

Pale Kai
Meeting Minutes 01/15/2008
Meeting began: 7:35 pm

Attendees:
See appendix for attending members

Meeting called to order at 7:35

Meeting was called to order a little later than usual to make time for members to fill out the new membership forms and sign new SCORA waivers. Attendance was outstanding at this meeting filling the Yacht club to near capacity.

Denny Thatcher our incoming president began by introducing himself and again thanking the outgoing board for the great job they did and introduced the new board for the coming year. He then invited the entire club to introduce themselves and speak a minute about how long they have been a member and why they are outrigger paddlers. Once this was done the agenda was started.

1. Reading of meeting minutes from previous meeting waived.
2. President's Report – The number one issue for this meeting is safety and the budget. Lots of things can happen and it is important for the club to keep informed. Safety reviews need to be done by all the club members. We are going to organize an upcoming safety clinic for the club members to attend at the beginning of the season. All club members need to download the safety manual from the website and review it. There are several copies of the Guide to Outrigger paddling among club members. Share it and review the chapter on Huli and righting the canoe. The Safety clinic will review Huli Drill, Rigging, Radio skills, and be conducted by experience crew. One thing is for sure, you will Huli in a race. It is just about inevitable. Robert Lanier, incoming novice, suggested that we make a harness for righting the boat. All ideas are welcome, but righting a boat can be done in almost all circumstances by following already conceived directions, with practice. Denny points out that the Steersman has the ultimate authority and pfd's can be used to aid in pulling over the ama. Ted Waterhouse also suggests that before a boat leaves the dock steersmen should review with the crew all the seats responsibilities in the event of a huli. Mike Shandroff also points out that anyone paddling whether a race crew or a winter paddler must have completed a swim test prior to being allowed into the boat. No exceptions. The men's coach, Greg Foster comments that the water is so cold that no one wants to do a huli drill in it. Then Greg reviewed the procedure for a Huli where if there is no step to climb up on the hull three and five can help pull two and four over the hull. Heather Lewis reiterates that wet suits are needed and if those are the conditions that will be experienced that is what needs to be practiced in. Yvette Paletta, "The huli in Morro Bay was an entirely different situation than anyone had experience before. It was so cold it was hard for anyone to think. We need to do the drills!" Denise Shandroff, we need to do the huli drills. Jeff Blauer, why do we need crews with the least amount of experience out in that cold of water? We need to set a date for a safety day. We need to have a system

of certification prior to them leaving the dock. At the very least let's do a dry land session. Then we can do the swim test and ocean drill at a later date. The decision was made to set a date for an upcoming Saturday and in the mean time on the next Saturday Denny would come out to Morro Bay and conduct a dry land run through huli drill. Ted W and Mike Nunno again pointed out that the responsibility falls on the steersmen and at least four people need to be experienced and aware of their responsibilities. "Listen to what the steersman says."

Mike Shandroff thanked Yvette Palleta for taking the time to lead the steersman crew for the winter season.

Denny Thatcher, we will set a date and send out an email to all the members. Huli Drill will be mandatory for all crews.

3. VP Safety report – Yvette Paletta (see above)
4. Secretary Report – Heather Lewis (no new news)
5. Treasurer's Report – Scott Bixler presented the new budget for the upcoming season. The sponsorships were paid for in the previous season so they are not reflected on this report. Per John Secunda we can add an additional \$2,700 to the report for the current year sponsorships. Mike Shandroff requested we add a line for education to incorporate the upcoming year's clinics being planned. They have spoken to Chris Kaneho and he will charge \$300 per day for training clinics, we would like to do three throughout the season. Budget \$1,000 for education. According to Denise Shandroff, Chris ended the season within the top 10 paddlers in the state this year and has experience training crews. It would be good to video tape the clinics for future paddlers use. Mike Shandroff motioned to add \$1,000 to the budget for education, Heather Lewis seconded the motion. Motion passed with 100% in favor.

Mike Shandroff questions whether the budget takes into account shrinkage in membership this season. Greg Foster notes that the men's novice program is not panning out. No one is showing up for practice. Per Scott Bixler the budget is according to current membership status.

