

## NBYC BOARD MEETING MINUTES FOR July 21, 2020

The regular monthly meeting of the New Bern Yacht Club Board was held on July 21, 2020, at the Clubhouse.

Those participating were as follows: Tim Broderick, Sam Bidwell (via Zoom), Link Bonforte, Glenda Decker, Tom Hartman, Sarah Kerner, Lucy Lichty, Arnie Litteken, Bill McHale, and Mike Ott (via Zoom).

Bill McHale, Commodore, opened the meeting at 2:55 p.m.

### **Approval of Minutes:**

Bill McHale called for additions and/or corrections to the minutes of the June 16 meeting. Those minutes were emailed to Board members in advance of the meeting for review, corrections and additions. Tom Hartman moved that the minutes be approved as written with Link Bonforte seconding. The motion was passed.

### **Commodore's Report:**

Bill McHale reported that the new hand sanitizers have been installed, one at each door and one in the kitchen.

Club membership issues continue to concern Bill. He expressed concern not only about the recruitment of new members due to the COVID-19 restrictions but also about the impact experienced by the newest members not being able to realize the benefits of belonging to NBYC during the pandemic.

Bill stated that his other agenda items will be covered under new business.

### **Past Commodore's Report:**

Tim Broderick reported that in late June he posted a *SeaWord Extra* requesting information from members to help him update the NBYC Runabout Fleet. He requested the Club's twenty-eight boat owners to indicate their interest in participating in activities involving the Runabout Fleet. Currently, he has heard from sixteen members and has added two more boat owners to the fleet. The Club has thirty potential boats for the Runabout Fleet. He has also heard from two owners with cruising boats who wish to be included in any activities. Presently there are four planned cruises: Poker Run Cruise headed by Bill McHale on August 20, Goose Creek Cruise headed by Tim Broderick on September 16, Upper Broad Creek headed by Tim Broderick on October 9, and the Fall Colors Cruise headed by Karl Lichty on November 7. Dates for these cruises have been placed on the Club's website calendar and information about three of the four cruises has been posted to the website's "Events" section. Tim will continue to communicate with this fleet and the general membership for updates on Runabout cruises as well as Flash cruises.

### **Vice Commodore's Report:**

Link Bonforte reported the following:

- The Club's rental on July 11, a high school graduation party, went well, with two seatings to comply with COVID-19 social distancing policy. The property committee sanitized the clubhouse following the event.

- The Club's tent is up and will remain so unless winds of more than 15 mph are forecast. In that case, the frame will stay up, while the canopy will be taken down.
- The Club's rental policy has been revised to state that soft chairs are not to be taken outside.
- Gratitude was expressed to Lisa Noyes, who has fabricated covers for the two smaller tables on the back porch.
- The carpenter bee holes on the back deck railing and front porch eaves have been repaired and painted or stained.

Link expressed a desire to give renters a waiver of cancellation fees during the COVID-19 situation. After the Board's agreement as to the appropriateness of this action given the current circumstances, Sam Bidwell moved to waive the rental cancellation fee as long as there are restrictions on use of the facility due to COVID-19. Sarah Kerner amended the motion to clarify that the restrictions are those of the Governor. Link Bonforte seconded the motion. The motion was passed.

Link reported that Loomis, the company that does the Club's lawn care, has asked for an increase of \$20 per cutting, from \$55 to \$75 per cut. Sam Bidwell stated that, depending on the number of cuts, this would add up to \$520 to the sum which has been budgeted for 2020. After discussion about the number of cuts necessary, the Board agreed on the following lawn care schedule: From November 1 until February 28, the lawn would be cut once a month; from March 1 until April 30, the lawn would be cut bi-monthly along with a pre-emergent application when appropriate; from May 1 until October 30, the lawn would be cut weekly. Link stated that Loomis has agreed to cut at \$55 for the next month, giving the Board time to approve the increase in cost or to obtain other bids. Link moved that he discuss with Loomis this schedule of cuts at \$75 per cut. Tim Broderick seconded. The motion passed.

#### **Rear Commodore's Report:**

Mike Ott reported that cruises continue to be cancelled. Both the River Dunes Heart Works and Front Porch Music Festival in Oriental have been cancelled. There are still NBYC boats planning to cruise to Oriental at the Front Porch time slot. He expressed appreciation to Tim Broderick for his work on the Runabout Fleet and to Link Bonforte and the Property Committee for the work they have done on the docks.

