**Minutes**

**Southern Maine Sea Kayaking Network**

**Board Call**

**Monday, May 10, 2021**

Members Participating:

Janet Robinson, President

Chip Woodman, Treasurer

David Siegfried (Sieg)

Jenna Ginsberg

John Contas

Tom Carr

Vytas Marciulionis (Vick)

Greg Fergin (Recorder)

The Board call commenced at 7:05 p.m.

1. Welcome
2. Approval of Minutes: Unanimously approved.
3. Old Business
	1. Committee Updates
		1. Skills Committee: Sig reported that the committee had conducted two sessions so far, and another tonight. A fourth session is next week, inviting members to bring their own skill to work on. The sessions have been well attended, including new members.
		2. Financial: Chip reported that SMSKN’s checking account has $5,255, and the CD account $13,396. The club received payment for 19 memberships in April, mapmaking a total of 42 in the first four months of the year (compared to 25 in the same period last year).
		3. Membership Coordinator: John reported that the website listing of people who have signed SMSKN’s Participant Agreement is now live, and the system for making sure that SMSKN trip participants have signed the PA before paddling is working well. A few members have said on their Meetup profile that they signed the online PA, but actually hadn’t. John said he follows up with them when they sign up for events on Meetup. But he also tells trip organizers to have paper forms ready in case someone comes to an event without having previously signed a PA. Janet noted that when people sign a hard copy PA, we currently can’t put it in the database. Vick said that if we have a hard copy, we can create an entry in the database.
	2. Website Update –Vytas
		1. Upcoming events updating: Vick said he needs to work on that. He will follow up with Jenna at the end of the Board call.
		2. PA pdf posting -DONE
		3. Trip Library Link: Greg needs to follow up on Sieg’s work.
		4. To do: SMSKN needs to add links web pages with current marine weather reports.
		5. NSPN Trip Planning Document: NSPN has confirmed to Janet that its is okay to put this document on the SMSKN website.
4. New Business

a. Bailey – Jewell Trip Debrief: Janet recounted the April 24 SMSKN trip from Bailey to Jewell Island, which five paddlers attended. The group encountered 10-15 knot winds on the way. One paddler capsized twice, got chilled, and required a tow the last 1½ miles. He agreed to a SMSKN Zoom session on lessons learned. Board members discussed how the trip was organized and how paddlers responded to the paddler’s difficulties, noting that nothing in advance of the trip indicated that there would be a problem, and that it was hard to assess when to decide to have a paddler stop and get picked up. Jenna suggested that SMSKN have an outside expert evaluate the episode, and gave the name of Tim Movali (sp??), a guide examiner, as someone who could do this. (Tim’s phone number is 207-377-2788.)

b. MITA – NSPN – SMSKN program: Janet reported that MITA has reached out to SMSKN and SMSKN about building a larger paddling community and forum to get feedback on new initiatives it is considering. NSPN has offered to host the forum on its web page.

c. Summer picnic & Gear Swap: Deidre St. Louis, who will be camping at Winslow Park this summer, has offered to help organize the event.

d. June Board call needed? The Board concluded that a June call was needed to discuss the summer picnic event.

e. Summer evening paddling trips: John asked when would be the right time to post the monthly evening paddling events on Meetup. Janet suggested that organizers post them at least a week in advance, with the caveat that events were contingent on weather and paddling conditions, with updates to follow as the event approaches. SMSKN should make sure members know that there will be an evening paddling/social event each month during the summer.

1. Closure and Action Items

Upcoming events updating: Vick to follow up with Jenna.

Trip Library Link: Greg needs to follow up on Sieg’s work.

SMSKN needs to add links web pages with current marine weather reports.

Follow-up on Lessons Learned Zoom session for membership.

Post Summer Evening paddling events on Meetup.

The Board call concluded at 8:15 p.m.

Next call: Monday, June 14, 2021