**Minutes**

**Southern Maine Sea Kayaking Network**

**Board Call**

**Wednesday, January 12, 2022**

Members Participating:

Janet Robinson, President

Chip Woodman, Treasurer

Joe Herlihy

John Contas

John Haile

Nananda Col

Vytas Marciulionis (Vic)

The Board call commenced at 7:15 p.m.

1. Welcome New Members! Janet welcomed Joe, John Haile, and Nananda to the 2022 Board.
2. Approval of Minutes: Board members unanimously approved the minutes of the December 20, 2021 Board call.
3. Old Business
   1. Committee Updates
      1. Skills Committee
         1. Pool sessions: SMSKN pool training sessions are lined up and will be posted three weeks ahead of the session date. The Board discussed how to handle no-shows by people who had signed up, which has been a problem at MASKGI pool sessions. John H. will follow up with registrants to insure they commit to a pool date they have signed up for.
         2. Wilderness First Aid Afloat status: There has been no progress yet on a venue for this training session, as a result of complicated discussions with course presenter Nancy Zane about who secures the venue. One proposed venue costs $300. The Board discussed whether it would be okay to charge participants for the venue. Ultimately the Board decided to defer decisions on a WFAA session until after the Omicron virus subsides, to avoid the close personal contact that would inevitably occur between participants. (Snlls??) (sp?) will figure out a group leader for the event, or at least a contact for the Skills Committee to work with.
         3. Skills training: The Board discussed getting different trainers for skills sessions for SMSKN members. Jonathan Oltz is willing to help. Kathy \_\_\_\_\_ at H2O Outfitters would also be a good candidate.
      2. Financial – Chip: Chip provided financial reports indicating that at the end of 2021, SMSKN’s CD account held $13,298.50 and its checking account held $6,429.22. Net income for 2021 totaled $1,021.81.
   2. Website Update: The SMSKN Facebook page is officially closed. Vic has saved the videos posted on the Facebook page and will upload them to the SMSKN website.
   3. . Members’ full names on Meetup page: John C. will complete by the next Board meeting the process of getting members to include their full names (not just first names or nicknames) in their Meetup profiles.
4. New Business
   1. January Membership Meeting: Vic and Joe volunteered to come up with a list of training providers to make available to SMSKN members at the January 26 monthly Membership meeting on skill certification training programs.
   2. Minimum boat length: Board members discussed current requirement that participants in SMSKN paddling events bring a sea kayak at least 16 feet long for safety reasons. Members pointed out that length alone isn’t sufficient for paddling safety: kayaks also need to have sealed bulkheads for proper flotation, and that paddlers should wear life jackets (PFDs) and spray skirts. Some trips would be suitable for 14 ft. kayaks, but there would be concerns about short kayaks’ use on long trips offshore by people with limited skills. In organizing trips, SMSKN organizers should provide more comprehensive descriptions of safety requirements for kayaks for members.

1. Closure and Action Items:

* John H. to follow up with registrants to insure they commit to a pool date they have signed up for.
* John C. to complete by the next Board meeting the process of getting members to include their full names (not just first names or nicknames) in their Meetup profiles.
* Vic and Joe to come up with a list of training providers to make available to SMSKN members at the January 26 monthly Membership meeting

The Board call concluded at 8:45 p.m.

Next call: **Wednesday, February 9, 2022, 7 pm.**