

Capital Crew Boosters Club Meeting Minutes

A 'Special Meeting' of the Capital Crew Boosters Club was held at the CSUS Aquatic Center on 6/30/2010. The meeting was held to address a number of concerns communicated to the membership in an email distributed by Mike Zannakis. That email, as well as a response offered by Mary Neeley on behalf of the board of directors, are included as part of these minutes.

Board members present: Mary Neeley, Robert Neeley, Nancy Mathai, Lisa Johnson.
Board member absent: Gene Bell

Approximately 30 others were in attendance, including parents of both current and prospective rowers, as well as Brian Dulgar, Bob Whitford and Toby Johnson of the Aquatic Center.

The meeting commenced at 6:30pm.

Initial questions from attendees focused on the controversy surrounding a new rowing club recently formed by former coaches, parents and athletes of Capital Crew. It was made clear that no 'conspiracy' involving past or present board members existed. Mr. Zannakis agreed to send a followup email to the membership to clarify and apologize for his earlier remarks.

Concern was expressed regarding the continued success of Capital Crew in the event that a large number of rowers left the program. The consensus was that the Aquatic Center needs to do something to communicate with the current rowers and parents to open the lines of communication and to ensure that everyone knows that Aquatic Center has a premier program and venue, is in the process of hiring new coaches and are preparing for the new season. Bob and Brian both mentioned, the AC has the best facilities and longstanding history of having a solid Jr Rowing Program. Brian will schedule a town hall meeting as soon as possible to educate parents and rowers about the Capital Crew program.

A suggestion was made to have a team building BBQ or event and possibly bring in a compelling speaker to address the kids- The Aquatic Center would organize and pay for the event and look to the Boosters for reimbursement. No particular dollar amount was set, but the amount of \$1000 was suggested.

A financial report was presented by Robert Neeley, treasurer, and a budget to actual revenue and expense report was distributed. Robert summarized the report, which indicated revenue above budget of approximately \$3800 (not including EJ Shaw scholarship money), and expenses below budget of approximately \$16,000. Pending obligations include reimbursement for expenses related to participation in Nationals by five Varsity Women athletes of approximately \$4600, as well as purchase of equipment to be donated to the Aquatic Center that will total approximately \$34,000. Robert is

working with Bob Whitford to finalize the equipment purchases prior to July 31. Actual financials and figures will only be available after the close of the fiscal year.

There were no further questions related to the financial report.

A question was asked regarding the non-profit status of the Boosters Club. Robert reported that some tax returns for previous years, going back as far as 2001, had not been properly filed, but were now current. Written confirmation is expected soon from the Attorney General.

Regarding the election of a new board of directors, the Boosters will send an email to the current email parent distribution list to solicit nominations for the open board positions. This is a unique circumstance because all board positions will be available after July 31, 2010. It was agreed this would be done as soon as possible, hopefully this week. The email will describe in detail the election/appointment process, and will be scheduled so that a new board is in place by August 1, 2010.

There were no further questions, and the meeting concluded at approximately 9:15pm.

Submitted by Nancy Mathai
Secretary, Boosters Club

Email correspondence to members prior to meeting:

Dear Capital Crew Parents,

On May 19, members of the Capital Crew Boosters Club received an email (included below) from Mike Zannakis, a Capital Crew parent. It contained a number of allegations directed toward the current board of directors, questioning our collective integrity, competence and motives. I am disappointed that Mike decided on this approach, as his questions could have been asked and answered in a less confrontational and dramatic way. I have no desire to continue to parry back and forth via email with Mike. I have spoken with him privately, and although he indicated he would correct the misstatements he made in his initial email, I have seen no such corrections. It is not my desire to respond in this fashion, but I felt it

was my only choice.

I appreciate Mike's eagerness to become a board member of our boosters club, however, contrary to his statement, there was no election, and no new board members have been voted in. The Boosters Club by-laws provide a specific protocol for election of board members. The by-laws can certainly be changed. However, the current protocol was followed at the May 9th meeting. The protocol is this: Names of volunteers interested in board positions are collected and the current Board appoints these volunteers as the positions open up. The appointment of the new board members and their transition to the Board is a technical but important distinction from being 'voted in'. The current Board consists of Mary Neeley, Robert Neeley, Nancy Mathai, Lisa Johnson and Gene Bell. The truth is that no 'new Board' has been elected or appointed.

The current Board's intent is to complete our commitments and obligations to Capital Crew Boosters Club. These include finalizing payment for expenses related to the annual Awards Banquet, financial support for five Varsity girls to compete at Nationals, as well as purchase of approximately \$32,000 of equipment to be donated to the Aquatic Center. The board is working closely with the Aquatic Center to wrap things up as rapidly as we can.

Now our responses to the issues raised in Mike's email of May 19th:

1. the resignation of Lori Rediger as the Booster Club President

Lori Rediger resigned as President of Capital Crew Boosters Club on May 9th. Lori has been an active parent of Capital Crew for eleven years, with three of her children former Capital Crew rowers. Lori dedicated an incredible number of hours to help make Capital Crew the best program possible for her own children and for hundreds of others.

2. conspiracy to start a new rowing club on Lake Natoma and recruiting rowers away from Capital Crew

There has never been a 'conspiracy' on the part of the board members to do anything of the sort. The Boosters Club Board Members have been concentrating on Capital Crew work- to support the rowers and coaches. Parents, athletes and coaches formerly associated with Capital Crew have decided to form a new rowing club. This development is completely unrelated to the Boosters' mission and duty.

