

Consolidated workshop document SORTED 5-28-21

40 attendees, 1004 years of association with HYC

.....
In this edition I have separated questions from statements

Question One: What unanswered questions do you have for the Board of Directors?

Opening questions:

Where is this going and why it is so important?

Better understanding of One Design sailing needs and why so necessary, why is hoist necessary, does the program have enough interest to warrant the hoist?

If hoist goes through, where are one designs moored and kept? Who owns them? (individuals or the club). Will they be stored at Rings up the street?

Why did so few people turn out tonight?

How do we communicate and include people who live away in the winter?

Members may say "why would club pay for others to pull and launch" hoist does this, why not have the club pay for it (at Brewers)?

If a former sailing program member wants to launch or haul, will the club cover this?

The majority of our students are non-member families- how do you keep them?

Board sent out informational statement- What is the plan for the trees? Club should not take a position on why- clean it up- it would keep future community good will. Trees:

Clarifying statement received after the workshop .The HYC has not communicated the fact that most of the dead trees are on HYC property, and that HYC – not the Parkers - has been asked to come up with a plan to protect the shoreline before the trees are removed at HYC's expense. Many members believe that the trees are on Parker property and our concern is that this is creating further anger by members at the neighbors. This is adding fuel to the fire in terms of our relationship with the Parkers and it is wrong. I certainly do not believe that the Parkers deliberately killed the trees. Why has the club not communicated with the membership about what is happening with the trees? This is further damaging the relationship between club members and the Parkers.

What is the status of the floats we did not put in?

Does anyone talk to the neighbors? Talk about the hoist? Transparency has not been a lot of communication about what is happening.

How much is the gift? \$17K to \$20K, they will give less if project is not the hoist. Club to do 1/2rd, 1/3rd donations, and 1/3rd Burwell gift.

I want a good sense of the finances of the Hoist Proposal. What is the financial impact on the Club initially and in the long term?

Communication regarding the hoist? The Hoist Committee, is it a wing of the board? Is it an independent group? The answers from the hoist committee have not been accurate.

How can we approach things to show voices are welcome and have club include their ideas in the vision?

What is basis for what the hoist will reinvigorate in One design racing at HYC? I do not see how hoist is a silver bullet. If some financing is by non-members do, they get hoist privileges? Does it encourage commercial use of the club? There is too much commercial use of the club now.

Why is there a need for a hoist? The application says no suitable lift is available in the harbor, travel lifts may crush boats, the need is not clearly answered.

Who is going to benefit most from the hoist? Who will take advantage of the hoist?

Is there any better justification for the hoist beyond One-Design sailing? Other club's programs do not compare to HYC (they dry sail their boats)

There is lots of grey hair, what are we going to do to get more members in the club?

Youth sailor, 2 sons who are young sailors, chair of youth sailing: has our amazing director Ms. Marshall commented on the hoist? Has the youth program been tied into the hoist?

Opening Statements

Thinking there would be more people here

Club was small when it started, the club will survive if we don't have a hoist, if we need a hoist for one design sailing and the club has many mature members, and many center console boaters

Confused why we need a hoist to get a good one design program when we have a good yard nearby. PYC is an example, like one design, not sure why hoist is needed to get to that.

Burwell donation: I am afraid of upsetting the Burwell family

Information is getting to Marylyn by Charlie and Parker H. She knows stuff is going on, may not know depth, she will be here in August.

One design sailing has disappeared for the moment, if we bring it back and HYC sets aside \$40K, we can do a lot of hauls and launches at Brewers, we could avoid the distress this hoist has been causing. The board is aware of this.

Talk with John Brewer, Strouts and Carter: they can all haul and launch

Trees: Concern is viewed by some that trees have not been removed, a sore wound- a proposal for the shore line- this is adding fuel to the fire (the neighbors may have injured the trees)

We need more feedback to make better decisions.

How we engage with each other to explore ideas and not be in conflict and build good ideas

Reaction to our neighbors; we are in a neighborhood, concerned about the reactions of our neighbors to the club.

Biggest concern is the direction of the club and spirit of the founders, we don't want to forget what the club is about.

Here to listen. Neighbors, concerned about their concerns. We need to be good neighbors and honor our past with them.

The need is not clearly answered- Youth not clearly defined (go on from 18- to 20-year-olds), Time line of program for youth.

The problem with the hoist is there is not nearly enough room, Parking is a very big problem, if the hoist is used enough to justify itself it will challenge our facility. Unfortunately the hoist question could have been handled in other ways to protect relationships within the club.

