



The Seattle Canoe and Kayak Club

Advisory Council Meeting Minutes FINAL – September 2, 2025

7:00 – 8:30 pm

In Person – New Community Boat House meeting room (Zoom option available)

Present: Justine Barton (JB), Tracy Landboe (TL), Karla Ogle (KO), Tami Oki (TO), Jason Coffman (JC), Liz Graf-Brennen (LGB), Becky Bronstein (BB), Gerrie Hashisaki (GH), Julie Roberts (JR), Andy Ghizila (AG)

Absent: Steve Wort (SW)

1. Meeting called to order at 7:07 pm by Justine Barton. JB started with reminder that we are searching for new AC member(s) for 2026 – time to reach out! Think and we'll discuss process/suggestions during Other Business at the end of the meeting.
2. **Minutes**, Liz -- August draft minutes reviewed and approved as submitted
3. **Finance**, Gerrie

- July monthly financials from ARC

Gerrie reported initial concern that revenue from Youth Classes was down significantly from last year. However, Tami noted that last year's revenue erroneously included Adventure Camp, which was subsequently corrected. We also held two weeks fewer youth classes (one cancelled for low enrollment, one for the week of Nationals). With those adjustments, the discrepancy is not as concerning.

TO reported that SCKC took in fees for OHR directly, and these figures may be mixed in with Ted Houk regatta in the ARC report. She will provide budget/final numbers for both regattas separately.

For Nationals budgeting purposes TO anticipated gross income of \$64K from registrations/entries, we took in \$68K. We spent \$9129 on the starter docks, and ACA Beth Spilman committed \$5K for that. Any expenditures for the race course are considered fundraising expenses for us. TO is confident we made money on Nationals and is working up the numbers. The banquet numbers will be worked up separately.

Action item: TO working to reconcile all the invoices from Nationals regatta and banquet by the end of the week and will provide to the AC.

- Budget planning for 2026

Gerrie's preliminary budget estimate is about \$1000 above 2025. She based this on Jan-June of 2025 and July-Dec of 2024, since Nationals was an outlier. She removed nonrecurring donations and adjusted maintenance.

Jason noted that Fundraising and wages will be anomalies in the planning process, but the rest of 2025 figures should be good for 2026. Anticipate a 3% COLA. We will see the scholarship figures at the end of September. Based on rough figures from camps, Jason does not think expenses will be much higher this year, due to lower enrollment.

Action item: GH, TO, JB to meet to complete budget planning for 2026

To improve summer camp enrollment, KO noted that private camps open registration in February, and parents scramble early to make summer plans. Our camps do not open registration until April. Our publicity could also be better.

JB: How about the need for a second masters coach in response to feedback from Breona and others about difficulty coaching the large numbers of masters of differing abilities? Class attendance has been in the teens consistently. Can we budget for more coaches in June – September? More discussion and planning needed to address.

Action item: JC will check required safety ratios. Tami will review sign in sheets to verify timing and attendance numbers.

- 2024 Annual Report to ARC

Gerrie will try to have ready to submit to Rich by second week in September.

4. Fund Raising, All

- Our final race course setup of the year (Sunday, Oct. 26th) will be for the rowing Frostbite Regatta. Takedown will be Sunday, Nov. 2nd.
- We have Frostbite Paddling Camp Nov. 7 and 8th, and the Erik Hughes Distance Regatta Sunday, Nov. 9th.

We hope to hold a 6-hour Adult Surfski Workshop with Michelle Erey on Saturday.

Another suggestion is a session on distance racing and race strategy. Possibly ask Greg Barton to lead that.

- Nora Tsong submitted an idea & text for a GoFundMe campaign for new youth team boats. JC said there is currently no way for ARC to accept funds from platforms like GoFundMe; they only use Blackbaud. It is possible to set up a Campaign and associated QR code that flags and directs funds to ARC for SCKC. That would incur Blackbaud platform fees and ARC fees totaling about 6%. GoFundMe also charges fees, would need further research before setting up an equipment campaign.

5. Youth Sprint, Karla

13 raced Nationals, 8 youth paddlers going to Maple Ridge

Andy reported 5 development kids interested in racing team, 2 already signed up for fall Dev team.

Soren Ogle going to Prague for OHR

Duck Island Races had fantastic turnout, great food and good spirits

We discussed possible Saturday morning once a month winter Duck Island Race with Pancake Breakfast at 10 am after Sprint practice. Good community builder, to include all club members and youth.

