Outrigger Santa Cruz Board of Directors Meeting

August 31, 2026
5:40pm-7:30pm

Approved on September 22, 2026

Board Members in attendance:

Gayle Bensusan, Michele Pomroy, Jenny Scala, Rachel Anticoli, Carter Jones, Lawrence Gunn, Eddy O'Connor, Kay, Phil, Forrest Monroy, Michelle McKinney, Pam Myers, Sabine Dukes, Samantha Garcia

Board Members absent:

Nicholas Carver

Non-Board Members in attendance:

Matt Paiss, Colleen Sparkman, Jane McKenzie, Cheryl Golich, Leisl Luddington, Paul Luddington, Matt Love, Jackson Rahn, Leslie Eurs-Rahn, Mike Glosney, Micki Karrer

Meeting begins: 5:40pm

1. Paddler opening
    a. Rachel A shared that a Junior paddler gift of pumpkin with OSC scarred into it

Agenda Items

2. Agenda items process- 10 minutes (Lawrence)
    a. Lawrence presented tools designed to allow all voices to be heard and could more efficiently address issues since the items can be directed to the people who can act on them, including a submission process:
        i. A Google form request goes to the Executive Committee. The EC determines if the item is appropriate for a board meeting agenda item or should be directed for more expedient attention.
        ii. EC will communicate the requests and how/why requests received 2 weeks in advance were determined to be appropriate for board discussion.
        iii. A proposed solution should be included with the concern.
    b. EC is the officers, who will notify the rest of the board of requests as they come in.
    c. Form will be linked in the members' section of the website.
    d. EC will send an email will go out with the link to the membership to let it know that this process was approved by the Board.
    e. Jenny/Lawrence will work on a Google Form, share with the Board for review, then share out with the membership.
    f. Motion to approve the procedure and materials: Pam Myers. Carter Jones seconded, and the motion passed.
3. Election committee update- 10 minutes (Cheryl G, Jane M, Matt Piass)

a. The Election Committee is Cheryl, Matt and Jane, with Jenny as Board Rep (Jenny is not running for Board seat this year).
b. Before September 15 the bylaws will be shared with the membership along with a summary of changes.
c. In October a second election will take place to seat board members in January 2027. As the change on number of board members is changing in the bylaws, adoption of the bylaws by the membership must have to be passed before the Board member election.
d. There will be a 7-day election period: Sept 15-Sept 22. Most people vote in the first days so a reminder period can be short as well.
e. In the last election121 of the 188 eligible people voted. This bylaws adoption needs 95votes to pass. The election software sends automatic reminders if voting members haven't voted.
f. Some board members will contact voting members to offer to answer questions about the bylaws and to encourage voting members to do so.
g. Board members and election committee will spread the word at paddling events.

4. Program representatives for code of conduct- 10 minutes (Jenny)
    a. The Club's Code of Conduct was updated last year. Discussion included creating a Standing committee to reply/respond to CoC questions from the membership. Heretofore the Board has chosen to create ad hoc committees as issues arose
    b. Jenny proposed that each program nominate a point of contact in addition to the program lead to be the expert on the CoC. That person's function is to know the CoC inside out, offer clarification, refer complainants to the appropriate person.
    c. This invitation could encourage cross program collaboration and build inclusion among all Club programs.
    d. It was noted that some people may feel more comfortable bringing a CoC question to a peer.
    e. Board members asked for a 'job description' and a process for how the experts will be nominated. Samantha will send a starting point to Jenny & McKinney. Titles suggested included Professional Standards Committee or "Code of Conduct buddies".
    f. If a CoC issue arises, that question can go on a Board Agenda request form. A checkbox will be added to the Member Relations / Communication section of the Google Form.
    g. Jenny mentioned that another club reviewed 72 CoCs and chose their Top 3; OSC was among them. Jenny & Gayle will share a note with the committee that worked so hard on revising the CoC last year.
5. Creating an inspired purpose statement- 15 minutes (Michelle M)
    a. McKinney proposed a working group to develop an Inspired Purpose Statement to help guide decision making, member interactions, etc. There was no interest from thenother Board members.
6. Juniors attending other OSC recreational paddles- 15 minutes (Rachel A)
    a. A discussion about juniors attending other recreational programs (Wed, Fri, Sun) commenced. Issues and questions, and next steps are listed below.