We have so little green space, look at how we park cars and boats and how little green space we have.

Safety: the hoists in Connecticut had employees who operated the hoists, We are not ready to have a hoist. A volunteer run. Boats on trailers may get in the way of other uses. I am here to listen

Here to listen to folks.

Here to listen

Here to listen

No questions

Here to listen

Here to listen

Here to listen

No questions.

No specific question, I have read too much, here to listen

Here to listen.



In this edition I have entered comments by vote rank:

1.Question two: Do you have comments or suggestions regarding process or timeline for addressing open topics and issues?

25 Votes: How do we encourage new members: youth sailing, families, elderly; take a step back and look at over all needs of the club and direct gifts needed to club needs, address where we go from here, Don't have the cart before the horse.

18 votes: A process for ideas that come up are worked out in a circle process: ideas are presented, what are the problems? Use small groups to discuss, draft a proposal that incorporates data from all groups, avoid getting stuck.

16 votes: How do we prevent misinformation from entering and flowing through the process?

16 votes: We don't have a gift policy: what steps to follow, what gifts approved by the board? What gifts approved by membership? All gifts require careful consideration.

15 Votes: How do donations happen? A gift to honor jack Burwell – Is there a committee- there needs to be a committee to review gifts – a gift committee- HYC needs ae reviewed- understand how gift works for HYC

11 votes” What do by-laws say about process on how to deal with major issues and projects? There ought to be guidelines or in the by-laws.

11 votes: Board members on the hoist committee should recuse themselves

10 votes: Can we have an anonymous Vote? Secret Ballot?

10 Votes: Not enough information was conveyed to the membership from those who may not be in favor of the hoist, I would like there to be a more fair presentation of the topic.

7 votes: Presentation to the Town- what is process of votes needed to go to the town? Can Board do this without a membership vote? What is the cut off for the Board to refer a vote to the membership? Is the forum still open? If not, why not?

7 Votes: Major expenditures were not just Board decisions, but went out to membership, we want to establish rules going forward on major expenditures.

6 Votes: The hoist donation has brought up missing pieces of the HYC process in club management. Club policy is not known. This event helps bring this up to develop a gift policy. It brings up a trajectory of the young sailor, it is good to have these discussions.

6 Votes: Board should decide before July- get to the members sooner.

5 Votes: Why can't we have a late summer membership information and decision gathering?

4 Votes: Commercial use of hist: lobsters, explanation of how board would regulate use, members use for non-personal property.

3 votes: Each family one vote? Or One vote per person?

3 votes: What is status of HYC-Brewers proposal-where does it stand?

3 votes: How have we dealt with big issues in the past 75 years?

3 votes: we are trying to do many things simultaneously with the hoist project: Do we desire a hoist?- answer If we want a hoist, what is impact on our neighbors? Answer What is required of permitting- answer, mixing all these together has complicated our process.

Questions that did not get votes

July decision: Where will it take place?

How will we vote?

Is hiring a helper cause to say hoist is a commercial service?

What is the status of the Club being used for commercial purposes?

At what point in any process are club objectives a part of the process?

Agencies don't want to entertain a permit application if there is not consensus within the club. Is the application by a small group or is by the whole club? A club vote is a must before there is a permit application.

Is there a way that committees are formed with a wide range of views and more diverse voices, a procedure on committee formation?

What is club process for a member to bring something forward for the Board to consider? New members? By laws?

Statements that did not get votes

Maintaining privacy is important.

One of the agencies has asked for a vote specifically on the hoist.

ACOE- people can comment directly, they want members to comment directly.

If we are going to investigate an issue it should be balanced for group and time wise right at the beginning.

Once policies and procedures are established communications to the club is very important.

What is process and time line, please define.

I appreciate the process and would like it to unfold

How the process has been unfolding, I did not understand how much of a thing it is until I got a package asking for funding, there was no process- just a solicitation.

I want handicapped ramps and I want to understand what HYC process is.

The hoist: Is there a recommendation by the Board to support or not support the hoist? Board should consider before membership.

There are people here hearing our ideas, if we had all 249 members in the room that would be better. I want all people to hear at an open membership meeting.

In this edition I have listed topics by vote rank

1.Question Three: Do you have comments or suggestions about the goals or direction of the Club?

21 votes: Promote all ethics of boating and seamanship. Values of seamanship in the whole community.

20 votes: The youth sailing program is the most important thing HYC does.