Action item: TO, AG, BB and KO to work on Sat morning monthly event and any scheduling issues

6. **Masters, Becky & Breona** statement read by JB

Great community-building summer, challenge of #s of adults with very different abilities for one coach – bad for everyone. Suggests two coaches for classes May-Sept. More discussions to brainstorm options based on attendance #s and costs.

Good showing at Nationals. Working to keep up momentum.

Boats being inventoried, identify most popular boats and gaps

21 adult members. TO working to fix issue of second adult reduced membership (\$90) sign up problem in system, which affects 3 people.

Planning outreach/open house in fall – paddling community event

7. **Regattas, All**

Salmon Row on Lake Samish in Bellingham will be Sept. 20th.

ACA Sprint Nationals (Aug 12-15) – no reports at this meeting due to time constraints. A separate meeting will be held to go over all aspects of the regatta, and successes, lessons learned, etc. To include:

Registration

Race Course

Volunteer sign up sheet(s)

Sponsors/Vendors

Boat control

Welcome table

Banquet

SCKC team and racing experience

Communication

Action item: TO and JB schedule follow up/lessons learned meeting for late September. Possible participants – AC members, Justine, Mark Lentini, Tami, Steve W, Jared Ogle, Karla O, Shelley/Janet, a race participant. TO will solicit visiting team coach constructive comments.

8. **Boat House, Andy & Tami**

Andy and Tami have completed an inventory audit of all boats. This will be shared with coaches to identify unused boats -- make space for easier storage/access for boats we use/need.

John DePalma is starting a paddling club at his school in Burien, and perhaps could use some of our old boats.

NEXT STEPS (work for fall/winter):

1. Install life jacket poles
2. Install paddle racks
3. Share inventory with coaches for comments on boats to retain/remove
4. Storage improvements – pulley install, rack labeling, padding, bungees
5. 2026 equipment priorities list – 6-8 boats to target/plan for in 2026
6. Parts bins organized and labeled
7. Canoe improvements e.g., C4 floorboard

A clear equipment priority list will help with opportunistic purchases. Three large 2026 international events in Canada may provide opportunities to obtain lightly used sprint boats from Nelo in particular, if we are ready.

Jr & U23 Worlds in Halifax, July 1-5

ICF World Cup in Montreal July 9-12

Pan Ams – dates in July, Montreal?

Action item: Coaches to meet and compile overarching list of desired equipment and 6-8 boats so we can prioritize and plan purchases for 2026.

9. Membership / Adult, Becky

Despite all the activity and enthusiasm among the masters, we still have only 21 members.

Action item: Tami and Becky to send out reminder that membership for the rest of the year is discounted. Also schedule and publicize an orientation for any responders.

10. Communications / Web site / Newsletter, All

Action item: TO re-initiate monthly all member and family community email this month

Action item: TO add our paddling camps to summer printed classes booklet

Emma Tsong working on a SCKC promotional video. AC was sent her previous documentary video before this meeting.

11. Green Lake Small Craft Center Report, Tami

- Unit Two Coach training was held, but SCKC coaches were out coaching, so a session will be rescheduled for them. Safety focus is being expanded to address facility security, lockdowns, incidents etc., as well as water safety.
- GLSCC now fully staffed including Jenny (rowing supervisor, ARC), Teal (asst GLSCC, SPR). This will allow TO to create structure and schedule for the new year
- The AED and fire extinguisher will be reinstalled in the Community Boathouse lobby.

12. Other business

- Julie Roberts will be moving to Green Bay, WI at the end of October, so will resign from the AC. Group thanked her for her contributions!
- New Board members – suggestions for process (nominating committee?), new members. AC seemed to prefer approaching individuals to ask re. interest. More to follow.
- ARC President's Meeting – Sept 30th (RSVP by Sept 23rd)
- Thanks due to Teal and her children for help with the Nationals dinner – suggested a gift certificate for pizza
- Andy and Audrey placed 3rd in the Women's 200m C2 at World Championships in Milan, and made finals in the 500m C2.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 pm

Minutes submitted by Liz Graf-Brennen

NEXT MEETING: October 7th

The mission of the Seattle Canoe and Kayak Club is to promote competitive and recreational canoeing and kayaking, by providing coaching and training in a fun, safe, and supportive environment, to develop the sport and encourage sportsmanship, integrity, and community.