

**SPYC Board of Directors Meeting - September 26, 2022  
6:30 p.m. At Clubhouse and via ZOOM**

**SUMMARY: MOTIONS MADE: SPYC Board Meeting  
September 26, 2022:**

**MOTION** made by Bill, seconded by Mike to approve the August 29, 2022 Minutes. Motion passed.

**MOTION** by Nathan, second by Lynn, to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed.  
Meeting adjourned at 8:22 p.m.

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**SPYC Board of Directors - September 26, 2022  
6:30 p.m. SPYC Clubhouse and via ZOOM**

**Meeting Called to Order:** 6:32 p.m.

**Pledge of Allegiance** Recited

**Board Members Present:** Commodore Bill Tschohl; Vice-Commodore Mike Patten; Treasurer Lynn Adler; Secretary Barbara Haake. Members-at-large: Brett Cummings; Troy Janisch; Andy Ristrom; Nathan Schumann; Diane Scovill; Annie Stone. Immediate Past Commodore Greg Jorgensen.

**Staff Present:** Marina Manager Kristina Cummings

**Guests:** Mary Rossi; Tom Surprenant Tom Marrone, MJ Babcock, Stephanie Stoessel, David Nelson

**Approval of the Agenda:**

Additions/deletions from today's Agenda - None

**Approval of previous board meeting's minutes:**

Minutes from August 29, 2022 -

**MOTION** made by Bill, seconded by Mike to approve the August 29, 2022 Minutes. Motion passed.

**Open Comments from the floor:**

Comments can be made on items/issues NOT listed on the Agenda  
Please limit your comments to three minutes each

No comments from the floor/guests. It became an Open Discussion among the board members.

Diane: Regarding Life Membership: We approved membership for David McKusick; What about Ruby McKusick who has a separate membership? No response to Diane's question. Bill had a list of voting members and life members. We need a correct list.

MJ said she has been on the board and has been here 22 years. Bill also noted that Neil DenBleyker and Ron Hilson should be added to the list as life members but a person has to follow the Standing Rules (that were approved at the August 29, 2022 board meeting) on the criteria to be eligible for life membership. Barbara mentioned the simple plaque Mark Mosby received in 2011 when he became a life member. Maybe SPYC could give a new life member a recognition plaque? Barbara said she would send a photo of the plaque to the board members.

Nathan commented on a homeless person coming into our boatyard. Greg mentioned there are homeless people living on the other side of the High Bridge (he called it a “gated community”). Nate suggested we need a fence from the office down to the shore. We have a gate that we could use. We should have a drawing where the fence should go. Andy said he could help with pricing a fence. A question was: How did a homeless person get in/out of the boatyard? Perhaps there is a hole in the existing fence.

### **Flag Officer Reports:**

Commodore Bill Tschohl -

We have two new hires: Vee and Dan. They are doing a good job.

Vice-Commodore Mike Patten -

No report

Treasurer Lynn Adler -

We have to start working on the budget for 2023.

Secretary Barbara Haake -

Barbara would like the board’s agenda to go out five days before a board meeting. She asked to have a written report on what a board member will be presenting at the meeting along with a suggested motion on the action they would like taken. The board member’s report would be *attached to the agenda* so the board can be prepared on items that will be discussed. This will help facilitate the meeting.

### **Marina Manager Report:** Kristina Cummings

#### **Financial**

\$284,551 in open invoices with QuickBooks

Checking Account - \$280,406.09

Mud Cat Loan - \$204,734.41

35 Boat in yard that never went in the water in 2022 - What if owners walk away from their boats? Put them up for a Sheriff’s sale/auction. Bill - never sold a boat for less than \$5,000, most bills are greater than the value of the boats. Lynn - who owns the boat? - Kristina - we don’t own any boats other than the work boat and the jon boat..

#### **Completed**

New accountant has started – many follow up questions

Contracts – Docusign all have gone out 50 completed 88 not yet signed

Hiring – Vee started last week & today was Dan’s first day

#### **In Process**

New signs at the gas dock, entrance, office and gates – Lynn said she can't do better

than what we have quoted.

Pump Out System- Extension not a viable option - for the pump out system will then be added to American Made only. The pump out is built in Canada. Let it go and reapply if we want to pipe the dock.