#### **Treasurer's Report:**

Sam Bidwell reported the following:

- The current bank balance is \$28,962.00.
- Our income and expenses were as expected for the month. There was one new membership application, with requisite initiation fee, and one new rental deposit.
- Maintenance expenses continue to mount. It is important that we address maintenance items because sometimes delays can cause the expense of repair to be even larger. However, we need to prioritize maintenance and repairs in a judicious balance between need and speed. Right now, the expectation is that the Club will be about twenty percent over budget in this expense category. This will further impact the Club's ability to regrow the year end "cash on hand" as planned.

Sam stated that he has discussed maintenance expenses with Link Bonforte and Bob Yeaton. Link and Bob have agreed to call a meeting of the Property Committee to examine the maintenance plan and identify critical needs and recommend expenses that can be delayed until next year.

Link Bonforte moved to accept the report. Tom Hartman seconded the motion. The motion passed.

(See attached Operating and Cash Flow report for June, which was emailed to Board members prior to the meeting.)

**Bob Yeaton, Director's Report:**

Link Bonforte reported the following for Bob Yeaton, who was not in attendance:

- The stands for navigation lights on the front porch will be replaced. These lights will be re-wired.
- Carpenter bee traps will be built.
- Piling caps have been installed on the docks and ramp. Plans are in the works to build some new line keepers for mounting to the fairway pilings.
- The old wooden ladder on the dock has been removed.

**Tom Hartman, Director's report:**

Tom has two applications for memberships. He also has compiled a list of names to work on. He stated the difficulty of staying in touch with potential members due to the COVID-19 situation. We are "caught in limbo" until we can hold Club activities. Bill McHale suggested planning some water activities and to invite potential members.

**Sarah Kerner, Director's Report:**

Sarah said she does not intend to plan events until the next phase is announced by the Governor in August. She has lined up an outdoor concert for August. The suggestion was to wait until after August 7<sup>th</sup> to finalize plans.

**Arnie Litteken, Director's Report:**

Arnie reported that the proposed Fourteenth Amendment to the By-Laws and a ballot to approve were distributed to the membership via a *SeaWord Extra* on July 15. Although amendments are usually approved by a voice vote at a General Membership meeting, distribution via e-mail was necessary because of the uncertainty about meetings due to COVID-19 restrictions. Members were told that the ballot must be returned to the Secretary by July 30<sup>th</sup>. The ballots will then be given to the Audit Committee for tallying. A two-thirds (2/3) majority of the votes cast is necessary for adoption.

**Lucy Lichty, Director's Report:**

Lucy reported that links from the NBYC website to the Club's Facebook page have been created. These links can be found on the "Home," "Communications," "Join Us" and "Contact Us" pages on the website. Contingent on Governor Cooper's lifting some of the COVID restrictions on August 7<sup>th</sup>, Lucy and Jacqueline Douglas will do another mailing of the Clubhouse rental brochure to local event managers, caterers, photographers, etc.

**Old Business:**

At the June meeting, a decision was made to place signs at the flagpole. The Board thought that these signs are not reflective of the welcoming nature of NBYC. The Club cannot afford the fencing solution discussed last month. A short term solution may be placing benches in a semi-circle at the flagpole. Rather than use the benches as a barrier, a decision was made to remind people not to park on the bricks.

**New Business:**

Ideas for Club activities which comply with COVID-19 restrictions were discussed. Ideas such as having virtual Friday night get-togethers or creating podcasts of presentations from groups such as Coast Guard Auxiliary or NC Wildlife Commission. Link Bonforte volunteered to form a small committee of members to brainstorm ideas. Link will bring those ideas to the next Board meeting.

A concern about keeping the Club's website fresh was expressed. The Board acknowledged that this is especially difficult given that little is going on due to COVID-19 restrictions. The idea of posting event photos and interesting videos on the website was suggested. Lucy stated that she will work with the web team to refresh the website and to coordinate it with the Facebook page.

### **Adjournment**

Link Bonforte moved that the meeting be adjourned. Arnie Litteken seconded. The motion passed and the meeting was adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Glenda Decker, Secretary

Note: Approved Minutes can be viewed at <http://newbernyachtclub.com/index.html>, More (dropdown), Member login, meeting minutes/reports

