



St. Paul Yacht Club

AGENDA for the Board of Directors Meeting

Tuesday, March 10, 2026 7:00 – 8:00pm

Clubhouse and online

Google Meet joining info

Video call link:

<https://meet.google.com/rec-pvtw-jhp>

Or dial: (US) +1 304-981-5485 PIN: 533 011 671#

Call to order

- Pledge of Allegiance
- Approval of Agenda
- Open Comments from the Floor

Old Business

Approval of January 2026 meeting minutes

Proposed: That the [minutes of the January 2026 Board and Nomination meeting](#) be reviewed and approved.

ACTION ITEMS from February 10 Mtg:

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.

Committees Composed of Non-Board Members

Elections Committee 2026	Grievance Committee 2026
Colleen Velo	Brenda Richens
Geoff Racette (pending ByLaws Revision)*	Geoff Racette
Pending ByLaws Revision *	NEED TO RECRUIT

***IMPORTANT NOTES:**

1. Traditionally, the Immediate 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.
 2. Upon reading the relevant bylaw pertaining to the Elections Committee, I discovered that it actually states that the committee is to be comprised of the TWO immediate past commodores & one at-large voting member-in-good-standing. This unfortunately disqualifies Geoff Racette.
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Addressing the Request by the Immediate Past Commodore to be relieved of service prior to the end of the tenure of the Current Commodore

The following 4 proposals are integrally related. It is thus essential that you read all four before determining your position on any ONE of them.

PROPOSAL 1: Release of Greg Jorgansen from Board Service

Proposed by: Bonnie Jean MacKay

Motion:

That

(a) Greg Jorgansen be released from SPYC Board of Directors service as Past Commodore effective __date__ and that

(b) his spot remains vacant until the ByLaws have been revised to allow for an 11th board member to be appointed or chosen in accordance with the pending revision of the ByLaws.

BACKGROUND AND RATIONALE:

1. (a) Greg Jorgansen expressed the desire to relinquish his place on the SPYC Board of Directors ([see email](#)), which he holds due to a ByLaws stipulation that he remain in the position of Immediate Past Commodore until the Commodore serving directly after him steps down and takes the position of Immediate Past Commodore in his place. Greg has left the area and no longer participates in Club activities and thus would like to be relieved of his duty to the Board.
2. (b) The ByLaws currently have no contingency plan to cover this scenario.
3. (b) While Greg recommended that Lee Pfeilsticker step in in his place, and Bill invited Lee to do so, this decision is not supported by the SPYC Bylaws, and it is thus appropriate for the Board as a whole to determine as the best

approach.

While flexibility in responsive problem-solving is commendable, determining the urgency of filling the vacant position is the purview of the Board as a whole. As such, I propose that we defer to the Board on whether it is necessary to appoint a stand-in to serve as a substitute Immediate Past Commodore until such time as the ByLaws have been satisfactorily amended.

PROPOSAL 2: Apprising Past Commodores of Pending Vacancy and Pending ByLaws Revision

Proposed by: Bonnie Jean MacKay

Motion:

In accordance with the Action Item 1 from the February 10, 2026

Elections meeting: That all living and local past commodores be apprised of the pending vacancy—and of the pending rules change—and asked whether they have any interest in serving in a position of "past commodore" for the remainder of 2026 should the new bylaw create or confirm that opening.

Rationale:

On February 10, at the Annual Elections Meeting, Bill Tshohl shared with the group that Greg Jorganson wishes to relinquish his position on the Board desiring to no longer serve in the position of Immediate Past Commodore as stipulated in the SPYC ByLaws. This brought to light the need to review the bylaws to support contingencies such as this, **and opened the question as to whether we should invite previous past commodores to fill in.**

PROPOSAL 3: Ad Hoc Committee on Immediate Past Commodore Board Service

Proposed by: Bonnie Jean MacKay

Motion:

That an ad hoc committee be appointed to draft revised language regarding Board service, tenure, and tasks, including committee service for the position of Immediate Past Commodore, specifically to address circumstances in which an Immediate Past Commodore is unavailable or declines to serve.

Committee Charge:

The ad hoc committee shall fully evaluate the intention and value of the current language addressing the relevant bylaws currently in place, then draft and present proposed revisions for all sections of the SPYC ByLaws pertaining to “Immediate Past Commodore” and “Immediate two past commodores” to the Board at the April 2026 meeting for review, discussion, revision, and approval for further action in compliance with club rules on Bylaws revisions and to fully evaluate the purpose

The ad hoc committee should check the Standing Rules, as well to determine whether there is any mention of the above positions.