Pull out date - please set it now. Six boats pulled today (September 26th). Boats to be pulled by the 21st of October. Then we have to get this place closed up for the winter. Gas dock gets moved in. Greg DenBleyker will be gone November 1st. We have a number of days for pull-out that are already full.

### **Items for Budgeting**

Convenience Fees – Legal in all 50 states we can wave them for people who pay cash or check (5%)

Kristina: We have a new accountant. Using DocuSign for a winter contract. 50 have signed 88 left to sign.

Final cost of our processor machine. 2.3/2.5% fee. Also credit cards, fee at 5%. Between 2-4% for the card provider (Amex-4 down to debit). Debit card same as cash? Kristina said no, not with us. Always have to pay for gas with a credit card. Andy is cheaper still at 1.5% Get through this year without the credit card fee. Troy - Use a check - that is the way to save us money. Kristina: A credit card payment for a bill costs us an average of 5%

### **Committee Reports:**

Social Committee: Bill Tschohl

Social - Halloween Party October 8th. Costume party with prizes. Holiday party at the St. Paul Hotel on December 3rd not the 10th as previously stated. The Hotel is available on the 3rd, not the 10th. Will have entertainment. Troy can bring his Ukulele. Troy suggested that maybe Evan Fox's band could perform.

Tom Marrone: Halloween should we decorate? There may be some decorations somewhere. Diane will help set up during the week. Time for Halloween Party: October the 8th: 6:00 p.m. Do we want a theme? Decision: Just let the participants dress as they wish, no theme.

Clubhouse committee: Tom Marrone, Bill Tschohl, Nate Schumann

Tile in the back hallway needs grout, fix the tile - new tile? Get something different. Tile not best on cold floors. Vinyl? Need some of the floors sealed. Repairs. Get a floor guy. Water problem, too. Vinyl is the best solution.

Finance Committee: Lynn Adler

Finance Committee: Smith and Schaefer (accountants) were hired. When they get through the books, we may have a report. Brett - We need to have a draft budget by the November meeting. We need to file 2020 and 2021 returns. Need to get in by October 15th. Lots of questions for the board. How have we treated assets in the past? Depreciation. How much have we depreciated our equipment? Spent a million on our

docks - have they been depreciated? Spend more time with S&S and get a list together of what we need to do? Get ahold of a depreciation schedule and Pat Boulay said he has it. Depreciate the MudCat. Go to the old accounting firm and check on what was done five/six years ago.

Membership: Mike Patten and Lynn Adler

Membership: Lynn - four new members in 2022, goal was two but we got four. Catamaran paid his summer slip fees. We will let him slip at the Miller Dock. He built the boat himself. Another new member bought a boat out of Kentucky but there was a complication with the sale.

Marketing: Lynn Adler and Mike Patten

Lynn would like to get a budget for marketing. There are things they need to do. Diane - can we talk to the Chamber of Commerce to help market us? Should/could we invite Councilmember Rebecca Noecker to the Christmas Party? No answer - - -

Vision and Strategic Planning, Procedures & Contracting: Bill Tschohl, Brett Cummings, Diane Scovill, Troy Janisch and Andy Ristrom.

Operations Committee: Andy Ristrom, Greg Jorgensen and Brian Koskie.

Operations - Andy - Haul out underway. All need to be pulled by October 21st. Pulling the docks, some are bad...will leak water when picked up. Ladder purchased.

Public-Government Relations Committee: Barbara Haake

Regarding DNR on definition of Houseboats vs. Boathouses and what compromise could be made in DNR statute/rules on motors vs. no motor. Barbara mentioned St. Paul is given permits from the DNR for non-motorized/stationary floating structures. There are six permits for St. Paul for floating structures i.e. SPYC Clubhouse, the Covington, Padelford's "office", etc. ALSO, "boathouses" do not have motors. "Houseboats" are expected to have motors that run.

