

## **SPYC Board Meeting : March 28, 2022**

ZOOM and in Clubhouse, 6:30 p.m. CDT

Meeting called to Order 6:30 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance: Recited

Board Members Present: Commodore Bill Tschohl; Lynn Adler; Brett Cummings; Annie Stone; Nathan Schumann; Andy Ristrom; Greg Jorgensen. Attending via ZOOM Diane Scovill; Barbara Haake. Absent: Mike Patten; Pat Boulay (recently resigned)

Staff Present: Kristina Cummings

Guests: MJ Babcock; Tom Marrone

Approval of Agenda: ADD 1) Pat Boulay's resignation as treasurer; 2) Discussion on filling the treasurer's position.

Approval of February 28, 2022 Board Meeting Minutes - Two corrections: 1) \$100 charge to anyone on list to ask to change slips but for members, they are put at the top of the list. 2) Corrected details on dredging Upper Harbor - slips to dredge in 2022; need additional piping, etc. Motion to approve the 2/28/22 board minutes made by Andy Ristrom, Seconded by Brett. Motion passed 9-0.

Open Comments from the Floor:

First: MJ Babcock: Already had survey on her boat; talked to dockmaster (Brian Koskie). Repairs need to be finished and boat resurveyed before the boat can be launched.

Second: Tom Marrone: Regarding disposal of the American Flag. SPYC would like to pay tribute to our members who served and are serving our country and The American Flag . On Sunday June 12th the club will be celebrating National Marina Day. On that day we want to take some time to have a Ceremony of retirement for American Flags that are worn or damaged and put them to rest in a dignified and proper manner that they deserve. There will be a box to deposit your Old and Worn out American Flags in the Clubhouse.

Flag Officer Reports:

Commodore Bill Tschohl: Pat Boulay resigned his board position as treasurer. Email from Bill to SPYC Board dated 3/27/22:

I've spoken to Pat Boulay today and he has resigned as treasurer. With retirement, he is traveling more and feels we need someone that has more availability for finance oversight. Pat has had a wonderful history with us as a past Commodore and a multitude of various board positions since 2008. From building the clubhouse to dredging operations design, Pat has touched many aspects of our club that are successfully implemented now because of his guidance and leadership. Please join me in wishing him happy travels. (Bill)

Bill: We need to fill the treasurer's position. Bill proposed that Lynn Adler will be our new treasurer. Lynn is a small business owner and a board member with a great range of experience. We don't have a policy for replacing an elected board member who resigns except in the case of replacing the Commodore. Bill advised that we don't need a Bylaw change to fill the position. Items not spoken to in the By-Laws nor Standing Rules should be considered open to the current board's advice and consent. We should keep the flexibility in how to replace other board positions. We will go back to the other candidates for our 2022 board of directors (four of

them, Col Velo; Tom Marrone; Troy Janisch; Stephanie Stoessel) who did not win a position on our 2022 board and see if they want to be our sixth board member-at-large. We don't intend to leave a board position open.

A Motion was Made by Greg, Seconded by Andy, that we install Lynn Adler as SPYC's treasurer for SPYC's 2022 board. Motion passed 9-0.

A Motion was Made by Andy, Seconded by Lynn, that Bill should call Troy Janisch and ask him if he would serve on SPYC's 2022 board as its sixth board member-at-large. If Troy declines, then Bill should continue down the list (of the remaining three candidates who were not elected to the 2022 board. Motion passed 9-0.

Bill stated that we have had a lot of positive improvements. Kristina has questioned every bill. Will be working on putting together what we are doing, and how we are doing it.

The river has come up to about 6 feet. It appears we won't have a flood this year but no one knows for sure.

The calendar of our planned activities is listed on SPYC website. The Bylaws and Standing Rules are also on the website. MJ Babcock suggested a notebook be assembled of the Bylaws, Standing Rules, Roberts' Rules of Order, plus other pertinent information to give to board members that can be used now and handed down to new board members in the future. Lynn and Barbara said they would help with that.

Secretary's Report Barbara Haake: Barbara asked the board about having a complete board packet mailed out to the board members about five/six days before a board meeting. Organizations do this so the board can study what will be presented at a board meeting - so its members can be fully prepared. Said packet would consist of the next meeting's agenda, the previous meeting's minutes, the reports to be given by SPYC committees along with a suggested motion if the committee needs approval of anything from the board. Barbara said she would compile the information to be mailed out.

