**Minutes**

**Southern Maine Sea Kayaking Network**

**Board Call**

**Tuesday, April 1, 2025**

**7:00-8:30 PM**

Members Participating:

Glen Gordon, President

Kyle Martin, Treasurer

Cathy Kimball

Ellen Gluckman

Eric Sofen

Halle Kirsch

John Haile

Tom Allen

Cheri Perry, Skills Committee

Greg Fergin, Recording Secretary

The Board call commenced at 7:03 p.m.

1. Welcome.
2. Approval of minutes from 3/4/2025 meeting: The Board unanimously approved the minutes of the March 4, 2025 Board call.
3. Board Transitions. Glen announced that Halle is resigning from the Board for personal reasons. He thanked Halle for her energy and contributions to the Board’s work. Glen noted that SMSKN’s By-laws empower the Board to appoint replacement to serve until the next annual general meeting.
4. Financial Update. Kyle reported that he now has signature authority for SMSKN’s accounts at Bangor Savings. He has accessed former treasurer Chip Woodman’s QuickBooks file, and noted there had been little activity since the end of 2024. Kyle said that by the next Board call he will have migrated the club accounts to QuickBooks Online. John noted that SMSKN stills owe Bowdoin for pool sessions. Glen said that he would work with Kyle to draft a 2025 budget once Kyle is fully up to date on the accounts. Tom said he would provide cost figures for professional coaching to Kyle once Ellen has worked that out with the coaches.
5. Skills Committee Update.
   1. Simon Osborne training. Ellen confirmed that the dates for the Simon Osborne/Nate Hanson profession training sessions will be July 26-27 and August 2-3. Cheri said the Board needs to determine 1) the sessions’ location; 2) the required skill levels for students; and 3) a base price for the training. She noted that each two-day class will be limited to ten persons and persons cannot sign up for both weekends. The Board discussed options and requirements for locations, determined that skill levels should be experienced beginner/intermediate and intermediate/advanced, and set the price at $270 for SMSKN members and $385 for non-members. Glen volunteered to work with Cheri on language for a Meetup post regarding the two courses. Board members noted that they had offered lodging to Nate and Simon for sessions in southern Maine.
   2. Ellen asked about discounts and SMSKN subsidies to SMSKN members for other professional coaching courses. Tom said that coaches will offer a 10 percent discount to SMSKN members and that SMSKN will provide a 30 percent subsidy.
   3. Cheri noted that Tom Bergh is doing Sunday “coffee hour” sessions on paddling skills during May and suggested that SMSKN post a courtesy announcement on Meetup.
6. Upcoming Schedule.
   1. Presentations.
      1. SMSKN’s annual “Stone Soup” informational display/gear swap/sale will be May 17 at Payson Park, under Joe Herlihy’s management.
      2. How to plan and post a trip. John proposed that this would be a Zoom session on Tuesday, April 29. Glen said they would keep it simple and update previous presentations on this subject. He said he would post a Meetup announcement shortly.
      3. Eric suggested that the Board send out an email highlighting all the activities coming up. Glen endorsed this, and Eric offered to help draft the email.
   2. Summer Get-Together/Rodeo. The Board discussed possible dates. Glen proposed that the Board discuss this further next month.
7. Tom asked about the proposal to re-establish the SMSKN Social Committee. Glen said that this week he will send out the survey that Halle drafted on this subject.
8. Website update. Eric reported that he is restructuring the SMSKN website’s menu navigation and continuing to tighten up the content. He said he needs to get with Glen and Vick to go over Meetup and website navigation. He asked whether the website should list Skills Committee members, and Tom endorsed that on behalf of the Skills Committee. Eric said he still needs to figure out Google Drive access in order to add more recent Zoom presentations.
9. Closure and action items.

* Glen to work with Kyle to draft a 2025 budget.
* Glen to post a Meetup announcement on the Zoom presentation on planning and posting a SMSKN paddling trip on Meetup.
* Eric to work with Glen on an email to the SMSKN membership on upcoming activities.
* Glen to send out the survey to members on re-establishing the SMSKN Social Committee.

The Board call concluded at 8:15pm.

**Next call: Tuesday, May 7, 2025, 7:00pm.**