



# St. Paul Yacht Club

St Paul Yacht Club  
General Meeting Minutes  
Tuesday, April 9, 7:00 pm to 8:15 pm  
[See calendar for Zoom info](#)

## Minutes

**Approved by:** Bill Tschohl, Lynn Adler, Andy Ristrom, Jon Oulman, Tom Surprenant, Diane Scovill, David Nelso

**Board members present:** Bill Tschohl, Lynn Adler, Tom Surprenant, David Nelson, Andrea Johnson, Nathan Schumann, Greg Jorgensen, Jon Oulman, Diane Scovill, Andy Ristrom

**Board members absent:** Troy Janisch

**Staff present:** Kristina Cummings

**Members present:** Kathy Christison, Jerry Quaal, Jerret Seebert, Marcia Seebert, Emily Evans, Paul Amann, Dennis Rollin, Gordy Mergens, Shawn Tiernes, Colleen Velo, Mary Rossi, Bonnie Jean Mackay, Jonathon Leck,

**Present remotely:** Barbara Haake, Tom Marrone, Betsy Dullum

**Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance** (7:01 pm)

### Open Comments from the Floor

Bill Tschohl opened with explanation that board meetings and general meetings will now all take place on the second Tuesday of the month at 7:00 pm, with no separate board meeting in months having a general meeting. Website calendar is up to date on meetings.

Questions followed about clubhouse report and boats in the water.

### 1. Flag Officer Reports

#### a. Commodore - Bill Tschohl

Working on lease with the city. Won't pay more; negotiations going well. Annual rent equivalent to current terms, and discussing one-on-one credit for SPYC investments with a park or other public benefit. Most lease items will be similar to past terms.

Different management rate based on gross revenue versus past method of focus on slip/storage rentals will yield around the same cost.

SPYC has paid around a million dollars in lease payments over the last 20 years and we hope the new agreement will help us invest that locally in our area parks improvements.

Commodore is looking for ideas, such as dock near boat launch. What benefits both the Club and the city?

**b. Vice Commodore – Nate Schumann**

No report.

**c. Treasurer – Lynn Adler**

Will report during Finance Committee Report.

**d. Secretary – Troy Janisch**

No report – Troy out of town and not present.

**2. Office Manager Report**

475 linear feet leased. Lots of slips still available: 20', 25', 36', 40', 43' and 50' slips are available.

LSM to dredge this spring. Exact date not set. Working with Andy to set a date. Dredging the mouth and the area under the clubhouse.

Testing still not done. Testing needs to match permit requirements.

People need to access the new Slipwise software and sign contracts. They can make payments online or bring a check to the office. Payments are due by April 15. Call if you need help with the software. Also, there's a button at the bottom of the Slipwise web page to reach the owner, who will help.

On slip covers, we have found two potential companies and awaiting estimates. Last Fall's slip roll-back provider is unsure if he's willing to continue working as he's still working on collecting payments from last fall's work.

Tyler in Parks & Rec would like to meet with the board.

No water anywhere in the Club or slip areas on April 12, from 8:00 to 4:00.

It's believed that the City may be considering putting an emergency launch near the High Bridge. We're looking for further details.

Talked with Xcel. Electrical rate differences based in part on amount of use. More demand = more cost per Kwh. Lower use = lower rates.

No solution yet on public parking lot lights not working due to theft of wires. One possible alternative: mounted motion lights.

(Some discussion among those present followed about gate lights.)

(Question about moving the clubhouse for dredging.) 3-4 days hoped for, or 5 days as worst-case scenario. Target is dredging in April. Yard crew starting on adding more dredging pipes along bank. Will dredge to Gate D.

Pipe in budget. Discarding spoils not in budget. Will defer discarding until next year. Looking for options. Anyone know farmers who might want fertile but silty materials?

(Some discussion of dead trees on lower harbor bank.) Could be a budget issue for the city.

90' boat with 4' draft may be one of the new slip leases, but we have to check some items before that occurs.

