**Minutes**

**Southern Maine Sea Kayaking Network**

**Extraordinary Board Call**

**Friday, May 26, 2023**

**7:00 PM**

Members Participating:

John Haile, President

Chip Woodman, Treasurer

Glen Gordon

Janet Robinson

Nananda Col

Tom Allen

Greg Fergin, Recording Secretary

The Board call commenced at 7:10 p.m.

1. Welcome.
2. New business: Whether to offer gear and kayaks donated to SMSKN by Richard Rotnem at the June 3 Kayak Kickoff-the-season event.

Background: In early May Richard Rotnem donated a large trove of kayaking gear and kayaks to SMSKN. On behalf of SMSKN, Tom Allen stored the donated equipment at his house and inventoried it. The Board had an initial exchange of ideas via e-mail about what to do with the donation, during which it was proposed to offer the equipment at the upcoming June 3 SMSKN gathering to kick off the season with a gear and information exchange. John Haile set up the Board call to consider this option.

Discussion: Tom made a slide presentation to the Board with photos of all the donated equipment and materials. He observed that there was an emotional weight to the donated gear, and therefore a need to treat it in a proper way to honor Richard’s gift. If we decide to sell the equipment, the money should be for a good cause. Glen pointed out that some of the equipment was critical safety gear, and he would not be comfortable having it sold to members without knowing for sure that it is safe to use. In addition, we would need to go through the gear and decide what it was worth.

Janet suggested that we not offer the gear at the June 3 event, but instead have a stand-alone event in Richard’s honor. Nananda observed that with the summer kayaking season starting, we would need to have the event in the near future so that members could use any equipment they acquired all season long. However, she agreed that the June 3 event was not the best time for it. All other Board members agreed. Janet suggested that Joe Herlihy could announce at the June 3 kickoff that a separate event would be held to make the donated gear available to members.

Tom noted that there had been discussion among Board members of sharing the donated gear with MASKGI. Janet reported that she had emailed MASKGI and asked them to let us know if they wanted to be involved with the donated gear. She had not received a reply to date.

John Haile concluded the discussed by saying that he would add the matter of the donated equipment to the agenda of the regular monthly Board call on June 7. He thanked Tom for his presentation and for handling the gear up to now.

The Board call concluded at 7:35 p.m.

**Next call: Wednesday, June 7, 2023, 7 pm.**