6. Equipment Report – Ted Rich
Per Denny Thatcher the equipment is in good shape compared to previous years. 3 race ready Mirages, and 1 Bradley. The Bradley Rule has finally been voted out, but boat can still be run by choice in Open and Novice classes. We are receiving a grant for the Keiki program that is earmarked strictly for equipment. – (see below for additional discussion)
7. SCORA Report – Denise Shandroff (N/A)
8. Membership Report – Laurel Golling, Justin Crawford

New Membership forms were handed out at the beginning of the meeting. Please get a new form from your coach, fill out and hand into the Membership directors. No one is to paddle without filling out a new waiver.

9. Event Coordinator' Report – Lisa Molin (N/A)

10. Communications report – Justin Crawford (N/A)

11. Transportation report – Steve Lessi (N/A)

12. Sponsorship – John Secunda

a. See budget report above.

13. Coaches' Report

a. Men's:

See budget report above.

b. Women's: Tifnie LaCabe (N/A)

c. Youth: Jeff Blauer

\$6,000 has been granted to the Keiki Program that is to be strictly used for equipment. A quick review of the previous grants that have been given to Pale Kai for this program, total to date is \$29,000 in addition to the \$6,000 granted this year we have received a total of \$35,000. The grants are in reimbursement for the wear and tear on our equipment being used by the Keiki summer program. We invoice the Avila Foundation directly for the equipment purchased. The money does not come directly to us but goes to the equipment manufacturer. The money from these grants has paid for the majority of our equipment, Canoes, Paddles, the container, Radios, and the OC1's have all been invoiced through the foundation. All this has been paid for the two to three week program for the kids, and one week for the junior lifeguards. This year Jeff is requesting the boards' permission to change the program. He would like to merge the program with the Junior Lifeguards. He would like a committee comprised of Russ, Carl, Jeff and a selected board member to meet and develop this merged program. The idea is to have six canoes on the beach and rotate through the boats. They will build race teams for the sprints from these kids. What this will accomplish is to get the kids in the canoes earlier in the morning avoiding the windy conditions in the later afternoon in Avila that has been a problem in the past years. There will be an estimated 150 kids for four weeks, which is one week longer than the general program has been but the wear and tear on the boats will roughly be the same. Issues that need to be worked out by the committee include rotation of seats, schedule and the club liability insurances. Junior Lifeguards will hire four life guards to help coach. These will be hired from teens that have previously attended the summer program and will help develop leadership skills among our future lifeguards. The fees for the program will be raised to \$25 or \$30 for the Junior Lifeguard program to pay for the aids, and there will possibly be additional fees for non-members of the Junior Lifeguards. Jeff Blauer will be the director of the program and then

intends on handing over this responsibility in two years to one of the youths.

- i. Note the grant funds are for equipment only and are based on Pale Kai providing matching funds.
- ii. The program will be a Pale Kai function

Mike Shandroff comments that Jeff has done a great job with the Keiki program and the purpose of the program is to build community support for Pale Kai. The equipment that has been purchase and will be purchased is entirely owned by the club. Perhaps one of the Junior Lifeguard members could sit on the board. We may also want to have a social gathering of Pale Kai club members and the Junior Lifeguards to foster our team spirit and working relationship. The main issue to be addressed is the liability insurance. Pale Kai will put together an ad hoc committee from the board to work with the keiki group and develop a written agreement for the Junior Lifeguards. Denny Thatcher thanks Jeff and asked if any of the dues from the program will come to Pale Kai? Jeff, None of the dues has ever come to the club. Dues from program, goes to cover paddles and expenses of running the program. The club is only reimbursed for the use of equipment. The committee will work out the final details regarding the program. Denise Shandroff volunteers to be a member of the committee and would like too know if we need to submit waivers for the program to SCORA. And if so will the race fees cover this cost? Jeff responds, yes the fees for this will be covered by the program fee. Pale Kai is not going to make or lose any money on the program. Just cover the wear and tear on the equipment that is used for the program. Denise will make sure we get the correct waiver and such. Mike requests that the committee look into the impact on our liability insurance with SCORA. Jeff will put out and email announcement regarding the meeting, but ultimately Jeff does not want to accept the grant until we have a consensus that we will be conducting the program. Yvette Paletta asked if he wants the board to meet regarding it? Jeff, "What I am saying is I want the board to meet with the Junior Lifeguards to work out the details." Mike and Jeff will invite Russ to meet with the board at the February meeting. Denny, \$6,000 is a lot for equipment and the only issue is the insurance liability with SCORA. Neil Tardiff volunteers any legal advice the club needs regarding the issue. He will attend the meeting with the Junior Lifeguards. Jeff Blauer motions to accept the \$6,000 grant to put toward the purchase of a new canoe and we run the junior program. Mike Shandroff comments, what if they sink a boat? Mike Nunno, the Avila Beach Community Foundation has been a great help to Pale Kai. Considering the wind and afternoon safety issues, Jeff's proposal is ultimately to change the schedule of the program only. Jeff again motions to accept the grant of \$6,000 to run the program as outlined. No other exceptions regarding equipment. Yvette Paletta comments, I feel a need for the board to meet regarding the issues involved. Mike Nunno, The issue on the table is the \$6,000 grant. The running of the program is another issue. Motion on the table is to accept the grant for equipment. Chuck Bown seconds the motion. Mike Shandroff comments we can hash out the details in committee. The motion is voted on and passed by 100% of the club.

