



In attendance:

Raimund Krob (D)
Dave Noble (D)
Marianne Collins
Ken Boyce (listener)
Eleonora Kolar (D)
John Charest
Helmut Bock

Regrets:

Tom Miller (D)
Bryan Thomas
Brooke Hooykaas
Joe Sildiryan
Troy Hebert
David Taylor (D)

Called to order 19:38hrs
(Quorum met – Dx3)

Agenda:

Warm welcome to all and any & all “listener-inners”.
Apologies for last week’s cancellation - RK
Reviewed, amended, & accepted minutes of July 19th meeting: Motioned RK. 2nd EK

Regional Coordinator's Reports:

Tom Miller, East 2 (Brockville, Cornwall, Ottawa)

No report provided

Helmut Bock, Regional Coordinator, Ontario East 1 (Oshawa, Peterborough, Kingston)

See report in email from Helmut

- Nautilus – no dives this year (yet) – boat out of operation
- Canadian Sport Divers – going well, full program planned
- HB had a chat with Brian Pallock – Divesource – general updates
- Update on HB abdominal surgery – recovering, able to dive again

Joe Sildiryan, Regional Coordinator, Ontario Central-East: (GTA East of Yonge Street, to Ajax):

No report provided – RK mentioned that in discussion, Joe had put out feelers for 2 shows this spring.

Bryan Thomas, Regional Coordinator, Ontario Central-West (GTA, West of Yonge Street)

No report provided

Position Vacant, Regional Coordinator, Ontario South (Hamilton & surrounding area)

SCSD to nominate candidate

John Charest, Regional Coordinator, Ontario West (London, Sarnia, Windsor)

Aug 6 – SWODA 25th Anniversary party – well attended with media, 30 to 50 guests
Dive Locker took over spar buoy for Wexford – now installed – they will manage it for winter as well
John is now SOS Huron Shores Vice-Chairperson - meeting in Grand Bank this weekend
Archaeological beach survey this weekend in Goderich – tornado damage depending.

ACTION ITEM: John - Please update status on Maitland Star scuttling plans

Position Vacant, Regional Coordinator, Ontario North (Sudbury, North Bay, & surrounding area)

Sudbury Dolphin Aquatic Club or North Bay Scuba Club to nominate candidate

Troy Hebert, Regional Coordinator, Ontario North-West (Thunder Bay & surrounding area)

No report provided

Board of Director's Reports:

Raimund Krob, President

Provided update on communications with Town of Innisfil – nothing to report – except dive invite at BBP with Steve Lafortune. He did not have a permit.

Toronto Rainbow Reef Rangers – discussion on supporting ban on shark finning in Toronto. All voted in favour of supporting the initiative via petition.

ACTION ITEM: Dave – put info on website

Report on OUC AGM, Sunday, November 13th, 2011, and what we have to do if Member Clubs do not nominate new candidates for all 5 OUC Board positions. To be discussed at end of meeting.

AGM meeting – request all Board Members provide reports for year-end

Provided update on OUC CAPIP Assets disposition, Online Auction to start week of Nov 28th and to close Dec 2nd, 2011.

Dave Noble, (interim) Director of Sport Safety's Report:

2011 Incident Report has been created and published.

1. The years' 2nd fatality occurred on July 30th at the wreck of the King in Tobermory.
A diver (Dr Jan Raczynski) apparently had a heart attack while on the wreck.
The Coroner's office has not yet responded to queries for information. Planned call after the meeting did not happen
2. A technical diver from Ontario died while on a rebreather while diving on the Jodrey in New York State.
3. 2010 Incident Report for the accident of September 1st is still not published awaiting Raimund's getting approvals from the coroner.
It is important to get some information up ASAP. The coroner's account should be adequate for publication as our "opinions" are biased.