In speaking with DNR's state hydrologist, Jenifer Sorensen, the houseboats at St. Paul's Small Boat Harbor aka SPYC can prove their motors work by turning them on and running them for a minute or two. Barbara made the point that 1) SPSBH/SPYC has had houseboats in its harbor for 110 years; 2) SPYC's lease with the City of St. Paul states that 25 Liveaboard Houseboats are allowed in the harbor; and 3) the main reason SPSBH/SPYC got the COE \$500,000 Community Project Fund monies is because SPYC provides affordable housing.

Barbara then reported on a phone call from COE's Bob Stanick who heads the COE's St. Paul District out of Fountain City, Wisconsin. Barbara has been very concerned about the cost per cubic yard (CY) the COE will charge in Spring 2023 (because of the delay in finishing the dredging of SPYC's Lower Harbor until 2023) that the \$10 CY charged in 2022 could be much higher in 2023. Bob assured Barbara that the CY price may only go up a little bit. Barbara reported that could mean under \$11 CY. She said she could not thank Bob enough for that news!!! Such a relief for SPYC/SPSBH. With inflation and the COE's contract negotiations she was afraid the cost could be much higher for the

dredging project and the project might not get completed as planned. (Cross your fingers that huge flooding in Spring 2023 won't happen.)

### Bylaws? Standing Rules?

RE: Boats with motors vs. without operating motors. DNR sets the precedence. Committee didn't work on it: Use the DNR Rule. We need to get through the lease with St. Paul first. Leave it up to DNR. Having motors is not addressed in SPYC Bylaws; only in SPYC Standing Rules. Response: Every boat has to run. Diane - have some language to broaden the requirement: You don't have to have to drive your boat out of the harbor. It sounds as if the DNR says the engine just has to run.

Club won't pay to move your boat. Get your own plan on how to move your boat. Put this in the minutes. Stephanie: Why can't we use the workboat? Response: Too many boats to move. We need to move docks, too. We can't assume the workboat can do the move. Diane: We need to get a company to move us if the workboat cannot be used. Response: A person can get River City Welding. Maybe write up a contract and have the boat owners sign it - could get a cost reduction with the volume of boats to move. Direction: Send information to the boatowners on who can move boats. Do contracts in February. Six months to figure it out. Need four weeks notice from the COE when dredging starts in Spring 2023.. Diane - Communicating to the Liveboards: Need to get things ready for February but for sure by April. Stressful for everybody.

We are all together in this. UH and LH will be cleaned out.

Have people who have been here 20 years write up why they should be life members. Runabouts don't need inspection. Hired Vee and Dan. Covered 2022 dredging plans. Policy with DNR on boathouses and houseboats. Asked the DNR what is a slip and what is a tie along. The DNR states what a boathouse and liveboard houseboat is. Talked about pullouts.

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### **Old Business:**

Purchased ladder to attach to gas dock

Progress on Standing Rule insertion for Liveboards re: motors:

Brett, Andy, Greg - Committee Members: Will wait - DNR covers this in State statute ruling on "Boathouses vs Houseboats"

### **New Business:**

>New hires: 1) Vee and Dan Employees; 2) New accountant for SPYC, Smith and Schaeffer.

> Standing Rules Additions:

>Life Members named after 20 years w/SPYC along with criteria

>A boat inspection is required for most motorized boats in the water in SPYC Harbors: \*This applies to all boats that have a sleeping cabin."

>Policy for second boats in the marina be discussed over the winter period

>Plans for Spring 2023 Dredging by the COE; dock removal, etc. We will have a four-week notice from the COE in order to get ready for Spring dredging.

>Policy Liveboard Houseboats, motors in DNR Rules.

>Preparation for fall/winter: Pullout schedule/progress - Pullouts need to be completed by October 21, 2022

**Upcoming Dates for 2022:**

Saturday, October 8, 2022 6:00 p.m. Halloween Party Clubhouse  
Monday, October 24, 2022 6:30 p.m. SPYC Board Meeting Clubhouse  
Thursday, November 24, 2022 Thanksgiving Day  
Monday, November 28, 2022 6:30 p.m. SPYC Board Meeting Clubhouse  
Saturday, December 3, 2022 SPYC Holiday Party at St. Paul Hotel

**Adjournment:**

**MOTION** by Nathan, second by Lynn, to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed.  
Meeting adjourned at 8:22 p.m.

Notes taken by SPYC Secretary Barbara Haake