Kristina said the US postal service is horrible; that she would assemble the board's packet with reports from the officers/committees, along with any information that the board needs for its meeting and email the packet to the board members. Barbara said OK, she would write up the agenda, gather the information and submit it to Kristina and Kristina would do a group email to all of the board members five/six days before the next board meeting. Kristina will include the monthly financial report.

Marina Manager's Report: Kristina Cummings Staff Report SPYC March 3/28/22

Financial

\$348,112 in open invoices

\$51,587 in overdue invoices

\$30,591 Paid in the last 30 Days

Checking Account - \$199,307.51

Processing Account - \$1,414.64

Mud Cat Loan - \$220,035.64

Finally Canceled the ATT cell phone - \$112 per month

Saved \$2K from the Pump and Meter since they put in the same part 3 times....

Fixed the Q\$ 2021 Trash bill by \$1,388.86

Confirmed the 2022 billing is not missing the \$33K that was miss billed last year

In Process

Trying to review the Trash bills going back to confirm when the mistake happened that we paid for the Paddleford's trash service

Fixing the Quick Books Sales tax issues many items were taxed that should not and many items that need to be taxed are not currently.

Slips

Upper Harbor- Full

Lower Harbor- 11 but 3 are unusable

Dahlgren – 15 full and we expect more before spring.

Operational

Working on finalizing our Heartland Credit Card processing for the Gas dock.

They were the only one of our processors that Zahl could use.

New Dock Boxes – Found the company for 10 Boxes it will \$4k with shipping currently

Membership

New member applications from Paul Amann and Tom Micheletti

Kristina has been in communication with SPYC's contact person with the city, Tyler McKean, St. Paul's Park and Recreation Program Supervisor. Tyler is trying to secure a DNR Grant to provide transient services and dockage for boaters who come to the City of St. Paul. In SPYC's lease with the City of St. Paul it specifies that SPYC can collect dockage fees from boaters who tie up at the City Dock.

We hope to be able to help the city to update its dock and expand to the space that the Showboat used to occupy just upriver from the Covington Inn. The DNR has Federal monies available for harbors to provide dockage for transient boaters. Winning grant money from the DNR/Feds would contribute to a qualifying project 75% up to \$3 million. It is a "rolling grant" that is available until 2025. Kristina is discussing how we can help the city secure said grant. There is a lot of competition for this funding. Large boats could slip on the City Dock. We need documentation as to how many boats could be expected to come to the City Dock.

Another plan in helping the city in having an additional reason for a grant would be to point out the frequent dredging that happens in SPYC's lower harbor. To save public money due to frequent dredging, some remedial work could be done to divert the sediment that collects under the City Dock and fills in the lower harbor. The preventative work would direct the sediment past the City Dock and move it out into the river's main channel. One suggestion is to put in a wing dam at the top end of the City Dock and/or to attach sheet metal to the riverside of the City Dock. Both solutions would help to keep the sediment out into the main channel, thereby sending it further down river. Andy's comment: In the past the city has put up signs on the City Dock that state that there is no overnight dockage on the dock. Evidently, the city will not continue this practice and allow boats to dock overnight or over weekends, etc.

Kristina: A suggestion is that SPYC puts together a committee to help improve the appearance of the SPYC gas dock (located at the upper harbor). Paint the gas dock, power wash it, etc. Kristina uses the small building on the gas dock as her "office" two or three days a week. She needs WiFi there, also WiFi is needed at SPYC's clubhouse. She is exploring the best WiFi options. At the gas dock she can also help people who come in for gas. She is trying to go "paperless" and WiFi allows a great deal of flexibility in communicating with SPYC slipholders and members. A phone hardline is needed in the operation of the gas pumps.

Committee Reports:

Social Committee; Bill Tschohl

The Social Committee met in early March and set an outline of events for 2022.

We are working on outlining budgets, food and more specifics for each of the below. Note, these are pretty solid through May, but some dates may shift as we see how things develop through the year.

All dates are now noted on the SPYC Calendar and any updates or shifts will be reflected there.

