Thistle Fleet	Eric Gesner	√ present via phone
Sunfish Fleet	Kira Munger	√ absent
JY-15 Fleet	Joel Morse	√ present
Director	Rosemarie Wolf	√ present
Director	Chris Dexter	√ present
Director	Wendy Hurley	√ present
Director	Alex Wirth	√ present via phone

11 BOG members in person and two by phone making a quorum.

Special Guest: Bill Bradburn, longtime RCC member and current lawn mower.

Summary of Meeting Decisions & Actions

- Tom Lee motioned that we set aside \$6,500 for Mark Weider and Bill Bradburn to spend on a new riding lawnmower for the RCC. Alex Wirth seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.
- Diane Ahlman presented the Castro-Scaramucci family for membership. Rosemary Wolf motioned to accept them. Mark Weider seconded. All voted in favor.

1. Commodore’s Report – Mary Ellen Ingham

Spectrum is no longer allowing us to cancel our service for the winter months, so we are forced to pay all year long. Mary Ellen looked into getting Greenlight internet at the club. It is \$90 a month, and can be shut off for the winter. She will continue to gather information the installation cost. If this works, it should save the club some money.

2. Purser’s Report – Diane Ahlman

Diane – handed out 2025 Budget Presentation updated through late June. See the attached page. We have a bank balance of \$77,710 but there are two large bills coming up:

- Insurance for \$8,000 and Property Tax for \$12,000

According to the RCC Bylaws, we are aiming for \$56,000 in savings at the end of the year. If we don't hit this goal, the RCC BOG needs to have a plan to reach this goal over time. We are inching closer to reaching this goal.

Back in 2018 the insurance was \$6,000 and went up slowly until 2022-23, since then the insurance has been going up a lot. This year it jumped up \$2,000 from \$10,000 to \$12,000. Part of the problem is a lack of competition for marine insurance. Chubb and Gowrie Group are one of the few insurers in this area. Alex Wirth may know a different company and will investigate.

POST MEETING NOTE: Diane heard back from the Burgee program on 7/1 regarding our insurance. There was an error in our "package policy" and price will be \$5,706 (originally quoted at \$8,144). So premium increase for the year is about 5% over last year.

The Rear Commodore has \$3,000 left in that budget. There are still some doors and grill parts to buy. He needs \$1,000 to cover these, leaving \$2,000 for a new mower, as we will discuss next on the agenda. Diane looked it up and we paid \$1,900 in October 2022 (from Bruce who used to live up the hill and was our lawn mower for a number of years.)

3. Lawn Mower Problem

Mark Weider & Bill Bradburn listed the problems with the existing mower:

- Battery drains precipitously,
- When the engine gets hot, it won't restart again until cooled off (about an hour)
- It is missing several safety features
- One of the two gas tanks leaks
- There is a gas leak at the valve that switches between tanks
- The starter bolt is stripped – it may need a new starter.
- It may be burning oil
- Note - This is not the original engine

Mark looked into a lawn service. It would be \$100 a cut, but they wouldn't move the boats. It makes more sense to have our own. We have too large a lawn to use a push mower. It is probably an acre or acre and a half in all.

Bill and Mark have been shopping. One question is whether to get a residential mower vs. a commercial mower. We have to go with a 42" mowing deck to fit in the shed. A residential mower costs around \$4,000. A cheaper commercial mower is \$6,000, they go up to \$20,000. The commercial mowers are more heavy duty and should last longer. One suggestion was to do a fundraiser. Bill said that there is a discount if we pay cash for the mower instead of using a payment plan.

Tom Lee made a motion to set aside \$6,500 for Bill and Mark to purchase a new mower. Alex Wirth seconded it. All voted in favor.

4. Harbor Master Report - Kevin Lofftus

Kevin underestimated the cost of the new dock parts he needed to repair the docks this year. He is near the end of his budget for the year and still needs to spend on the fork-truck for Boat-In, some Race Committee boat items and gasoline for the rest of the year.

On his initial work plan, he wanted to do an additional dock upgrade, with the proper aluminum parts, that would cost about \$500. Kevin would like to put this off until next year.

Additionally, the Race Committee boat trailer is undersized for the load. We need to add an additional axle. This becomes an issue if the trailer needs to go on the road, which occurs if the boat needs to be pulled out at the end of the Bay, rather than up on our beach. The cost of this modification is approximately \$690 for axle plus \$100 to \$200 for the U-bolts for a total of \$800 or \$900. The BOG consensus was to delay this trailer modification until next year.

5. Membership

Diane Ahlman presented the Castro-Scaramucci family of three for membership. Sharon Matson and Barb Harmer gave positive recommendations from the membership committee. Rosemary Wolf made a motion to accept them as members. Mark Weider seconded. All voted in favor.

6. Individual Reports

Bill (Vice-Commodore) – things are going well. No Thursday night grilling this week (July 3rd).

Mark (Rear-Commodore) – is replacing the wood on the north window and some doors.

Kevin (Harbor Master) Green tagged tanks are for ROC City Sailing and yellow tags are for RCC.

Mary Ellen (Commodore) will contact Kira Munger to check-in about the 2025 Don VanVechten Memorial Sunfish Regatta

Eric Gesner (Thistle Fleet Captain) will get started soon on the 2025 Fall Frontier Regatta

Chris (At-Large) we've collected \$45 so far in bottle and can returns!

Wendy – safety boat class went really well. Lawrence agreed.

Mark – the Open house last Saturday was more ROC City Sailing than RCC. We could have used more RCC members to staff this event.

Tom Lee (Past Commodore) Phil Lange said the RCC should consider purchasing an automated external defibrillator (AED). Wendy added that they are easy to use and the machines coach you during the process. One would be enough for the club because we wouldn't take it on the water anyway. The cost is around \$2,000. Bill pointed out that some clubs have other equipment as well, such as a backboard in case of back injuries. AED's require some, but not a lot of maintenance, especially if stored off site during the winter months. Eric Gesner responded to a question about how long the AED last. They don't have specific expiration dates and typically last 8 to 12 years, depending on its use, regular maintenance, safety checks and storage.

The BOG consensus was that this issue is worthwhile and needs further exploration. Mary Ellen will invite Phil Lange to an upcoming meeting.

Meeting adjourned unanimously at 8:16 p.m.