17 votes: How do we keep the sailors with the club? Scholarships and aid. Have a fund to support

14 votes: North East Sailing experience says the gap between youth and young adult- is there. socio-economic issues exist. There is a great opportunity for club to look forward and bridge 20-30 year olds into the club.

11 votes: We have age issues, we do excellent job with young- the senior in high school to college is the group that needs help. It is expensive, we are missing the opportunity to support these older young people. It is difficult for the young sailor to find support. PYC has been vacuuming up the youth. We are becoming a boat club- going down a road that makes it hard to support youth and sailing.

10 Votes: The Club waxes and wanes on seamanship to racing and back again.

9 votes: Effective Community outreach to neighbors and community or anyone being impacted by the club.

9 votes: Do we need a hoist or do we want a hoist? How does it relate to fulfilling the mission. We have been fulfilling mission well before donation/ gift came up.

9 Votes: What else could we do with this gift?

8 Votes: Attention to youth sailing and also in seamanship and navigation. Should we promote these (including to adults) along with racing?

7 Votes: As a volunteer run club, we need to take a deep breath, come back together and have a sense of camaraderie Avoid making a deeper divide.

7 votes: Youth instructors do not know members well- there is a gap- we need whole community events.

6 votes: Consider relationships with other entities, like marinas to help us accomplish our mission

6 votes: Cultivate junior members, build a bridge for 21 to 29 year olds adjust economics and start recruiting.

6 votes: The recent letter from the hoist committee, at the end, was offensive to membership and other committee comments that were inappropriate. " if you don't support the hoist you are not supporting the club"

5 Votes: We made a mistake when we allowed members to buy time rather than volunteer.

5 Votes: Marlinespike seamanship, rigging, seamanship, moving floats. Some don't know knots, should be part of the program. In favor of building a new MUD Barge.

4 Votes: Not enough attention is paid to the growth of commercial use of our facility.

4 votes: Keep it fun. (KISS)

4 votes: HYC has been an organization that supports youth sailing. HYC regatta is a god thing for youth sailing, we can be the club people want to be part of.

3 Votes: We have an awesome program for kids, accessibility for young families, and elders are enjoying the club. Families wonder about becoming members, what reasons draw them.

3 Votes The hoist is stated for older kid sailors- who is our target audience? If our target audience is younger kids, shouldn't the focus be there?

3 votes: Does the Board, Does the Club have a goal and if so what is it? " If there isn't a hoist will the club fall apart?"

3 votes: Could gift be used is a Burwell Trust that would stabilize any launch/ haul needs of club racers using special rates at neighbor boat yards? This removes safety and liability issues.

2 Votes: What is demographic we want to appeal to and what assets are allocated to it?

2 votes: Ae we going to appeal to people who are cash strapped? Do we have to build a trust for their needs?

2 Votes: Scholarship for kids is a great direction. Club needs to do more to make decisions that are data driven.

2 votes: The joy of sailing and racing are part of the whole sport of sailing

2 votes: How do we bridge from youth sailing to young adult sailingto keep them with the club?

2 votes: What is the draw at PYC, our kids are sailors- not all competition- Ocean sailors.

1 Vote: Maintain Camaraderie and warmth of the club we ae known for.

1 Vote; maintain vitality and spirit that is the brand

Is there a process for considering the possible uses?

Should not be a complex club to participate in.

Not PYC

A primary foundation block is volunteerism.

We need to adapt programs for the future

Maintain easy access for membership to the water.

Bring in the young people and keep them.

Becoming a parking lot and a dock is something we want to avoid.

What is the draw at PYC?

The kids need to be in Freeport area.

I have consolidated all votes

Question Four: If you were to vote on the hoist now, how would you vote:

For-9, Unsure-6, Against-23

1.Question five: any additional comments for the Board?

30 votes: We should have a master plan for the club: sea level rise, Boundaries, future needs, that sort of thing. We did have a master plan 10 years ago.

29 votes: We should take a look at the By-laws to be sure issues are not membership vote issues. A gift acceptance policy is a must.

17 votes: The May 7th communication said, 'THE HOIST WILL BE SAFE", I have checked out what other club experiences have been: they have had broken bones, broken backs, electrocutions. These hoists are dangerous. Being responsible for machinery, being responsible for a jib crane, it is hard to imagine, I do not recommend hoists due to safety. Operator certifications for hoist use.