<https://www.stpaulyachtclub.org/calendar>

April 12th General mtg. (Snacks) (Tuesday)

April 30th Yard party and Bon fire (Saturday)  
May 6th TGIF (Friday) Cinco de mayo!  
May 14th Season Kickoff party (Saturday)  
May 21st Captains breakfast (Saturday)  
May 28th Memorial Day Steak Fry (Saturday)  
June 5th New boater orientation, Captains picnic lunch/Brunch, National Marina Day (Sunday)  
June 14th General Mtg (Flag Day) (Tuesday)  
June 19th Captains Breakfast (Alternate for flag day ceremony (Sunday)  
June 24th TGIF (Friday) 25th Commodore's summer Cotillion/Ball  
July 10th Beach party on Pike Island (Sunday Funday)  
July 16th Dance Party at the Clubhouse (Saturday)  
July 30th Party at the Club (Themed) (Saturday)  
August 12th TGIF Irish fest warm up  
12th 13th & 14th Irish Fair  
August 27th National Hot dog day Party (Sweet Corn) (Saturday)  
September 3rd Giant Chicken Feed (Saturday)  
September 10th Full Harvest Moon Dance Party/return of the Rib Kings! (Saturday)  
September 23rd TGIF and Movie Night (Friday)  
October 8th Halloween Party (Saturday)

Clubhouse Committee: Tom Marrone, Bill Tschohl, Nate Schumann  
Clubhouse – in a good spot. Bought some chairs, about \$20 each. We bought extra to put in storage till we need them because they have been discontinued and the newer models all start at about \$40 each. of the cost benefits. We will be working on finalizing the planned, budgeted items from this past January so they are available as soon as possible. The budget should not be changed much from last year except for the changes in costs of utility and insurance.

Finance Committee:

Report from Kristina. Included with Marina Manager report.

Membership and Marketing Committee: Mike Patten and Lynn Adler

Lynn Adler: Two new members for SPYC - Paul Amann and Tom Micheletti. Motion made by Brett Cummings and Seconded by Lynn Adler to approve these two individuals: Paul Amann and Tom Micheletti as new SPYC regular members. Motion passed 9-0.

Lynn: Membership's goal was to add 3 new members this summer but we already have the 3 so we will be adjusting that amount of membership to another 3. Marketing talked about not being able to do too much with \$5,000 in its budget and Bill agreed to that. He said if we are ahead of the budget, finding money somewhere else we could look at adding to marketing.

Vision/Strategic Planning: Bill Tschohl, Brett Cummings, Andy Ristrom

Bill will be updating our current plan that went to 2020 and needs updating. A plan would be a foundation.

Welcome again, to the St Paul Yacht Club! Commodore Bill Tschohl (Email sent by Bill on 3/15/2022):

The boating season is even closer now and April is just around the corner. Our collective anticipation for boating on the river soon is growing as every day gets warmer and longer! Let's celebrate another milestone! The St. Paul Yacht Club is 110 years old this year and has made it this far through the efforts of every marina member and our staff's efforts. The St Paul Yacht Club has a rich history that you could lose yourself exploring.

Our future is what we will make of it. Any adventure on the river will teach you something. Sometimes those are welcome and sometimes they are learning opportunities. Like a trip on the river, the SPYC has always built off of our past experiences and worked to recognize the power and changing nature of the river. Just like no two trips on the river are the same, no two years at the marina are quite the same. Our club focus for the coming decade will be to make sure that the actions we take are sustainable and repeatable.

We will be working on refreshing our strategic plan again this year. The mission and vision of the strategic plan are the bedrock the strategic plan is built upon so it bears sharing those for our new and existing members.

#### Mission

- Dedicated to safe and affordable boating through cooperative efforts
- Fostering a greater interest in motor boating and the Mississippi River
- Service to members and community

#### Vision

##### St. Paul Yacht Club and Marina:

- Quality facilities and services that are at the same level of quality as Harriet Island Park system
- Strong connection with the river for environmental stewardship and community service.
- Floating village with character that exhibits standard for a good neighborhood—vessels are in good, safe and working order, with a well-maintained dock system

How do we do this work? It all starts with our members. We have 11 members on our SPYC board that were elected by their peers in the marina to guide us on setting appropriate processes and procedures. We then ask that our Marina Manager-Kristina Cummings, Dock Master-Brian Koskie, his staff and our volunteers follow the processes that have been laid out. They are also valuable in providing feedback as to where there are gaps or short-comings in those processes. Our focus for 2022 will be to iron out many of the processes that you see into repeatable patterns. The only surprises we really want to see are the turtles in the harbor and number of bald eagles overhead.

For 2022 we have following Committees formed to guide us on various aspects of the work ahead. Please feel free to reach out to any of them if you have any input or would like to help.