Next Steps:

Following Board discussion and any modifications, the committee shall prepare the new language for presentation to the club membership for a vote.

Rationale:

(Elections Committee) The SPYC ByLaws state the immediate 2 past commodores are to make up two thirds of a 3-member elections committee. The club appears to not be in compliance with this stipulation, and it appears that those who have chosen to disregard it have had good reason to do so. Therefore it seems prudent to revisit the rules and recommend revisions.

4. The club needs a long term solution to address similar circumstances that may arise in the future.

[RELEVANT BYLAWS: See Appendix](#)

PROPOSAL 4: Selection of Lee Phielsticker as Former Commodore

NOTE: This proposal, in its current iteration, conflicts with the previous proposals.

Proposed by: Greg Jorgansen

Motion:

That Lee Phielsticker be chosen as Former Commodore to replace myself (Greg).

Rationale:

I truly love the Yacht Club. I have been physically gone from the SPYC for over a year and a half now. I am uneffective, and don't know half of the members. I propose that Lee Philesticker be chosen as Former Commodore to replace myself. He truly is a Former Commodore, full of abilities, love of the Yacht Club, and lives closer than me.

PROPOSAL 5: Solicit Interest in Grievance Committee Service and Vote in a Third Committee Member

Proposed by: Bonnie Jean MacKay

Motion:

- That the Board:
- Solicits interest from Club Members-at-Large present—either in person or remotely—in serving on the Grievance Committee;
 - Solicits a vote from all persons present at the meeting;
 - Welcomes the new Grievance Committee member and introduces them to the other two Grievance Committee members.
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New Business

Question: Reading of Previous Meeting's Minutes

This is a request for discussion on the value of reading the previous month's meeting minutes at the start of the current month's meeting.

It has been the practice of the secretary to send the minutes to all members of the board for approval in the days following the meeting documented. Once approval is granted, the minutes are sent to the Office Staff who posts them on the Club's website.

Do we wish to change this practice by instituting a new practice of reading the last month's minutes in the current month's meeting and taking a vote to approve or revise?

If we need a motion on this, I would like to ask for one to be made on the fly in this meeting.

Proposal 6: Conferral of Honorary Membership Status

Proposed by: Bill Tschol

Motion:

To make Lori Maumann (MN DNR), Thomas Demma, Bonnie Johnson and Brenda Scandin (photographers) honorary members of the St Paul Yacht Club.

BACKGROUND AND RATIONALE:

These individuals were critical and helpful in establishing the MN DNR wildlife camera that monitors the bald eagles nesting in the park. They also work to maintain the system or photograph and share the bald eagles on our river. Though it doesn't directly support boating, it aids the club's efforts to partner meaningfully with the public beyond our fence.

DETAILS:

Each of these individuals will be provided a SPYC parking pass and treated as any social member would be. No payment will be requested or required for this honorary membership status.

PROPOSAL 7: St. Paul Yacht Club Proposal for Lifetime Membership

Proposer: Greg Jorgansen

Date Submitted: March 1, 2026

Subject: Conferral of Lifetime Membership Status to Bill Tschol

PROPOSAL:

It is hereby proposed that the Board of Directors of the St. Paul Yacht Club grant Lifetime Membership status to Bill Tschol, in accordance with the Club's governing bylaws.

BACKGROUND AND RATIONALE:

Bill Tschol's distinguished record of service to the St. Paul Yacht Club is exemplified by his five terms as Commodore. No one can argue that this 5-time Commodore hasn't earned this honor. Bill has worked harder and devoted more time than anyone I have ever met to the Yacht Club. He has guided us through perilous times and kept us afloat. His unwavering commitment and leadership have been instrumental to the Club's success and stability.

RELEVANT BYLAWS:

Article VI: VOTING MEMBERSHIP

Voting Membership is comprised of two categories:

- Voting Members
- Life Members

Article VI, Paragraph 2: Life Membership

Life Membership may be granted to a Voting Member by decree of the Board in accordance with our Standing Rules. A Life Member shall be exempt from the payment of annual dues. Life Members shall have the same privileges as an SPYC Voting Member.

RECOMMENDATION:

The proposer respectfully recommends that the Board of Directors approve the conferral of Lifetime Membership upon Bill Tschol, effective upon Board approval, thereby exempting him from future annual dues while maintaining all privileges and standing of a Voting Member of the St. Paul Yacht Club.

