

MINUTES
MEETING OF 16 FEBRUARY 2008
A.I.I. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The meeting convened at about 2000 in the lower level of the Seamen's Inne and Pub, after dining upstairs.

PRESENT:

R. M. "Max" Maxwell, President	Bob Bortolin, Member
William E. Strong, III, Vice President	Marjorie Farmer, Member
June Fliri, Secretary	Dorothy Galligan, Member
Ed Fazio, Membership Chair	Jerry Stahl, Member
Peter Hagen, Trainer	Brian O'Hare, Guest [future Member?]
Barbara Birch, Member	

FINANCE

Alan Grate, Treasurer, has resigned his post effective immediately. Dorothy Galligan has offered to step up to that post; the ExCom appointed her to that position.

President Max Maxwell, presented an interim financial report:

Cash on Hand is \$3116.28. Of that amount we need to pay the following:

\$850 donation to the Seaport (cumulative over the last two years);

\$100 (approx) web site host expense (we are searching for a new service; our current host is getting out of this service);

\$300 (approx) SeaTow (based on last year's cost of \$149 per boat);

\$1400 (approx) Insurance (based last year's cost of 1378 for 2 boats);

\$200 (approx) CT registration (last year was \$90 & \$105);

\$80-\$100 (approx) Charts and Tide tables depending on paper or laminate, based on last year's cost of \$18 for tables and \$64 for (2) laminated charts);

\$70 Post Office box expense, and

\$200 (approx) per year U. S. Sailing membership [though no one present knew our current status; nor the benefits of organizational membership].

additional minor costs will be incurred for things such as gas; food for the annual meeting; new purchase costs could be incurred for monogrammed hats, T-shirts, etc. for future sale (and marketing).

Potential new expenses discussed were a Thru-hull log/depth sounder for *Blue Bayou* and a Man Overboard rescue Frisbee.

RECRUITMENT

Our success in Recruitment determines the financial viability of the organization as the dues collected support the expenses of maintaining our boats. The Annual Membership cost to belong to AIMS is set currently at \$300 per year. This does not include Mystic Seaport membership cost (\$ per year depend on chosen level of membership) nor the Anderson Island Irregulars (A.I.I.) membership cost (currently \$30/yr), both of which are prerequisites for AIMS membership. To stimulate interest we have offered the following discounts:

Charter members (must be continuing) (\$225, or 25 % discount)

Early applicants (\$270, or 10% discount)

Late joiners (sliding scale, depending on when they join)

Community Sailing Program "graduates" (\$225 for 1st year, 25% discount)

We have finalized our new brochures, copies were distributed and they were unanimously approved by all present.

The need to ‘get the word out’—to inform the community of the program (and the fun attached!)—is important. Venues discussed were:

- Local newspapers and local ‘shoreline times’ newspapers [Max, Ed, June]
- The *Windrose* (a Seaport publication) [Max]
- The Mystic Seaport Staff Bulletin [Max]
- Community Sailing Classes [Ed]
- Local Yacht clubs [Max w/ Beth at YTB]
- Local Chambers of Commerce/Tourist Bureau [Max]
- Local Libraries
- Public Informational Meetings [Max, Ed, Peter, Bob, You?]

Public Informational Meetings are important, and press coverage beforehand should also include an article describing the organization. Ed Fazio has organized two such meetings in March and will take care of making sure there is an article and a notice in the Westerly newspaper beforehand. Max will contact Returning Member Marshall Williams, who does free-lance newspaper articles.

Meeting dates and places are as follows:

- March 26 at Babcock-Smith Museum Carriage House in Westerly, RI
- March 27 At Hoxie Fire Station in Mystic

Times to be determined.

All are invited to attend!

ANNUAL MEETING ITEMS

The proposed slate of officers for the 2008-2009 season are as follows:

President	Ed Fazio
Vice President	Bob Bortolin
Secretary	Marjorie Farmer
Treasurer	Dorothy Galligan
Membership	Max Maxwell

OLD BUSINESS ITEMS

- Sail training reports for each excursion during the 2007-2008 sailing season are on file with the President.
- Annual Meeting with purchased food and Pot-luck offerings—Sunday, June 1, 2008 to begin at 10:30 am; Max will send reminders early May
- What shall we purchase for the Community Sailing Program [and Boathouse?] with our committed \$850 donation???—it should be something that is outside of their normal operating budget; they are creating request list w/ Max.
- Financial statements must be presented at each Annual Meeting, and, if possible, completed and distributed a month before the meeting; Max will work w/ Dorothy.
- Logo items for sale and distribution were discussed—it was agreed that, at a minimum, hats and collared t-shirts with the A.I.I. logo should be made...colors to be decided. Ed will follow up.

VOLUNTEER WORK ACTIVITIES

NOTE: The dates listed in the meeting agenda e-mailed to Members were/are erroneous! Correct dates follow:

Dyer Dhow maintenance dates: February 16, 2008
March 01, 15 & 29, 2008
April 12 & 26, 2008
May 10 & 24 (Memorial Day weekend)

Sometimes Saturday Sessions: February 09 & 23, 2008
March 08 & 22, 2008
April 05 & 19, 2008
May 03, 17 & 31, 2008

(see further discussion under new business)

AIMS VESSEL MAINTENANCE

- Both vessels need to be hauled and the hulls cleaned
- Sails for both vessels need to be relocated from *Kittiwake* shed due to Shipyard construction and Dyer maintenance
- General cleaning and preparation

<i>Blissfull</i> work to be done	Repair tiller Install Porta-potti Repair inboard propeller Assess and repair damage to the hull Repair outboard bracket mounting access hole
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<i>Blue Bayou</i> work to be done	Install mooring cleats Install outboard
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NEW BUSINESS

It was noted that because the Community Sailing Program starts late this year, the Youth Training Building is available and could be used for A.I.I./AIMS organized activities such as educational seminars, social pot-luck gatherings, or even sailing the Dyer Dhows ... some ideas circulated for education activities were: Rules of the Road review; knot-tying; GPS use; coastal navigation.

Peter Hagen has created two comprehensive written (draft) examinations (culled from many sources) to administer to candidates wishing to obtain Skipper Certification (a necessary requirement to sailing one of the AIMS boats without one of our three [3] Trainers aboard). One draft is called a "dockside examination" (which, it was suggested, should also include a navigation section) and the second draft is a "rules-of-the-road" exam. It was suggested that these exams could be taken separately, so as not to discourage/overwhelm the aspiring Skippers.

Respectfully submitted,
June Fliri, Secretary
February 23, 2008