14. Equipment Report – Ted Rich

Denny steps up to conduct the equipment report. We have 6 men's crews, and 4 racing boats. We need one more boat at least for this year. The club has an

opportunity to purchase two Hawaiian made from Sonny Bradley. Our other boat source is Canada and we know how bad of quality the boats have been that came out of there. The boats that we are being offered are Sonny Bradley Lightings and will be the last lightings to be manufactured in Hawaii. We will not have to pay sales tax from Hawaii as opposed to if we wait and purchase them from Canada where we will have to pay import tax. The cost of one boat fully rigged is \$9,500 plus shipping of approximately \$1,000 each. Denny Thatcher, the cost of the both boats landed here will be \$23,000 and our current budget projection for the year is \$31,000. If we order the boats now we can have them before April for race season. If we find we are running into a shortfall we can always look at selling our two practice boats. Greg Foster, something to consider is the girls have expressed a desire to have some practices with the men's crew, and in that case we would not have enough boats to accommodate this. Denny Thatcher, The question is what funds is the club comfortable carrying forward \$25,000 or \$6,000. Last year we did not buy any boats but spent our funds renovating all the boats. This year all our boats are in good shape. Mike Shandroff, what else can we spend the money on? Denise Shandroff, The lighting is not a proven boat for racing in California. We do not have a large membership that participates in boat maintenance. This presents a problem if we buy more boats. Sully, Do we pay more to ship just one boat versus two? Yes. Mike Shandroff, the Mirage is not being built in Hawaii anymore, the mold has been sold to Canada. Greg Foster, a boat is a boat. We need two more canoes. Heather Lewis, can we fit two more canoes on our site? Yes. Jeff Blauer, we have two training boats that no one wants to use, and this is our last chance to get Sonny Bradley's built in Hawaii. This won't happen again. Scott Bixler, we will have to add other equipment to maintain the new boats and that will have to come out of our budget. Robert Lanier, we can move the two training boats to Morro Bay if we need the room. Mike Nunno, motions to purchase the two Sonney Bradley canoes from Hawaii. Chuck Bown seconds the motion. The motion passes with 100% support from the club. (Yeah!!!! We get two brand new sparkling shiny awesome boats!)

Denny has a new material we can try out to make covers for the boats.

Denny Thatcher, the men and women need to meet for crew setting for the next season. Mike Nunno, we need to discuss the year end party. Denny Thatcher, I motion to never miss another year end party again. We need to do this to keep our spirit together. The coaches will set the days for crew formation. Denise Shandroff, for Tifnie LaCabe, Tifnie does not want to preset crews. She wants to access the women's performance and see who is committed before forming crews.

15. Old Business

16. New Business

- a. Jerseys – Denise not doing this. Needs discussion.
- b. Change the meeting to Women's night next year?

Meeting adjourned: 9:30 p.m.

Appendix 1 – Attendance

Anthony Baniaga, Keya Bergman, Bob Biddinger, Scott Bixler, Michaela Bixler, Jeff Blauer, Chuck Bowen, Kerry Forsythe, Eva Castro, Justin Crawford, Hugh Dohi, Gregg Foster, John Foster, Kyle Fujimoto, Mike Harkness, Mike Nunno, Ted Rich, Steve Cauvet, Robert Lanier, Mike Shandroff, Mike Sullivan, Denny Thatcher, Ted Waterhouse, Dale Wilhelm, Bill Hurley, Neil Tardiff, Steve Lessi, Laurel Golling, Tifnie LaCabe, Heather Lewis, Yvette Paletta, Anne Power, Gigi Radding, Denise Shandroff, Merilee Wilhelm