

# Meeting Minutes for CHNYC Board Meeting February 24, 2025

1800-1900 via Zoom

[Zoom Link](#)

## Attendees:

Monica Blanchard  
Wendy Lang  
Ron Oard (departed 1830)  
Mary Beth Schmitt  
Rob Schult  
Joe Gabriel  
Jeanne Kelly  
Walter Wasowski  
Anne Mitchell  
Seth Moyer (departed 1900)  
Sandy Takacs  
Kim Lyons  
Jill Skeet (Joined 1818)

Not present/updates below (provided prior to meeting): Mike Incze, Pat Tormey, Bill Kneller

Not present/no updates: EC Helme, Erin Howe

## **1. Specific Agenda Items**

- a. Call meeting to order at 1800 – Commodore Monica Blanchard
- b. Establish Quorum & approve Minutes
  - i. Minutes posted in Board Business and Members Only forums 2/18/2025  
[Link to January 2025 Meeting Minutes](#)
  - ii. Vote to approve Board Meeting Minutes January 27<sup>th</sup>, 2025  
Motion to approve minutes 1/27/2025 by Wendy Lang, second by Seth Moyer  
All in favor, motion approved
- c. 2025 Budget review with Jeanne Kelly, Treasurer / developed draft budget
  - i. Charles provided framework for 2025 budget based on 2024; 9 areas of budget sent to leads (Areas include: Admin, social, cruising, facilities, race committee, Rhodes 19, Shields, training and Ship's Store)
  - ii. Draft budget was created and sent to the Exec board; slated to be reviewed.
  - iii. Requested input for any other budget items be sent to Jeanne. Tentative review planned for March 9<sup>th</sup> including Kim, Monica, Jeanne
  - iv. Per Monica plan for budget approvals via Executive Board email vote, in advance of next board meeting
- d. BZ Scholarship applicant status and award budget with Mary Beth Schmitt
  - i. Update: app period closed at end of January; 4 applicants met eligibility requirements

- a. Applicants are ages 10-11; 2 boys, 2 girls
  - b. Applicants each chose one of the following programs: Newport Yacht Club, Sail Newport, URI sailing and Herreshoff Marine Museum
- ii. The Selection Committee is made up of 3 volunteers: Andy Wittkamper, Melanie Doherty, David Davis
- iii. Total expense required to fund all 4 programs/applicants: \$1730.00
- iv. \$935.00 currently available for scholarships (\$200 in dedicated donations received to date, \$235 payback from WAA, \$500 budgeted CHNYC contribution)
- v. Expecting additional donation of \$1,000 from Kathleen Hart, dedicated to BZ Scholarship, which affords the possibility of funding all four applicants
  - a. Kathleen Hart intends to continue donations in future in honor/memory of her husband who passed away last year. He was a Navy Submariner who worked at USNWC and was consultant to Strategic Studies Group. Their sailboat, *Crackerjack*, was kept at the MWR Marina.
  - b. Kathleen Hart requests that we add the name *Crackerjack* to the scholarship name to honor her husband. Her donation and future donations, however, are not dependent on name change.
  - c. Further discussion regarding proposed name change to BZ Scholarship: Seth commented that he is in favor of incorporating the name *Crackerjack* into the scholarship name as he recalls that Alan Krulish was very dedicated to exposing people to sailing by bringing them aboard *Crackerjack* - which Seth suggested is consistent with CHNYC philosophy.
  - d. Post meeting note: Upon further clarification, we now understand that Kathleen is only asking for one (of the 4) awarded scholarships to include the name *Crackerjack* in the award letter. The Board voted to approve this via email on March 2, 2025.
- vi. Motion to approve funding for all 4 applicants by Monica Blanchard. Second by Kim Lyons. All in favor, Motion approved to award all four scholarships

## 2. General Board Updates

### a. Executive Board Updates

#### i. Commodore – Monica Blanchard

No major updates to report; has been working with Officers and Committees in various capacities which are covered in the individual reports

#### ii. Vice Commodore – Jill Skeet

- a. Plan for USNA Meet & Greet – acknowledgement of Vice Commodore to be the lead on this event

She is currently tracking event and working with current POC's of USNA Offshore Sailing to set up details.

- b. Also planning on incorporating tours of USNA boats into schedule

iii. Immediate Past Commodore – Kim Lyons

- a. Wreaths Across America: annual contract has been signed, W9 in place  
Kim stated no wreaths have been sponsored yet for 2025, mentioned sponsoring a wreath can be done at any time.
  - i. WAA day December 13, 2025, Exeter Veterans Cemetery
  - ii. Volunteers needed
- b. Kim requested that Board members/Committee Chairs who may be thinking of transitioning out of position in October that they notify Monica/Kim ASAP

iv. Treasurer – Jeanne Kelly

- a. Budget Review / Draft Budget as above
- b. January financials: total bank balance at the end of Dec \$2400.00. January ended with balance \$4600.00; increase in balance due to: dues/March bowling event/WAA deposit from 2024 and unrestricted donations for general fund or scholarship fund. Expenses: website, insurance and PayPal fees
- c. Currently using NFCU
- d. Working on review for 2024 with Paul Mankofsky for audit of financials – results to be shared hopefully in March meeting