ACTION REQUESTED:

Board vote on the proposed Lifetime Membership for Bill Tschol.

FLAG OFFICERS' REPORTS

Commodore's Report

Presented by: Bill Tschol

Date: March 4, 2026

Spring Anticipation!

Spring is that time of year when our anticipation of the boating season begins to peak. What new gifts did you get for your boat over the Winter? What will you need to pick up yet this Spring? The St. Paul Yacht Club is ready to serve your boating needs and will be launching boats as soon as the harbors thaw out.

The SPYC Board and Staff have been working on plans for social events and operations planning. Our committees have or will be holding their first meetings of the year soon and structure work for 2026. If you're interested in joining any of the committees, please reach out to the committee chairs. They'd all love a hand!

In the fall of 2025 we created and submitted a proposal to manage Watergate marina. While we did not get the contract to manage that marina, we developed some new analytical skills that we've been using to review and improve our operations here at the SPYC. Some of the items you have or will see very soon are a refreshed website and billing processes. The new website includes much of the previous information in a better format, but also a member portal you can use to view your statements, make payments and view account activity.

Of course March is never a good time to be guessing on Spring river levels, but it's always at the top of my list of concerns. We will be doing the normal work of launching boats this Spring of course, but need to keep an eye on the river level. We could have a normal pool of 3' which is perfect for launching or 15' which would be significantly disruptive. The mighty Mississippi could prove even more challenging to us if the river level goes over 17' which pretty much stops us from launching boats and pivots us into flood operation mode. We'll be ready for any of those scenarios.

As our anticipation keeps building, keep an eye on what your boat needs, whether it's a new VHF radio or a new toy. The SPYC staff and Board will stay focused on delivering the best boating experience to our members.

Relevant River Level Impacts:

- **8'** – A lot of current; we recommend staying off the river. That's also the point where the current starts to bring in extra volumes of silt and debris.
- **14'** – Considered the first "flood stage." This shuts down Lilydale Road and parts of Harriet Island Park. The ramps down to the docks start to have problems.
- **17'** – The discomfort starts. There is water on the cement rails of the travel lift and closes large sections of the park. At 17' we would have to look at the forecast and determine if we need to get boats launched or onto the levee. Launching is the better option, but it all depends on the weather and how the yard looks with ice, etc.
- **18.5'** – Closes the lift and puts the water into the lot down by the gas dock. We pull fuses on at least some of the electrical feeds.
- **19'** – Shuts off all the dock utilities, closes all the ramps, water into the paved parking lots, and about up to the garage in the boatyard. Start thinking about moving boats.
- **20'** – We're taking boats out to Water St. and other local roads. Water is into the garage and close to the entrance gate. Pool & Yacht Club is flooded.

- **22'** – Boat yard is closed and mostly underwater. It actually becomes part of the river. Docks are reachable only by boat. The garage has 2' of water in it. Clubhouse is subjected to current.
- **23'** – The water is up to the office and is out on Lilydale Road in front of the entrance gate. That's as high as we've seen it.

If you're interested in checking current river level:

<https://water.noaa.gov/gauges/stpm5>

Respectfully submitted,

Bill Tschol, Commodore

SPYC 2026 BOARD CONTACT INFORMATION

You can email the entire board at this single address:

board@stpaulyachtclub.org

Treasurer's Report

Presented by: Jim Camery

Jim may give a report orally at the meeting. No written report has been submitted.

Secretary's Report

Presented by: Bonnie Jean MacKay

I am just learning the ropes here.

I spent the past month reading through things and consulting with people when they called me and figuring out how to formulate proposals, and in which order the proposals should be brought up in the meeting.

I still need to meet with Mike S to figure out how best to work together.

I shared a submission form and a protocol document with the 2 grievance committee members who volunteered in February.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Social Committee Report

Chair: Janeice DeLisle

Meeting Date: Tuesday, March 3, 2026

Participants in Attendance:

Geoff, Janeice, Bill, Mike, Tommy

Meeting Schedule:

The intention is to hold Social Committee meetings on the first Tuesday of each month. All are welcome.

