

**Club d'aviron de Montréal
Montreal Rowing Club**

**Annual General Meeting
Tuesday, May 30, 2006**

**6:40 to 10:30 pm
Quartier des athlètes**

MINUTES

Present:

From the Board of Directors:

Arnold Brookhuis (MRC President & meeting Chair)
André Vallée
Philippe Colas
Matthew Allen
Vivianne Phillips
Sarah Panuto

Members:

Lysandre Duchesne
Évelyne Bourdua-Roy
Marie-Pierre Chabot
Joe Rochon
Yvette Perron
Jean-Marc Edwards
Christophe Goua
Karl Wust
Bill Bury
Matteo Cendamo
Robert Sanson
Pablo Reitkop
Sinan Akman
Ann Rajan

Natacha Sanson (new member, non-voting)
Alfred Délaquis (new member, non-voting)
Geneviève Tétrault (2005 Head Coach, non-voting)
Vincent Tassery (2006 Competitive Coach, non-voting)
Debbie Guilbault (MRC manager, non-voting)

Justified absences:

Stephen Shinder (secretary, B of D)
Robert Bellizzi (member, B of D)

1. **Opening of the meeting:**

MRC President Arnold Brookhuis called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone.

a. Designation of the AGM Chair

Arnold Brookhuis was named Chair of the meeting.

b. Designation of the AGM secretary

Ann Rajan and Debbie Guilbault agreed to record the minutes of the meeting.

c. Verification of members attending the AGM

Debbie Guilbault verified the members in attendance.

d. Reading and adoption of the agenda

Arnold requested the addition of Item 9(b), namely, a pause in order to sign and integrate By-law amendments approved in Item 9, before proceeding to Item 10, Election of the Board.

The meeting agenda was adopted, with the addition of item 9.b.

2. **Adoption of the minutes of the AGM held in 2003**

The minutes of the 2003 Annual General Meeting, unavailable until now, were compiled from notes taken by Stéphanie Hutot along with information provided by the MRC office.

Moved by Jean-Marc Edwards, seconded by Bill Bury, the minutes of the meeting of the AGM of February 18, 2003 were approved as written.

3. **Ratification of the revised 2004 financial statements (31 December, 2004)**

Treasurer André Vallée explained that during the past year the 2004 financial statements as presented at the 2005 AGM were reviewed by Steve Shinder's father, an accountant. André reported that several items for fiscal 2004 had been entered on the balance sheet as expenditures rather than as revenue entries. The revised balance sheet shows a banking adjustment of approx. \$6,000 in the Club's favour.

Moved by Robert Sanson, seconded by Karl Wust, the revised 2004 financial statements were ratified (see document appended).

Philippe Colas asked about the amortization of the new boats acquired during that period and was informed they are not considered as amortized purchases.

4. Adoption of the minutes of the AGM held in 2005

Moved by Vivianne Phillips, seconded by Matthew Allen, the minutes of the AGM of April 6, 2005 were approved.

5. President's report – year 2005

Arnold Brookhuis presented his report for the year 2005 (see Annex for details). He noted that membership figures remained stable compared to 2004 but several sections, notably Competitive and Junior, appear vulnerable and need effort to boost numbers. Finances appear promising. Important concerns include relations with Parc Jean-Drapeau which require timely and effective communication. Boat maintenance and repair took place in the F-1 hangars during the winter months. The president thanked the Board members for their contribution during the past year, and acknowledged the considerable volunteer effort of many members during 2005.

Jean-Marc Edwards complimented the high quality of the new MRC website designed by Arnold.

6. Head Coach's report – year 2005

Geneviève Tétrault reported on coaching activities for 2005 and athletes' achievements at various regattas (see Head Coach's report for details).