i. What are the parameters since the kids are under 18? Do responsible adults need to be in the canoe? Will it be up to each program lead?
ii. Are program leads mandatory reporters (MR) and have background checks (BC)?
iii. Do all paddlers in the canoe need to be MR and BC?
iv. How do you create an opportunity for juniors to paddle more, and not cram them into existing programs?
v. Adding juniors may be a big ask for steers.
vi. In the past, youths were allowed to paddle with their parents at Sunday Rec, Pirates and Aloha Frida. This idea had some traction among Board members.
vii. Currently, background checks are required for program leaders whose responsibility it is to ensure that kids aren't alone with adults.
viii. Gayle – could Rachel create a 2/mo paddle for kids?

b. Process to facilitate if approved
i. Reach out to other clubs. Rachel A has found that other clubs offer mixed age paddling.
ii. Paul and Michele P will share their ideas with Rachel directly.
iii. Jenny will find out more about youths' paddling availability.
iv. Jenny, Rachel, Carter will work on this and bring a proposal to the board next time.

7. Equipment: 20 minutes (Lawrence)
a. OC1 are in 'good enough' shape.
b. OC6 canoes are in 'pretty good shape'.
c. James, Eddy, and Carter will meet on Wednesday for a safety check.
a. Discussion on new canoe purchase
i. The idea of purchasing a new or used canoe has been raised.
ii. OSC's oldest UL is 9 years old, and some modifications have been made, but if it goes out of commission, we need another.
iii. New skirts have been purchased for Uls (delivered at the Kula Anela).
iv. ERCs are new and not much known about their longevity.
v. Eddy reached out to Gray regarding his ideas about the Puakea product. The Puakea is a stronger canoe since they are more tried and true and have made many improvements over the years. Gray recommends carbon on the outside. Gray suggested that OSC ask ERC build to suit. ERC will be easier to fix with fiberglass on the outside.
vi. Some board members suggested a 'nose to tail assessment' and to take better care of what we have before we spend $30K on a new canoe. Also, storage might be an issue.

8. New paddler day fee discussion: 5 minutes (Jenny and Michele P)
a. Jenny explained that new paddlers feel that $40 is too much, so $30 is what has been being charged. After some discussion, Carter motioned to standardize all new/guest paddler fees to $30. Lawrence seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

9. Potential upcoming fundraisers:
a. George Mark Children's House- 5 minutes (Rachel A)

    i. Rachel will email more information.
b. Bay For Breath- Paul and Leisl requested use of one UL with extended reservation for the weekend of October 3rd- 5 minutes (Paul/Leisl). Rachel motioned to approve this request, and Gayle seconded the motion. The motion passed

10. Updates from NCOCA board meeting August 2026- 5 minutes (Jenny)
    a. Jenny will send via email.
11. Consent (items below)- Carter motioned to approve the Consent Agenda items. Forrest seconded and the motional passed.
12. Closed agenda item- 15 minutes
13. Adjourn – Eddy motioned to adjourn and Phil seconded the motion. The motion passed

Consent Agenda:

14. Approve July 2026 minutes (sent by Michelle M)
15. Upcoming dates:
    a. Catalina Crossing Sept 12-13
    b. Tahoe Crossing window Sept 18-20
    c. Aloha Festival Sept 19
    d. Next OSC Board meeting Sept 22nd
    e. October OSC Board meeting October 19
    f. Annual party, Nov 7
    g. November OSC Board meeting Nov 16