

APBA  
ANNUAL MEETING  
JANUARY 30, 2010

1. The meeting was called to order at 1:00 PM with a welcome by APBA President, Chris Fairchild with approximately 70 members in attendance.
2. The Ballot Report was given by Director of Operations, Becky Nichols. All voting this year was done using Election Runner. 847 Members took part in the election process. Elected to the Board of Directors for three-year terms were Katelyn Shaw, Jean Mackay-Schwartz and Kurt Romberg. Elected to Council were Don Allen, Kip Brown, Ernie Dawe, and Kelly Hannon.
3. A moment of silence was held in memory of members lost throughout the year.
4. Treasurer's Report. Treasurer Brent Walbrun reported that in 2020 APBA had 17% less members and held 17 events. APBA financially ended the year with an approximately \$93,000 loss. On the up side, members were able to reach the \$50,000 match for Buddy Byers' donation. The budget for 2021 is a worst-case budget and shows a loss of \$170,000 with 10 events and only \$87,000 in membership dues. However, as of January 30% of our members have joined.
5. President's Report. President Chris Fairchild thanked Becky Nichols for all her hard work in making the virtual national meeting such a success. He also thanked his many advisors for their help throughout the year. He mentioned the changes that had happened to APBA over the last year. With the retirement of Tana Moore, Holly Jones has stepped up to become the Propeller editor. In September when Cindy Minoletti retired, it was decided not to replace her until APBA was back to full racing. Since then, Becky Nichols has taken over most of Cindy's duties. In 2020, to save money and help the association, the office staff also took a temporary 20% pay cut. Chris thanked Buddy Byers for coming forward with the idea of a matching fund raiser. He said it is a true testament to how the members feel about their association and how easily they met the matching goal. While we didn't have a lot of races in 2020, there were several events which were put on. It was hard work to make the events happen but everyone got to race, the cities had events, and the fans enjoyed them. President Fairchild concluded by saying he is excited about the possibilities for 2021.
6. Report of Category Chairs
  - a. Inboard – In the absence of Dutch Squires, Don Melillo said the Inboards did not have a report.
  - b. Modified – Mark Wheeler stated the category is looking forward to 2021. Every club that had been awarded a championship event for 2020 had that award extended to 2021. He reported that they have equipment available for their new 125 classes as well as 1 Yamato on hand and 1 coming for the 500 classes. They also had the Yamato pipe kits available.
  - c. OPC – In the absence of Bill Gohr, Chris Fairchild reported that the commission had approved head/neck restraints and air in the restrained cockpits. They have a private investor working to build boats and get motors for the 60 class. They welcomed Mercury Motors back to OPC racing.
  - d. Pro - Kristi Ellison reported that the combined APBA/US Title Series nationals which was planned for 2020 did not happen. That race has been rescheduled for 2021. The drop-dead date for the DePue Men's Club is June 1. They are currently looking for a back-up

site, possibly Constantine, MI. Kristi also announced that the Pro category will not be able to do any ambulance reimbursements for this year due to funding constraints.