There was improved

- maintenance of equipment during the past year, including the purchase of new oars. Geneviève thanked Andy Hall and assistants for their efforts in repairing boats.
- Competitive participation at regattas was relatively low in 2005. Six athletes attended the Canada Games in Regina, August 6-20, and a small contingent competed at the Royal Canadian Henley Regatta in St. Catharines in August. Karl Wust, Robert Samson and Kasey Kusek travelled to Alberta to participate in the World Masters Games in Edmonton (July 22-31), and Steve Shinder and Matteo Cendamo rowed at the Head of the Charles regatta in Boston in October. National team members in 2005 included Andreanne Morin, Simon Gowdy and Doug Vandor.
- Better retention of members was observed at the recreational level. Geneviève noted that the allocation of boats and coaching for recreational Levels I, II and III appears to be working well.
- In December 2005, MRC's Karol Sauvé received Rowing Canada's 25-year Long Service Award. Karol is a former national team coach and current Master Course instructor for the province of Québec. Doug Vandor received RCA's International Achievement Award as bronze medalist, lightweight men's quad, 2005 World Championships (Japan).

Arnold expressed MRC's appreciation to Geneviève for her years as full-time Head Coach and wished her well in future endeavours as she leaves this position to pursue another career path. Arnold noted that Geneviève will remain available for part-time coaching with MRC.

Arnold also took the opportunity to mention the outstanding success of MRC's first annual Recreational Regatta and thanked all those who contributed as volunteers and athletes.

7. **Ratification of the decisions taken by the Board of Directors during the 2005 mandate**

Arnold noted the change in the Club's fiscal year which now runs from April 1st to March 31. This change was voted at a regular meeting of the Board during 2005.

Moved by Matteo Cendamo, seconded by Bill Bury, the Board's decisions taken during the 2005 mandate were ratified.

8. **Ratification of the 2005 financial statements (31 December 2005)**

Treasurer André Vallée outlined the major points of the balance sheet for fiscal 2005, which shows a positive balance of \$17,000. He again thanked Mr. Shinder for contributing valuable accounting expertise. Several points were discussed including insurance, civil liability, potential loans, the relationship with Parc Jean-Drapeau, the possibility of a "reserve fund" and revenues from various sources including AQA.

Moved by Karl Wust, seconded by Matteo Cendamo, the financial statements for 2005 were ratified.

9. **Vote on a resolution to ratify amendments to the Constitution of the Montreal Rowing Club (as adopted by the Board on May 1st, 2006)**

Several articles of the present constitution and proposed amendments were discussed, including a point of clarification on the definition of voting members, raised by Alfred Délaquis. It became apparent that the current wording of Article 3 ("Membres") is ambiguous and should be redefined by the Board. Ann Rajan, seconded by Robert Sanson, moved that Article 3 of the constitution be tabled, i.e., returned to the Board for further discussion and clarification.

A confusion in voting and motion procedures inadvertently led to a tabling of the full document of proposed amendments rather than a tabling of Article 3 only. As a result, no amendments to the constitution were approved at this meeting, and the original constitution formulated at the time of the founding of CAM-MRC (1987) therefore remain in force.

9(b). (Not applicable)

10. **Election of Board members**

a) Election of a president of elections

- Alfred Délaquis agreed to act as president of elections.

a) Election of the Board of Directors

Nominations were requested to fill two vacant positions on the Board, currently set at nine members:

- Christophe Goua nominated Jean-Marc Edwards
- Èvelyne Bourdua-Roy nominated Joe Rochon
- Matthew Allen nominated Alfred Délaquis; Mr. Délaquis declined the nomination.
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In lieu of further nominations, no vote was required and the two positions were filled by Jean-Marc Edwards and Joe Rochon.

Board members named for the year 2006-2007 are: Arnold Brookhuis, Rob Bellizzi, Matthew Allen, André Vallée, Steve Shinder, Sarah Panuto, Vivianne Phillips, Jean-Marc Edwards and Joe Rochon.

11. **Varia - discussion**

Matteo Cendamo congratulated the Club and the Board on the positive changes during the past year, noting better organization and team spirit.

Èvelyne Bourdua-Roy offered suggestions to improve the Novice program, including mentoring and crew development. A discussion ensued on ways to encourage greater participation in crew boats.

Matthew Allen outlined initiatives for an Adaptive Rowing program, and invited volunteers. Questions of security and first aid were also discussed at some length.

General remarks from members echoed Matteo's observation that the Club is moving in a positive and promising direction, but challenges remain.

12. **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned on a motion by Pablo Reitkop.