Social Committee – Bill Tschohl, Tom Marrone

Clubhouse Committee –Tom Marrone, Bill Tschohl, Nate Schumann

Finance Committee – Lynn Adler

Marketing & Membership - Lynn Adler, Mike Patten

Vision and Strategic Planning Committee, Procedures & Contracting - Bill Tschohl, Brett

Cummings, Andy Ristrom, Tom Marrone, Diane Scovil

Operations Committee - Andy Ristrom, Greg Jorgensen, Brian Koskie

Public-Government Relations Committee - Barbara Haake

Together we will deliver on the St Paul Yacht Club's Vision and Mission and make this summer another great year for boating on the mighty Mississippi.

Operations Committee: Andy Ristrom, Greg Jorgensen and Brian Koskie

Safety items: Dredging operations will always be completed with a minimum of two people (usually three are preferred).

Kristina will be designing an equipment “pre-trip” log to show that equipment has been examined prior to being used for the day to demonstrate that there are no obvious flaws or issues making it unsafe. This helps with the clubs liability. Daily walk around checklist for the equipment (no hydraulic or fuel/ oil leaks, cracks in welds or metals, obvious safety issues, etc.) Kristina also to start an electronic maintenance log inputting Brian’s paper logs into an electronic format that can easily saved and searched

Andy to make a motion to the board to purchase an additional 300' of floating dredge piping assembly. We will ultimately need 900' to complete the upper harbor, and only have 300' now. Buying another 300' for this year allows us to get to more than half of the upper harbor. Price is going up and is currently \$18,840 per 300' system (600' would be \$37,680). There is a 5-6 week lead time for this material.

Dredging timeline: We plan to start dredging as soon as conditions allow (water temp 50 degrees or warmer and water level within 3' to 6' of normal pool (I believe would put us at 6.5' – 9.5' on the Robert St. Gauge). We will start with problem slips then go after the center of the harbor channel. This is subject to change based on sounding to be completed when the ice is cleared out.

Gas Dock: to go in when ice is out. Zahl to install the new fuel pumps we purchased that include upgraded electronics, chip card readers, etc.

Brian to move two boats in the lower harbor; Tom Suprenant and Richard Felsheim to deeper slips, as they are floating well now (or will be in the next few weeks) and may not be able to be moved later in the summer when they would need to be moved for COE dredging of the lower harbor. Kristina to contact the owners.

Gate codes to all be changed to the same code no later than April 27th. Greg suggests code to be 1234, because no one uses that code. (just kidding about the code).

Ice Maker/ Ice freezer discussion. Mold/ pink slime, rusty water (like the rusty water in the toilets would likely ruin ice maker) Ice maker location, noisy, power consuming, needs drain and water supply... To be discussed with the board at Monday's meeting (3/28/22).

Eventually we will have to get approval for 600 feet of piping to continue to dredge further east in the Upper Harbor. Since last year when we purchased the dredge and piping we already have, the price for the piping went up almost \$2,000. A Motion was Made by Andy to purchase at least an additional 300 feet of pipe system now for \$18,840 plus tax, Second by Lynn.

Discussion: We will need another 300 feet for a total of 900 feet later. The system takes the sediment up to the Geobags. This purchase is just for the floating piping. Bill is worried about the \$20,000 in the budget. Motion passed 9-0.

Public-Government Relations Committee: Barbara Haake

March 12, 2022 - COE: Awarded Community Project Funds (CPF) Dredging (\$500,000) for SPYC/SPSBH Lower Harbor at MM839.6

On March 15, 2022 President Joe Biden finally signed (after four Continuing Resolutions- CR) Congress' FY2022 Omnibus-Appropriations Bill that included the Community Project Fund (CPF) to finance projects for Congress' 535 members. This bill was supposed to be signed by October 1, 2021. Rep. Betty McCollum's office news release stated:

"The St. Paul Small-Boat Harbor is a critical piece of our river infrastructure, and this funding for maintenance will ensure the Harbor can continue to be used by the St. Paul Fire Department for emergency response on and along the Mississippi River," Congresswoman McCollum said. "I'm proud to secure this federal funding to help make this project a reality."

This Community Project Funding (CPF) request made by Rep. McCollum will benefit Minnesota's Fourth Congressional District by investing in our waterfront community and river infrastructure:

- Project: Dredging St. Paul Small-Boat Harbor (\$500,000) Description: Providing long overdue and critically needed dredging of the St. Paul Small-Boat Harbor, which will support and maintain effective emergency response services, and improve the overall poor conditions of the harbor. The St. Paul Small-Boat Harbor is on the lower end of Harriet Island in St. Paul, Minnesota, at Upper Mississippi River mile 839.6 on the right descending bank. The natural fluctuations of both the Mississippi and Minnesota Rivers and subsequent silt buildup is of significant concern for not only the maritime operations of the St. Paul Fire Department, but for the overall safety of all those that travel its waterways. The Lower Harbor also provides a critical pool of affordable housing at a time when this resource is desperately needed.

