



Board of Directors & General Member Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, February 10, 2026

Approved by B.T., A.R., B.B., J.DL., D.S., M.G.

Call to order

A General meeting of the Saint Paul Yacht Club (SPYC) was held on February 10, 2026 at the SPYC Club House. It began at 7:03 pm, and was presided over by Bill Tschohl, Commodore, with Bonnie Jean MacKay as acting secretary. Six out of 11 Members of the Board of Directors were present, thus establishing a Quorum. As per the ByLaws of the organization, the first meeting in February is the meeting where voting for the members of the Board of Directors for the present year takes place.

Approval of Agenda

There was no officially shared agenda, no discussion of what the agenda would include beyond voting and tallying the votes, so there was no official approval of an agenda. Despite that the meeting did proceed as per this minutes document.

Attendees

Board Members in attendance:

Flag members: Bill Tschohl, Commodore; Jim Camery, Treasurer

At Large members: Diane Scovill, Bob Smekta, Andy Ristrom, Tom Marrone

Six (6) board members are present. Quorum is fulfilled.

Board Members *not* in attendance:

Flag members: Troy Janisch (2025 secretary), Nathan Schumann (Vice Commodore)

At Large members: Greg Jorgenson 2025 past commodore, Jon Oulman. Dave Nelson,

Voting members in attendance (in addition to Board Members):

In person:

Bonnie Jean MacKay, Brenda Richens, Brett Cummings, Colleen Velo, Janeice DeLisle, Fran Potvien, Lee Pfeilsticker

Remotely:

Marcia Seebert, Mike Gude

Non-club members (guests) in attendance:

Greg Racette

Staff in attendance:

Mike Shimshock, Executive Director; Kristina Cummings, Marina Manager

Approval of 11/11/2025 Minutes

The minutes of the last meeting, which was held on November 11, 2025, were not read at this meeting. It has been the practice of the board to approve the minutes in the days following the meeting documented after which they are posted on the Club's website.

Agenda

1. Call to order and Pledge of Allegiance
2. Voting and vote tally for the 2026 Board of Directors; Announce election results
3. Officers' reports
4. Committee Reports
5. Additional Business

Election of the 2026 Board of Directors

The meeting was called to order at approximately 7:02 PM. Ballots were distributed to those physically present in the room who requested a paper ballot. Those online said they had already submitted their ballots. Bill pulled up the online voting results, and he and Bob Smetka tallied the votes, and Bill read the results:

Election Results

The Flag officers elected for 2026:

Commodore: Bill Tschohl

Treasurer: Jim Camery

Vice Commodore: Bob Smekta

Secretary: Bonnie Jean MacKay

Board Members-at-Large elected for 2026:

Andy Ristrom

Fran Potvien

Mike Gude

Brian Backes

Janeice DeLisle

Tom Marrone

Ballots will be in the SPYC Office for review. Please inquire with Bill Tschohl and or Mike Shimshock if you would like to view the ballots.¹

Upon completion of the first order of business (election of the 2026 Board members), Bill declared that the new Board members commence their duties upon the conclusion of the election.

¹ Per SPYC ByLaws Article X, Paragraph 6, ballots will be retained for 30 days following the election. They may be destroyed / discarded no earlier than March 11, 2026.

Officers' reports

Commodore's Report was presented by Bill Tschohl

1. Kristina has resigned, effective Friday, February 13, 2026, e.o.d.. Kristina shared that she got heart-warming messages from members who received the news before this meeting, and were sorry to see her go.
Some SPYC members received a communication prior to this meeting stating, (per Bill) that the HR committee and Executive Director will meet in the near future to determine scope and scale of a Marina Manager position to make sure it is right for the club's needs. Mike and Bill are working through the final transition items.
2. The club is in a good position overall.
 - a. The river is currently low and there is no significant snow pack, which bodes well for a minimal spring flood.
 - b. Dredging: Last year we dredged beneath the club house and outside edge in the upper harbor. We have no spoils to haul off so we can clear the spoil area of boats and get started as soon as the weather, staff and equipment work for us. BT will consult Brian K, Harbor & Yard Lead..
3. Financial position:
 - a. Historically, Accounts Receivable² has been at or above \$50,000.
 - b. To address this we need to keep reminding members to be sure to pay on time and follow-up with those who don't.
 - c. The club will also lean into existing processes, such as Sheriff's Sale of abandoned boats (boats in the yard for which storage fees are outstanding).
4. Two Festivals are planned for this summer on Harriet Island
 - a. July 11 Country Club Festival
 - b. July 18 MN Yacht Club Festival
 - c. Regarding renting out slips to transient boaters for these two festivals: Bill says the club is on a trajectory for filling more slips than last year with full-time season slipholders, leaving fewer slips available for festival transient occupancy.