v. Secretary – Wendy Lang

- a. Initiated discussion regarding one-year honorary memberships and/or Letters of introduction to NAVSTA Newport VIP's (PNWC/NAVSTA CO/XO). Honorary memberships were sent to PNWC and CO of NAVSTA 2024 as gestures of goodwill, but government ethics gift rules limitation of \$20.00 precluded acceptance. Monica suggests Letters of Introductions be sent to NAVSTA VIP's and other agreed upon VIP's (Commodores, select marina staff, local sailing leaders, etc.) – limit of 12 per year
- b. Secretary will draft Letters of Introduction to VIPs referenced above

b. Shields Fleet Captain - Ron Oard

- i. Shields fleet 9 racing calendar is out
- ii. If Winslow is scheduled 2 AUG, no conflict with Fleet 9
- iii. Shields Nationals first fall weekend in September in Edgartown
- iv. Navy Shields 3 of 4 sold since late fall. The last one will be on sale soon

c. Social Director – Anne Mitchell

- i. Summary of Comedy Night Event: 17 people attended; event successful
- ii. Status of Winter Bowling event: deadline for sign up extended to 2 MAR; 22 signed up as of today
- iii. Status of Spring Opener: Bristol Yacht Club  
April 26<sup>th</sup> (check) 1500-1800  
Catered by company in Bristol - \$1814.40  
50/50 raffle to be held  
Cost = \$46.00/pp  
Bill Kneller to post on the website
- iv. Event lead for Progressive Meet and Greet: Penny and Ron have agreed to be event captains  
Discussion about date: possible poll of interest for boats and day of week/date and rain date;  
possibility 6<sup>th</sup> with 20<sup>th</sup> as rain date – date and time TBD
- v. Follow up on remaining 2025 events  
Anne's goal for monthly event (pop up events)  
Discussion regarding May dates for a trivia night:  
Ragged Island 1800-2030 Thursdays  
Newport Craft 1900-2100  
Newport Vineyards Wednesdays 1800-2000  
Consensus Ragged Island Thursday night, 22 May,  
Anne will contact Bill to place info in Telltale  
Anne will be working with Bill on learning club  
evite vs free events vs. ship's store
- vi. Ideas for future 2025 events:  
Lobster Night at O Club Thursdays  
Kempenaar's Clambake  
August – dinghy or kayak races to Newport and have dinner or lunch – Anne will touch base with Walt (Cruising)

d. Training – Robert Schult

- i. Status of Winter Trainings as well as Dates/budgets:
  - a. 1 MAR boating safety event 1300
  - b. 5 APR Cay Electronics seminar
  - c. Room reservation fee \$25.00
  - d. Working to confirm 29 MAR John Thurston line shop in Jamestown for briefing with shackles/lines - late AM timeframe
- ii. Will confirm the dates/times with Bill Kneller for website calendar
- iii. Plans to connect with Seth for racing rules seminars in the area or possibly recorded webinars

- e. Race Chair - Mike Incze – not present /updates forwarded -
  - i. he is working on action items from last meeting including:
    - a. Progress on NOR/SI
    - b. Finalizing 2025 Racing schedule
    - c. Status of Winslow Regatta -TBD
- f. Facilities - Pat Tormey – Not present - updates sent to Monica
  - i. Status of Special Race Mark 15 (Hotel) relocation worked with Bill and Ron to file paperwork with USCG who had no record of mark now have recorded proper name Hotel – will need to inform Sail Newport so that they can update their race chart. Per Kim Lyons Sail Newport may be responsible for special race marks – she will send out an email to Sail Newport POC Kim Cooper regarding coordination with USCG. Kim L. will also respond to Pat Tormey to clarify
  - ii. Status of mooring permits/fees for 2025 – confirmed separately these have been paid for season
- g. BZ Scholarship – Mary Beth Schmitt see above
- h. Cruising – Walt Wasowski
  - i. Update on sale dates with Newport Nautical (trying for last weekend in April-TBD) and West Marine (TBD- attempting for early May)
  - ii. Cruising events
    - Mooring reservations for Bristol 4<sup>th</sup> of July can be made starting 1 MAR
    - Planning on participating in Newport Yacht club Memorial Day cruising race to Block Island
- i. Rhodes 19 Fleet Captain – Seth Moyer (departed 1900))
- j. Multihull Fleet Captain - Sandy Takacs
  - i. Winslow Regatta - August 2 open weekend, will check with Fleet regarding intent to participate in Winslow during Fleet winter meeting. If unable to race in Winslow might be able to participate in running of race.
  - ii. Fleet intends to participate in Fall Series as last season
  - iii. Sandy intends to write articles for Telltale introducing the fleet
- k. PHRF Fleet Captain/Protest Chair – Tripp Alyn
  - i. Order placed for new rowboat waiting for delivery
- l. Telltale Coordinator – Joe Gabriel
  - i. Due date for March inputs – March 7<sup>th</sup>
  - ii. Update on Base access details for entry in Telltale; will proceed to pass and ID Office for details
- m. Webmaster – Bill Kneller – not present/updates forwarded
  - i. Updated membership reports to include boat type (sail vs power)
  - ii. Working with Jeanne regarding access to website re: banks/PayPal
  - iii. Switched name server from GoDaddy to Glowhost saves 10.00 / year
  - iv. Setup calendar and shop links for bowling, training events and Spring Opener
  - v. Working on email deliverability to reduce email delivery to spam folder

- n. Web publishing - Pat Tormey -not present/no updates for web publishing
- o. NBYA Delegate - EC Helme – not present/no updates
- p. Social Media - Erin Howe – not present/no updates

**3. Meeting Adjourned by Commodore Monica Blanchard at 1915**

**4. Next Board Meeting – March 24<sup>th</sup>, 2025**