### **3. Committee Reports**

- **Clubhouse**

No report. Bill Tschohl commented that clubhouse is in good condition except outdoor grills may need replacing soon. There's a tree that could impede moving clubhouse for dredging. Sump pump was replaced by Bill and new one worked well all winter. Above floor and insulated; supplied by local company with parts that are easy to get.

Kristina says to report mice if you see any.

- **Finance (Lynn)**

Budget is tight but achievable.

Sheriff's sale this spring on 4-5 boats. Letters going out April 15.

Freedom Boat Club presents an exciting opportunity.

This was on the agenda for later but Bill suggests discussing now. There are two boat clubs in the area: Your Boat Club and Freedom Boat Club. Freedom is a worldwide company. Members use boats after required on-the-boat training and other training. Freedom has 20-25 members and are interested in four slips as long as they're together. Day boats only. Freedom Boat Club does not provide, day rentals where people show up and go boating for the day, they must be members and trained before boating. A Freedom crew member would meet members and handle member access to boats. Gate code would not be given to members. Boats would be fueled with SPYC gas. Freedom also wants some office space, location to be determined.

In the future, Your Boat Club may also be interested in slips, as long as they're separated from Freedom slips.

(Some general discussion followed.) Positive comments about the boat clubs and the opportunity this presents to SPYC for income and to generate interest in boating and club membership.

City approval needed. No impact on lease.

**MOTION** by Jon Oulman, seconded by Lynn Adler.

**RESOLVED**, that Bill and Kristina are authorized to negotiate and contract with Freedom for rental

of four slips and some office space for one year.

**VOICE VOTE:** Yes: All

Finance committee report continues: Mudcat loan down to \$156,000.

At sheriff's sale, SPYC will bid the past due amount. If boat doesn't sell to any interested party the SPYC will use an auction company to sell the boat.

- **Marketing & Membership**

No report. Kristina and Lynn are going to nearby apartment and condo buildings to market slips.

Website has sales section for members selling boats.

- **Operations (Andy)**

Written report posted. Highlights:

Miller Dock fingers going in.

In-house dredging planned.

Plan is for 400' of dock board replacement this year. Report dock board problems to Kristina.

Stop sign by gate has been replaced by Brian.

Signage on public dock with SPYC information.

Speed bumps by lower harbor going in this spring.

- **Social Committee (Diane)**

A round of applause for Mary Rossi who did cleanup tonight.

Next social committee meeting in May.

Feedback has been that there were too many events last year. Events have been scaled back. Still, everyone is looking forward to a great season.

Committee is working on technology improvements with Nate and Colleen. Troy has created a Google Calendar option.

June 8 is Commodore's Ball. The season bookend events are the Commodore's Ball and the Holiday Party.

Social committee is looking for feedback.

Watch for Commodore's Ball invitations via postcard.

April 20 is Earth Day. Volunteers should gather at 9:00 am.

- **Strategic Planning Committee (Bill)**

Idea Submission Form will be on the website. Looking for any ideas: gold, silver, bronze, ugly. Looking for anything within the Club's reach related to community benefits, programming, infrastructure.

It's understood the office still needs work; the workshop is too small. But SPYC still wants to spend money on public-benefit investments versus lease payments to the city. Projects can be outside the SPYC property. Short-term and long-term projects both are being sought.

Like Hastings, Prescott, and other places, the city is now looking for river-centric investments. The SPYC wants to be part of this effort.

City has retained Barr Engineering to do study from High Bridge downriver. City wants to know what sediment/silt impacts there will be if it puts boat in old Showboat location along with general river characteristics. There are already Barr Engineering and U of M studies from prior years, but those were of a much narrower scope and detailed the Lower Harbor conditions. More information is desired.

**4. New Business**

Freedom Boat Club matter already covered.

**5. Old Business**

None.

**Motion to adjourn** by Lynn Adler, seconded by Andy Ristrom.

**VOICE VOTE:** Yes: All

**Meeting concludes at 8:12 pm**