3. last minutes posted on the Capital Crew website are those of the Board meeting November 23, 2009

The availability of meeting minutes to members is not limited to the website. Although it is our desire to keep the website current with the latest meeting information, sometimes it takes longer than we intend. Nonetheless, minutes of meetings held throughout the year are now posted. We apologize for any inconvenience.

4. a budget was presented and approved at the November meeting, however, there is no evidence that that budget has been executed

This statement is especially troubling, as it suggests that Booster Club money has been mishandled. An odd statement to make, especially since Mike had several friendly conversations with Robert Neeley, our treasurer, prior to his broadcast email, and this topic was never mentioned. A simple phone call to Robert would have been another way to go.

5. no financial statements being made available to Booster Club members

Again, a very troubling claim that is factually incorrect. Financial statements have been provided to any member that has asked, including Bob Whitford. Mike is either un-informed, ill-informed, or both. Once more, it seems that the goal of his statement was only to arouse suspicions and cast current board members in a poor light.

6. legitimacy of the current Board of Directors – specifically some Board members not having an athlete on the Capital Crew Team during the 2009-2010 rowing season

Each member of the current Board is legitimate. Some were asked to join mid-season after others quit. Subsequently, some members chose to fulfill their term even after their kids became injured and could no longer row or chose to quit the team. We are very thankful for those members as they stepped up and did the work when they could have chosen not to continue. To suggest that they are illegitimate after a season of unselfish contribution is offensive.

7. whether or not the current Board has a Quorum

According to our by-laws, a quorum requires five board members. We have five board members, named above.

8. protection of the integrity of our 501 3C status

Our 501(c)(3) status is secure. We don't know why Mike would suggest otherwise.

9. no detailed monetary information surrounding the Ergathon in November 2009 being made available except for a letter stating who the 10 top fundraisers were and a brief statement at the Capital Crew Banquet that 30k was raised.

Ergathon results were, in fact, announced in the letter that Mike mentioned, and included the \$30,000 figure (the actual figure is \$30,435). Also included was a list of the rowers that had each raised over \$350. Detailed reports were sent to each rower, listing the names of donors that had contributed on their behalf, as well as the amount donated, and an address to send a personal 'thank you' note, as well as the 'thank you' notes themselves. In addition to his statement being inaccurate, Mike again seems to suggest that money has been mishandled.

Mike requested in his email that a 'Special Meeting' be called. Coordination of schedules and availability is challenging this time of year, but we are intent on holding the meeting as quickly as we can to address Mike's allegations directly and in person. This date below is our soonest opportunity.

Please join us for this meeting:

Where: Aquatic Center

When: June 29th, 6:30 pm

The Board appreciates your support of the Capital Crew Boosters Club throughout last season. Those of you that know us personally were as taken aback by Mike's email as we were. We hope to resolve these issues quickly, and assist in the transition to a new board of directors as soon and as smoothly as possible.

Sincerely,

Mary Neeley

Capital Crew Boosters Club

Acting President

Mary Neeley

Begin forwarded message:

From: "mazannakis" <mazannakis@comcast.net>
Date: May 19, 2010 10:50:24 PM PDT
To: <mzannakis@yahoo.com>
Subject: Capital Crew Concerns

At the recent Junior Rowing Championships held at Lake Natoma on Mothers' Day weekend, Cindy Anderson, Terra Guimont, Kim Stohlman, and yours truly, Mike Zannakis were voted in as the nucleus of the new Capital Crew Boosters Club Board of Directors to take over until the next 2010-2011. The arrangement was for the current Board to remain in place thru July 31 2010, with the new Board taking over August 1, 2010.

Recent developments listed below, however, cause the incoming Board "boat loads" of concern and we, the incoming Board, believe it would be in the best interest of Capital Crew to take over now rather than waiting until August 1. Concerns specifically include, but are not limited to the following:

- the resignation of Lori Rediger as the Booster Club President
- conspiracy to start a new rowing club on Lake Natoma and recruiting rowers away from Capital Crew
- last minutes posted on the Capital Crew website are those of the Board meeting November 23, 2009
- a budget was presented and approved at the November meeting, however, there is no evidence that that budget has been executed
- no financial statements being made available to Booster Club members

- legitimacy of the current Board of Directors – specifically some Board members not having an athlete on the Capital Crew Team during the 2009-2010 rowing season
- whether or not the current Board has a Quorum
- protection of the integrity of our 501 3C status
- no detailed monetary information surrounding the Ergathon in November 2009 being made available except for a letter stating who the 10 top fundraisers were and a brief statement at the Capital Crew Banquet that 30k was raised.

If you are a concerned parent, and one that will continue to support Capital Crew, please respond to this email, so that a “Special Meeting” can be called in accordance with the By-Laws of the Capital Crew Boosters Club, Article VII Membership Meetings Section 2, Special Meetings. 10 Active Members need to respond directly to this email so that a special meeting can be called. Please include your telephone number so that I can contact you for the time and date of the special meeting. An Active Member is one who has an athlete on the Capital Crew team, and is a member of the Capital Crew Boosters Club. Also, each Active Member is entitled to one vote per athlete.

Thank you,

Mike Zannakis

Capital Crew Boosters Club

(916) 955-1821