Aviva Barth Program

- Need to find a new printing supplier
- Asked Tom Miller for assistance x 2 – **no reply**

Eleonora Kolar, Membership Director's Report

Nothing to report - will get back in the game next meeting

Tom Miller, (interim) Director of Communications' Report:

No report provided

David W. Taylor, Finance Director's Report:

No report provided

Portfolio Coordinator Reports:

Marianne Collins, OUC Scuba Community Directory Coordinator Report:

- Community Directory – following up bounce-backs
- Do we know if Aquarius has dropped off the Commercial Member list? Is this because their membership renewal date has passed? Have they renewed?

Marianne Collins, OUC Insurance Program Coordinator Report:

Nothing new

Marianne Collins, OUC Newsletter Editor Report:

- Newsletter – article on Bill 13 for next
- Have received a few articles for the Fall newsletter. Whatever we want broadcast for the AGM, should be identified and written up for the newsletter for September.

David Noble, OUC's "Dive Ontario!" Directory Coordinator's Report:

Nothing to report

ACTION ITEM: Raimund to provide Board with "Dive Ontario!" Guide to Diving the Upper St. Clair River. (outstanding from last meeting)

David Noble, OUC's Technical Advisory role - Visibility

OUC Clean Air Program.

- Meeting with Thomas Kolozar of Amaircare/EUC regarding next steps
- Benefits divers and other users of compressed air with significantly cleaner air
- Opportunity for OUC to become exclusive distributor

OUC corporate program for DEMA membership to offer to OUC membership

ACTION ITEM: Awaiting Raimund's info – has not had an answer from Dema

OUC Crisis Counselling benefit.

ACTION ITEM: Marianne investigating this option with Insurer – nothing yet.

David Noble, OUC's Web Content Editor / Associate Webmaster

Updated the Board Minutes on Archives page.

Administrative Office Reports:

Financial Reports

- Email from Doug Rosser – Barry Adamson / Adrian Van(SUCI) to review financials for AGM
- Email from Brian Craig – received membership lists for Commercial, Clubs, Club members, Individuals
No changes

Old business:

Proposed **MOTION to DISSOLVE the Ontario Underwater Council Effective December 31st, 2011**

Restated the following by DN

- The proposal being put forward is **NOT** a done deal to dissolve OUC.
- A deficiency in the By Laws is being addressed. It seems that there were no guidelines for how the assets of the OUC were to be looked after in the event that there was no OUC Board.
- This motion will help to establish the procedure for dissolution when and if it does happen and should be passed regardless of the election outcome so that the By-laws can be updated.
- So the proposal (and it is a proposal at this point) is for a motion to dissolve the OUC **WHEN/IF** a full slate of nominees have not been presented from the OUC Member Clubs and Commercial Members, prior to the AGM, and that this motion will be considered to be in effect for final approval of 2/3rds of the membership at the AGM to be held on November 13, 2011.
- The Board may decide at the September 30, 2011 deadline to activate this motion anyway so that it can be discussed and be voted on by the membership so that the By Laws can include the contingency for future need.
- This motion can be revoked if a full slate of nominees becomes available at the AGM which will fill all the positions and if the membership chooses to revoke the motion.
- This motion is to be voted on **prior to the start of the elections**, as a quorum may potentially not be available to conduct the business of the corporation after the current Board has been dissolved. If a full Board is voted in, the motion to dissolve may not be needed but the contingency language may well need to be added to the By Laws. If the motion does go before the membership and membership votes against the motion and to keep OUC, the proposal doesn't go into effect. The dissolution of OUC or even the motion going forward is only a proposal.

Comments

Raimund

- Some rewording required
- Add to website?