Past & Persistent Questions and Their Resolutions or Status:

- **Firestick or Chromecast for a slideshow on side TV?**
Mike will set up firestick on TV
- **TGIF (Thank God It's Floating) Every 1st Weekend New Banner?**
Follow up later – a good idea but not a priority
- **Budget about 1k for ice and 1k for memorials, 15k total for the year:**
Social budget to be figured out at financial meeting in March
- **Commodore's Ball:**
Bill to decide among Rowing Club, Padelford, Pool & Yacht Club, SPYC Club House, or some other venue...or
Boat ride!! Take Magnolia Blossom, Stan Dickenson, Watergate? Or Padelford?
- **Free or discounted rate pay if no RSVP Commodore's Ball??**
"Presale vs door pricing"
\$60 if at Padelford – will adjust pricing if at clubhouse

Social Committee 2026 Insights:

- **Volunteer campaign for social committee**
Janeice made a volunteer sheet, will share soon!
- **Marketing plan** – Event scheduling and publicizing logistics under discussion
Social@stpaulyachtclub.org; Login details under development
Janeice to work out Email link to website, Facebook, Instagram
- **Directory**
Consult Bonnie Jean; Do we want to use a third party app?; Is the opt-in check box on the contract?

For Feedback and Input:

- Boot Hockey to be scheduled for an earlier date next year
 - Boot Hockey potential name change to "BH & Yard Games" or "BH & Chalet"
 - Hours discussion: 12pm shutdown vs. 2-6pm timeframe
 - Explore using event revenue to fund future clubhouse maintenance
 - Photobooth for Commodore's Ball under consideration
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UPCOMING EVENTS

- **March 6 or 13:** TGIF March – Craft Night (Potluck BYOB)
- **April 3:** TGIF April – Game Night: Hawaiian Shirt Edition
- **April 7:** Social Committee Meeting
- **April 25:** Lillydale Clean Up
- **May 1:** TGIF May – Full Moon May Day Bonfire
- **May 5:** Social Committee Meeting
- **May 15:** Yacht Rock Saints Game
- **May 16 or 23:** Commodore's Ball (Masquerade theme)

Marketing and Membership Committee Report

Bonnie Jean MacKay

I met with Troy Janisch, who expressed interest in being on this committee and shared a River Adventures Guide idea that has been under development in the past.

Open to additional members.

Operations Committee Report

Andy Ristrom

Amenities Committee Report

Brian Backas

ADDITIONAL REPORTS

Eagle Cam Report

[To be presented at meeting]

Executive Director Report

Mike Shimshock

Slip Occupancy - [x SPYC Slip Occupancy 2026.xlsx](#)

Sharper update - waiting on them to solve one bug with existing A/R. As soon as they do that invoices will go out. Invoices are ready to go, and double checked.

Website and Calendar is up to date - new event request form posted on the website, anyone wish to have an event at the clubhouse should fill out the form.

We will have a new partnership/marketing opportunity with the St Paul Saints

- Yacht Rock Night brought to by the St Paul Yacht Club
- Twice the exposure of the boatshow for 1/3 the price
- Directly to downtown St Paul users
- Friday, [May 15, 2026](#) - fireworks night as well.
- Would like to offer a free transient night at this event (N/A during the festivals)

Tickets are \$35 and a yacht rock hat is included, purchased through the Saints. Link will go on website when they have it ready.

Closed Session

The board will meet in closed session. The members

APPENDIX 1: PAST COMMODORE POSITION ON THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

BOARD MEMBERSHIP

Bylaw Reference: Article III, Section 4

At the expiration of the Commodore's term of office, the retiring Commodore shall remain a member of the Board, replacing the previous past Commodore. As long as the Commodore serves, the immediate past Commodore continues to serve on the Board.

Summary:

The Past Commodore serves as a voting member of the Board of Directors. This position ensures continuity of leadership and institutional knowledge within the club's governance. The Past Commodore remains on the Board throughout the tenure of the current Commodore, at which point they are replaced by the newly retiring Commodore. This creates a structured succession of leadership on the Board, with the most recent past Commodore always serving alongside the current leadership.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE SERVICE

Bylaw Reference: Article III, Section 1

The Nominating Committee oversees the election of officers. The Nominating Committee is comprised of two immediate past Commodores and **one other Voting Member in good standing** who is elected by the Voting Members through nominations from the floor at the Annual meeting in February.

Summary:

A primary duty of the Past Commodore is service on the Nominating Committee. The committee is composed of two immediate past Commodores and one additional voting member in good standing. The Nominating Committee holds significant responsibility for overseeing the election of club officers. The additional voting member is elected by the general membership through floor nominations at the Annual Meeting held in February. This structure ensures that experienced former leadership guides the selection of future officers while maintaining member input in the process.

END OF AGENDA