

**Coventry Lake Community Rowing Inc.
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes**

Date: 5/20/2025

Location: Virtual

Time of Meeting: 7:30pm

CALL TO ORDER:

Board members in attendance: Courtney Rossignol, Rob Miller, Steve Simko, Heidi Diehl, Dan Eddy, Jill Lillis, Janice Carlow, John Cromie

Guests in attendance: Pam Miller, Janet Brown

Meeting called to order at 7:31pm

APPROVAL OF LAST MEETING'S MINUTES:

Rob moved to accept the minutes from the 3/18/25 meeting. Heidi seconded the motion. No discussion, none opposed, motion passed.

NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS OF MEGAN CYR AND DEVEN FITZPATRICK TO THE BOARD

Rob moved to nominate Daven Fitzpatrick and Megan Cyr to the Board. Dan seconded the motion. Steve stated that he received no response from either of them as to whether they would be attending this meeting and does not feel we should be nominating them if they have not responded and are not here. Dan agrees. Rob amended his motion to reflect that we should first wait to confirm with Deven whether he is interested in joining the Board. He added that Megan has indicated that she is interested, but had a conflict for this meeting.

The motion was amended to reflect only nominating Megan at this time. Dan seconded the motion. No further discussion, none opposed, motion passed.

OFFICER'S REPORT(S):

Treasurer's Report - Rob provided the Board with a copy of his Treasurer's Report prior to the meeting. Rob briefly discussed that Pam was working on getting our insurance reduced through a grant. Pam added that there were \$1,500 in regatta fees for a regatta that was cancelled due to weather and that we can petition to get a refund. Heidi made a motion to accept the report, Heidi seconded the motion. No discussion, none opposed, motion passed.

OPERATIONS REPORT:

Pam provided provided a verbal report; however, stated that she would send out her written report after the meeting. A copy of that written report is attached to these minutes.

Pam also stated that she found a set of Concept 2 oars on Facebook Marketplace for \$160 and would like approval to buy them. Rob advised that she did not need approval for a \$160 purchase.

OLD BUSINESS:

Fundraising Update: There were no fundraising updates other than Pam focusing on finding and applying for grants

Patriots Park Master Plan Update: No updates

Spirit Wear Store Update: Steve advised that there are no updates. Janet stated that she thinks the store is great, but has some comments and requests:

- 1) Can we add a women's tank top to the available options? Steve advised that there is a tank top option, which had been added to the selection a few weeks earlier
- 2) Can we have more color options? She does not like black, white or grey. She would like to see a blue color.

Steve advised that blue may be a problem as the oars in the graphic have blue, so it may have trouble showing up on the material. Pam, Steve and Courtney will work on this to see if we can get a blue to work

NEW BUSINESS:

Review Of Policies And Captain's/Captain's Plus Privileges -

Pam would like to see those with Captains Privileges play a larger role in onboarding new members, in a way mentoring them. She stated that the majority of our members learned to row later in life and the entire process is new, so those with more experience should play a bigger role in helping the new members learn the ropes. Pam would like to see those with Captains Privileges sign a contract which outlines the expectations surrounding Captains Privileges.

Steve asked whether Captains Privileges means more than just being able to row on the water by themselves, and whether it involves leadership responsibility? If so, where is that outlined? Pam stated that it is not outlined anywhere, which is the point of this discussion as she would like it to be. Her interpretation of being a Captain involves leadership. She would like to see an increase in camaraderie within our program.

Janet agrees that members should be a community member to our rowing community. Is it possible to create a committee to focus on the adult group? Courtney will connect with Janet about this.

Courtney stated that this will remain an open item for discussion on our Agenda

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

The Scholarship Committee has received new requests to review. Pam will send them to the Committee to review. Pam will also add Committee members to the mail distribution so that they automatically get notified via email when a new application is received.

OPEN DISCUSSION/OTHER TOPICS:

There was no open discussion

NEXT MEETING:

Future meetings were discussed. Due to conflicts with summer vacations, the next meeting will be held on 8/19/25 at 6:30pm. This meeting will be held in person at Pam and Rob's house. If special meetings are needed, they can be called.

Rob moved to adjourn the meeting. Heidi seconded the motion. No discussion, none opposed, motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 8:35pm



Operations Report for May 20

1 message

coach coventrylakerowing.com <coach@coventrylakerowing.com>

Tue, May 20, 2025 at 8:22 PM

To: [REDACTED]

Jan Carlow

Hello,

Please find the following operations report (and minutes!):

- Thank you for the acceptance of the purchase of the Hudson, it will be arriving at Patriots Park on Tuesday sometime
- May 3rd home race was a HUGE success. It ran better than last year, and notes have been taken to make it even better next year. Parking and porta-potties were the sticking points (excuse the pun). Going to make signage for next year and order a cleaning before the event
 - 7 teams total participated including UConn Men, EO Smith, Pioneer Valley Rowing, Valley, Holyoke, Lenox and us!
- Northeast Youth Championships was 100% cancelled due to unsafe conditions. I have petitioned to get our PARA boats application for Nationals accepted.
 - Fundraising will start immediately for Florida once I hear back from USRowing.
 - Waiting on US Rowing to hopefully refund the \$1500+ charge for NE Championships since the race was cancelled. More to come
- Emerson's is coming June 1 for high schoolers. It will be our last race of the season. Fee is maxed at \$300. I am looking to add a scrimmage to make up for NE Championship cancellation
- Adults started in April with large boats, but really started early May with recreation singles. Weather is keeping many away, but I expect onboarding to increase.
- Middle School rowing started today May 20, 3 kids participated. Hoping more add in for next week. Had several youth volunteer to help!
- Parks and Recreation is going to allow us to teach rowing this summer! More to come.
- All boats have been brought to the lake. Racks have been re-arranged between all programs to better suite the area spatially. All teams have been supporting each other 100% - it is really great!
- We received an almost brand new erg from a local resident: Concept 2 (we now have 10, plus the one Rob and I own that CLCR is using).
- Grants: As you know, we were awarded the following:
 - \$15,000 from Hartford Foundation for Public Giving for a boat
 - We received 50% grant from USRowing as a club that provides opportunities to those underserved
 - The American Savings Foundation Grant 1st deadline was missed, but there is a second one in October. More information to come

- I have some more grants in the works: TBD
- Seniors 101 Program
 - Human Services will support some of the fees we need for this program in lieu of the grant we received last year. We do not need any equipment, so the program will likely pay for itself 100%
- Summer Coaching
 - Doc and Ella will be our main adult coaches. I believe MacKenzie and Sophia will be returning as youth coaches.
 - All programming is not confirmed, so this still needs some flushing out.
- Having Masters start early did cause some problems with boats. If this is done again, rollout needs to include marking the google calendar with all boat usage so that adults know when boats are available
- Some boats are in need of repair. I have ordered some resin, bolts etc – nothing much. I will be able to repair them.
- Website
 - The website adult section has been updated somewhat
- Engines have been gone over by a local boat mechanic (and part of Coventry Water Ski Team) – he did a great job, Coventry Lake Marine. I have thanked him!
- All launches have been registered and stickers are current
- Police moved their dock and we moved ours over. Received a new donated dock and fixed our launch area
- Farmer's Market dates need to be set: any board volunteers?