“Federal funding for the Saint Paul Small Boat Harbor Project near Harriet Island will help maintain effective emergency response services, enhance the quality of life for harbor residents, and improve overall conditions of the harbor,” said Ward 2 St. Paul City Councilmember Rebecca Noecker. “Dredging the harbor is critically needed, and I am grateful to have worked with Congresswoman McCollum on bringing these funds to our community.”

Barbara: ADDITIONAL information on the COE dredging St. Paul Small Boat Harbor-SPSBH aka St. Paul Yacht Club SPYC:

In speaking with the new head of the COE St. Paul District’s Chief of Channels and Harbors (Bob Stanick) I asked: “When do you estimate the COE can dredge our SPSBH?” Mr. Stanick said the COE has to first, do a survey of the lower harbor (LH) and that may not happen for another four to six weeks; second, core samples have to be taken and examined in a lab for any contamination; third, to make sure no protected creature is disturbed and finally, fourth, if any of the last two items show up, an EIS (Environmental Impact Statement) would have to be done. After that process, our LH would be put on the COE’s schedule to get dredged. Usually dredging by the COE happens in our LH in the Fall. On top of that, we will need about a month’s lead time in order to clear out the LH with its boats and docks so the COE’s equipment can get into the harbor to dredge the harbor to a five/six-foot depth. If it can’t be done this year, it will be done in 2023.

The COE has never denied responsibility to dredge us - the COE has always told me “Barbara, we know we have to dredge SPSBH but we need the money to do it in our COE budget and only Congress can provide the money - your harbor needs its own ‘line-item’ in our budget in order for the dredging to happen.” We are now recipients of \$500,000 to get the Lower Harbor dredging project done!!

Anchor & Line: Revival - Nathan Schumann

March 8, 2022: Nathan Schumann - REVIVING the Anchor & Line (A&L):

A topic that has been floated several times, but I'm not sure I've seen action on, is a newsletter. I would like to volunteer to pull together the content for the newsletter and propose that we resurrect the Anchor and Line. I've run this proposal by Bill and he is good with it (so far ;-)).

To keep things simple I would also propose that we limit the editions to just three this year:

- Spring Edition - ideally this would have gone out March 1st, but targeting the April 12 member meeting is probably a reasonable target
- Summer Edition - June 1st
- Fall/Winter Edition - September 1st

Of course we can always publish more as needed.

To help facilitate this I've created a Google document for the Spring edition that everybody should already have access to: SPYC Anchor & Line - Spring 2022

The document has my cut at an outline, but definitely needs input and suggestions from this board.

I think we also need to stick a schedule for publishing:

- March 15th - Final deadline for outline approval and topic submissions
- March 31st - Draft of each article due
- April 8th - Final drafts completed
- Target April 12th - Publish on the website and print a handful for the General Meeting

We need to move fast ;-)

Call to action

- Please make comments/suggestions on topics and suggested authors in the Google document
- If you want to write an article please feel free to volunteer and make note of this in the Google docIMHO, content is king right now so let's focus on that first! @Lynn Adler Since you have done the layout for previous editions I would ask that you do so for this edition as well if you have the time.

Let me know if you have any questions. If there is a more preferred method of collaboration besides Google Docs I'm all for it, but would request that we not go down the path of Word and track changes. That gets to be very hard to manage. Nate

Question on SPYC's Office RE: Its appearance, etc. Diane asked about SPYC's office and the condition it is in. Diane asked about the office's plumbing/pipes being frozen this winter. Are they not deep enough into the ground? The office is the first impression a person would have if they came to SPYC. The office is a mess. It appears to have mice. We need to make it look better. Its bathroom is shut down. It doesn't have to be grandiose. Clean it. Bill would like to get rid of it. Andy, can we make it permanent? Make the office warmer. Is a new office part of a strategic plan? Bill – build an office on the land? Something like a trailhead place for the city, too. How do you go about a project like that? Brett will work on a plan. Diane will be a part of the group.

Other item covered (Kristina): Trees will be looked at after the boat yard is emptied. Some trees by the office will be removed. City knows they are damaged.

Meeting adjourned 8:28 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Barbara Haake, Secretary

(NOTE: Thanks to the committee chairs who submitted their reports that are included in the above minutes. BH)