15 Votes: The aging of club membership: not sure demographics have changed; we have a younger board our average age is 68 to 70. Does the club have any goal beyond youth sailing? We need to start doing something for adults, e already have 420's get adults on them.

14 votes: Is there anything in the by-laws about project size, physical plant or cost that direct things out to the membership?

11 Votes I hope club can come back together again. The Board has had a tough job. A strategic planning process would be very helpful.

11 Votes: Would the Board consider increasing the membership to allow more youth to join?

10 Votes: Sail Maine, PYC have thriving program with great racing program, more synergy for inter-clubs- we have so much nearby and fulfill racing needs with other clubs?

10 Votes: Membership has a right to communicate with one another.

9 Votes: Interclub activity can be an opportunity for everybody.

9 votes: Want the club to get back to a community together. We rer angry, embarrassed and sad. Negativity is not a good thing. If Jack Burwell were here he would not be happy.

8 Votes: Boat ramp plan done by Barney should be reviewed, We should keep an eye on abutting property for acquisition, and wharfing out further into the harbor, follow Strout's and Brewer's example.

6 votes: Youth sailing: one stopped because it was all about racing one went on to other things. I don't see our kids joining HYC- not realistic to thing that a hoist will reinvigorate the youth sailing program. How do we serve all our members?

6 votes: Commercial use of club facilities, if hoist, is commercial use allowed? How will we enforce?

5 Votes: Do more partnering- there is a way to accomplish the goals under HYC.

6 votes: Respect the objectives that have served us well for over 70- years

6 votes: Board to establish a standing procedure committee to communicate to the whole community how we work. Encourage the club to follow the guidelines. People have tried to side step this process

5 votes: How to attract more members, young people. Has that group been surveyed for their feelings on being more active?

4 votes: Given the horrible situation in the Country; I thank the Board for doing great work- they are appreciated (a unanimous show of hands)

3.5 votes: The Board should be recognized- the last year has been terrible and challenging. The Board has worked around and tried admirably- they coped with Covid. We may well have had a better outcome if not for Covid. (applause)

3.5 votes: When I arrived at HYC there was vitality and energy. Now I have changed I am excited to see a group wanting to inject new energy into the club.

2 Votes: Board internal club communication to promote a club project and there has not been time or information from other points of view. The club lines of communication. No neutrality. Those who don't agree have not had a way to communicate.

2 votes: Full disclosure, tell the truth (Board did not approve the project,) page 26 of the applications says it was approved by the Board.

1 vote: Good to have zoom communication, it has been valuable.

1 vote Everything is abut communication, lots of misunderstandings

1 Vote: HYC is a feeder to PYC- makes me sad.

I feel manipulated.

Board has got information out, given opportunities to do input, It has seemed like a done deal.

What are the impacts on parking if the hoist goes in? .It is a Board decision on whether any issues go to the membership for a vote.

This hoist project would be the biggest the club has ever done.

If the Board establishes a communication process, we should stick to that process.

At what point does the Town have anything to say?

Do we have a strategic 5 year plan?

Is there a way to anticipate an issue that will be controversial? And head it off?

I guarantee we will come back together as friends.

Maybe a launch service on weekends?

How do we have a plan for gifts to focus on club needs.

2.Additional comments received after the workshop:

Since the start of the hoist issue there has not been an attempt to balance or explore what might cause some members to resist the idea.

The Hoist Committee and its purpose has evolved into the sell the hoist committee.

Provide a voice or platform for those who might not be sold on the idea

It was difficult to sit through this meeting where board members were present who should be listening (I think it was inappropriate for Board members to be present) to be defending the notion of a hoist.

The presence of the board members caused me to believe that the fix is in, there will be no listening or understanding.

With all the preceding approaches, meetings, the forum and now these meetings there are not sufficient numbers of members to get a read on where we are headed or to educate people.

At the last Board meeting it was suggested that the hoist issue ought to go away for a while and that would give the club time to deal with some of the underlying problems prior to struggling with the hoist.

Get a little more color on what people are concerned about the hoist.

We have the cart before the horse- support racing, the reduction in one design in 2018- we never heard about a hoist being a solution.

Why do people support or not support the hoist? Financial?

The dingy dock is crowded, we want to get removed floats back. If neighbors are with us.

What is actual cost of hoist? The gift isn't that large. What is total cost?

What is the need and what are the alternatives? We have data on alternatives, we don't have data on the need.

Supporting youth sailing- we need more support: High schools get good infrastructure, we need to provide good infrastructure

Clubs with hoists have vibrant sailing programs.