Marianne

1. OUC Board Minutes not being read by recipients, ie. club presidents. Experiment to inform membership of OUC goings-on needs minor adjustment. Suggest sending the Readers Digest version that Dave puts on the website rather than the full blown Minutes. It might be easier to digest. Also need to emphasise that OUC includes them on the distribution list to address the criticism that no one knows what OUC is doing and OUC expects the President to share the information with their members.
2. Proposal for Motion to Dissolve OUC:
 - a. News Bulletin should go out to **every member** by end of August ie. next week, so they have a month to respond to the Sept 30th deadline. It should be succinct and deal just with the election announcement and Proposal. Follow up separately with the Fall newsletter which can include a poignant President's message, Editorial etc.
 - b. Judging from the feedback received so far, the way the Proposal is worded may be leading readers to immediately jump to the conclusion that OUC dissolution is a done deal. Perhaps the proposal needs rewording before publishing.
 - c. Feedback received from individual members so far has been of the "oh well, so sad" variety. Except for one individual, don't hear any hint of clubs rallying to save OUC. My own club is going to put an ad for OUC Board nominations in their next newsletter and is starting to look for an alternate insurance provider. Of course they have yet to see the spreadsheet that outlines all of the implications beyond just the insurance.
3. Alternate suggestions to Dissolution:
 - a. **Suggestion 1:**

I propose a structural change to the OUC Board such that Board positions become Club responsibilities rather than relying on individuals to come forward. In the same way that Ice Floe race requires 2 dry volunteers to help, Clubs would indicate their choice of one position to be responsible for on their OUC renewal application (first come first served basis) including all portfolios and Regional Coordinators... sort of an extension of the Liaison/ Listener-Inner concept. Any Club member could serve as an Alternate to attend meetings and Club would be responsible for replacing the individual if their original Designate needs to step down. Extend to Commercial members too?

Downside:

Resistance from Clubs. Don't know how attendance or job performance would be enforced. Don't want OUC to be perceived as dictator of this idea. I would prefer that this proposal come from a club or member rather than from OUC Board for the membership to vote on at the AGM.

b. **Suggestion 2:**

Scale back OUC executive to 5 Board members by eliminating Regional Coordinators, portfolios like Shipwreck and Community directory, Ice Floe and Adventure Show committees etc., to cut down on workload. Only keep 5 essential positions to run the store in a diminished capacity while the Board concentrates on membership drive, commercial member value proposition and long term Visibility Plan.

Downside:

Without any programs or benefits, OUC membership would be even harder to justify.

c. **Suggestion 3:**

It is becoming obvious that OUC cannot function on membership fees alone. Doug has suggested that OUC needs an event that raises additional funds ie. Adventures Underwater?

Downside:

As always, who will do the work? Adventures Underwater already suffered from same lack of commitment from the committee.

d. **Suggestion 4:**

Look into corporate or private funding. Apply for grants from Trillium, Project Aware, RBC Blue Water, others. Perhaps refocus OUC's mandate on eco advocacy.

Downside:

Not sustainable.

Helmut

- Was unaware of the proposal – need time to consider it.

John

- Was unaware of the proposal – need time to consider it.

Eleonora

- Was unaware of the proposal – need time to consider it.

Ken Boyce - listener

- Regional Coordinators need to be spreading this message face to face – email is obviously not working
- Clubs are having trouble surviving themselves. Clubs need something more than dive schedules to offer their members

ACTION ITEM: A meeting to review language and create a news bulletin is scheduled for Wed Aug 31st
Invited – Dave, Raimund, Marianne, Eleonora, Doug Rosser
Use teleconference bridge

ALL MEMBERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO REVIEW THE PROPOSAL AND PROVIDE FEEDBACK TO THE OUC BOARD ASAP.

1. New/other business:

none

2. Adjourned Meeting as of 21:00 hrs., next meeting Tuesday, September 20th, 2011, 7:30 - 9:30 p.m.

Reference Documentation:

Proposed MOTION to DISSOLVE the Ontario Underwater Council Effective December 31st, 2011
To access the latest version of the motion, please follow the link below:

http://underwatercouncil.com/downloads/board_minutes/Proposed%20MOTION%20TO%20DISSOLVE.pdf