- e. Stock – Jeff Brewster reported that Stock Outboard continues to be a successful grass roots portion of APBA. In 2020 it took the hard work of our members, leaders and officials to battle through the unknown and hold 5 successful events. The commission began work in November meeting weekly to work towards 2021. We will continue to meet to plan for the future and hopefully produce the future stars of APBA.
  - f. Unlimited (H1) – Jan Shaw reported there were no events in 2020 but they did create their E-League to feature race sites and virtual racing. They will do this again for 2021. As of now they have one race under contract and hoping to secure other contracts for various sites in the coming weeks.
7. Committee Reports:
- a. Archives & Record Retention – Jan Shaw reported that the 1960's rulebooks had been sent to the New York Library system in 2020. Because of COVID they were not able to digitize them. They are now going to Dee Berghauer for proofreading and then to Headquarters for posting. Jan will begin to work on the 1950's rulebooks.
  - b. Insurance – Mark Wheeler reported that there is a 10% increase in regatta insurance fees for 2021. Liability coverage has been improved. The Risk Management rules are unchanged. With the COVID requirements race sites are facing, Mark suggested that clubs add a Risk Manager to the sanction specifically to handle COVID issues.
  - c. Offshore – Rich Luhrs reported that Offshore has been busy during the 2020 season. They have re-edited their rule book and are now reconstructing it; initiated an upgrade of cockpit standards to meet UIM standards; established a new Facebook page; agreed with UIM to accept new bracketed classes; are planning to host 2 World races this year, one at Key West, FL, and the other at Englewood Beach, FL. In addition, for 2021, they have 3 Offshore events with 50-100 miles segments, negotiated tv agreements, re-organized the Offshore Committee to have representation from all stakeholders; are working on marketing and sponsor upgrades with UIM, and also working with the 3C class to try to bring them into APBA.
  - d. Jet/Outboard River Racer – Jan Shaw reported that the Jet River Racers group did not have any events in 2020 but are planning 3 events in 2021 and also a World event starting at Gold Beach and ending in St. Mary's, Oregon. The Cal-Ore group had one event in 2020 and have 5 scheduled for 2021.
  - e. J Class – Mark Wheeler reported that with the passing of Steve Hearn this past year, J lost one of their biggest supporters. The Hearn family asked that any donations be sent to the J Committee. The committee has decided to honor Steve's memory by subsidizing driving schools for J aged youth. Details will be in the March Propeller.
  - f. Race and Rules Management - Howie Nichols reported that he had reformatted the General Safety and General Racing Rules. These are currently on the website. The Committee discussed several rules and sent to a subcommittee to re-define race committees and what occurs when someone appeals through the yellow card system.
  - g. Digital Age – Kaitlyn Glossner reported that after the committee was formed, it was discovered that it was mirroring the Marketing committee. The Committee has now moved in a new direction to bring APBA and its members into the digital age through such programs as on-line registration, digital scoring, etc.
  - h. Safety/Rescue – Bob Wartinger reported on several points of progress: (1) incident reports have been reviewed and education will begin with referees to improve the information contained on them, (2) an effort to add common category safety rules in a

specific area in the General Safety Rules (3) a plan to determine the demographics of cockpit boats thru a member survey, (4) a clean-up of the builder's lists (5) working to help provide guidance for COVID plans for clubs and (6) encouraging testing time for racers at early races due to the time off. In answer to a question, Bob said he had developed a 7-point plan guidance for the COVID plans which can be sent out to anyone. Becky Nichols will send this to each club.

8. National Headquarters – Becky Nichols reported that the office is hoping for a more successful and happier 2021. They are working through the office changes brought on by the retirements of Tana Moore and Cindy Minoletti. Becky said she appreciates everyone's patience as they get up to speed on everything that Cindy did for the members. Currently due to the 20% pay cut, the office is staffed Monday thru Thursday. Memberships have been coming in better than expected. The Board is currently reviewing a proposal for a website update which will give the categories more flexibility in working with their pages.
9. Motion by Pete Nichols, seconded by Fred Hauenstein to approve all the decisions of the Officers, Board of Directors, Commissions, Referees, Inspectors, and Committees during the 2020 season. Motion passed unanimously.
10. New Business
  - a. Jeff Buckley thanked the Board of Directors for his recent appointment as chairman of the Vintage Committee. He wanted to invite everyone to the Vintage and Historical virtual meeting to be held February 3 at 9:00 PM. He also stated he had four priorities for the committee: (1) communication, (2) safety, (3) growth, and (4) longevity.
  - b. Howard Shaw stated that as a member he wished to thank Buddy Byers and every member who committed to making the recent fundraiser a success. He also asked the Board to look at holding digital meetings in the future. He said this would allow more members to attend and would reduce costs. He suggested perhaps doing a shorter duration in-person meeting for luncheons, awards, etc. Howard also asked for a survey to be sent to the membership asking if they wanted to go with the virtual meeting or continue with the in-person meetings. President Fairchild said that he was looking at doing something along the lines of a hybrid meeting. Bob Wartinger offered to share ideas from other countries that do hybrid meetings with Becky Nichols. Matt Yarno said that the current virtual meetings allowed people to attend more than one category's meeting. Mark Wheeler felt this did a lot to de-mystify APBA and its workings.
  - c. Becky Nichols reported that next year's meeting will be held in Orlando, FL at the DoubleTree at SeaWorld, from January 26 – 29<sup>th</sup>.
11. There being no further business, a motion was made by Fred Hauenstein, seconded by Jack Meyer to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Williams

APBA Secretary