² "Accounts Receivable": Explanation of term for the edification of those who don't know.
<https://www.nsktglobal.com/usa/blog/accounts-receivable-explained-how-it-works-and-why-it-matters>

- d. Tom Morrone interjected to propose an additional celebration. He said this year (2026) is the “250th Anniversary of America”³.
Tom proposes that in honor of this anniversary, a National Marina Day be observed by the club on Saturday July 4th 2026, with the Saint Paul Yacht Club hosting such events as a flag retirement ceremony, games and a bonfire.
5. The Minneapolis Boat Show attendance was down 40-50%.
6. SPYC Website (with input from Mike S.):
 - a. The current web host requires a 12 month commitment and an upgrade to continue supporting the SPYC Calendar.
 - b. The club is upgrading the website, which will be hosted elsewhere. This designer aims to have the new website ready to launch next week.
 - c. With the new website a calendar will be launched and will become accessible to members to view.
 - d. The current website is still accessible, but the calendar is not current.
 - e. All content that is accessible through the current website will be ported to the new website and will be available there.

Treasurer’s Report was presented by Jim Camery

- The club has \$28,000 in the bank.
- Cash will be very tight until summer dockage fees start being paid. We have been careful about payments and have been working with vendors
- The next billing cycle has due dates of April 15. Anticipates being in the black starting on that date.
- Mike S (Exec Dir.) has been making phone calls re: Accounts Receivable and outstanding balances.
- We will eventually clean up long-term accounts receivables and will discuss shifting them to unrecoverable debts at some point, to clean up the books
- Suggests considering revisions to the summer storage policy to motivate boat owners to get their boats into the water by raising the summer storage fee.
- Bill T., Commodore, provided a breakdown of outstanding credits in invoiced billings:
 - \$81,878 is 1 to 30 days past due:
 - \$4,310 is 31 to 60 days past due
 - \$27,556 is 61- 90 days past due
 - \$93,859 is over 91 days past due

³ 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence of the United States - of which the state of Minnesota was not one at that time - just for the record. “America” is an imprecise term and can refer to North, South, or Central America.

Discussion on how to address outstanding debt due the SPYC included suggestions regarding how to communicate with debtors and potential action plans to deal with abandoned property:

- What will motivate action by on-land boat owners?
- Are any of the owners of the boats in the yard dead?
- Accountability: Club needs to make sure that communications records are kept and easily accessible in order to mitigate or avoid any negative legal consequences for actions taken in disposing of abandoned property

The FINANCE COMMITTEE (members to be determined) will discuss the issues, lay out the facts, and make a plan as to when the issue of outstanding debt will be put onto the Board meeting agenda for broader discussion and establishing a consensually-agreed-upon action plan for 2026.

Secretary's Report was given by Bonnie Jean MacKay

1. Bonnie Jean stated that Troy said, "Please take notes, Bonnie Jean".⁴
2. Troy was not present, and apparently submitted no Secretary's Report for the period between the January 2026 meeting and this voting meeting.

Committee Reports

Social Committee Report:

Janeice DeLisle, Chair of the Social Committee:

Boot Hockey on February 28th. If river ice in the upper harbor by the Club House is not safe, other activities will be planned.

- BT said that snow removal from the ice surface will probably not be necessary.
- Crafts night in March
- Ideas for internal marketing of SPYC sponsored member events and encouraging coordinated socially motivated activities with other club members are welcome from any and all.

Additional Reports

Eagle Cam Report

Bill T. : The Eagles are still settling themselves in and no eggs have been laid yet.

⁴ Troy Janisch, SPYC Secretary for the period of service covering post-Voting Mtg Feb 2025 through Voting Meeting Feb 2026 contacted Bonnie Jean MacKay in advance of this Feb 10, 2026 meeting, said that he had voted for her for Secretary and suggested that she be responsible for the February 10 meeting minutes.

Executive Director Report

Mike Shimshock:

- Working on SPYC website
- Transitioning files and account access from Kristina's name to his name & making sure he has all the passwords, etc.

Board Orientation

New board members are to watch for communications from the Commodore. The proposed date is Tuesday, February 24, 2026.

Dates will be determined for annual SPYC events and scheduled action items at the Feb 24 meeting.

Committees consisting of only non-board members

2 committees are made up of 3 non-board members each: The Grievance Committee and the Elections/Nominations Committee. People can be nominated and a vote taken, or they can simply offer to serve and if there is no objection to overcome, they are appointed to serve for one year. There is no term limit for service on either of these committees.

Elections Committee 2026

Colleen Velo

Geoff Racette

NEED TO RECRUIT because past commodore has asked to step down.

Grievance Committee 2026

Brenda Richens

Geoff Racette

NEED TO RECRUIT

IMPORTANT NOTE: Traditionally, the past commodore serving on the board serves on the Elections Committee. Greg Jorganson has expressed the desire to be released from Board Service. We must therefore recruit a third member for the Elections Committee.

ACTION ITEMS:

1. Solicit interest in serving as past commodore this year from past commodores as to whether they are willing to serve on the 2026 Board of Director in the position of "Past Commodore".
2. Solicit interest in Grievance Committee Service from club members-at-large.