

**Minutes, Gabriola Island Squadron Executive Committee or Bridge**  
May 1, 2013

Commander Ralph Hagen called the meeting to order at 1900.

**Members present:** Ralph Hagen, Bob Derksen, Oliver Woolcock, Christine Purfield, Elaine Pearce, Rufus Churcher, Bill Kalbfleisch, Mike Hoeinghaus, Bob Weenk, Bert Terhart, Don Butt.

**Regrets:** Madeleine Ani      **Absent:** Walter Berry

**Correspondance:** Letter from Betty Schultz to 2012-13 Bridge and Commander R. Derksen, as he then was, outlining reasons why she and her husband would not renew their CPS membership. Received for information.

**Introductions:** Commander Ralph Hagen asked that every Bridge member introduce themselves.

The **agenda** was adopted by concensus and so were the **Minutes** of the April 10, 2012-13 Bridge meeting. There was no **business** arising from the minutes.

Commander Hagen, **opening remarks**, presented some of his insights into what we need to do to remain a relevant organization in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. He stressed knowing what we are about as an organization, critically examining what we have done in the past, are doing in the present and must change to anticipate future challenges. He stressed that we must listen to people, evaluate how new technologies have changed the boating experience, but at the same time the old constants in boating, such as water conditions and weather remain. Commander Hagen thought that we should pay more attention to hands-on training rather than the classroom experience, especially when it came to our young people. He also added that we should become active in practical boating issues on Gabriola Island, such as the building of a public boat ramp.

**Secretary** report: see reports

**Treasurer** report: see reports; it was noted in a question about assets that 3 squadron pennants, value \$60, should be added to the previous Bridge's Supply Officer AGM report.

**Membership** report: see reports

**PRO** report: Rufus reported that for the VIND Roster he has raised over \$1,200 in advertising revenue. The Squadron will likely get back somewhat less than \$200 for Rufus' efforts. Rufus reported that we raise more advertising revenue than any of the other VIND squadrons.

**Webmaster** report: see reports

**Past Commander** report: see reports; Commander Hagen commented that he would like to see the matter of the 3<sup>rd</sup> member of the committee settled at the June 5 meeting. This met with general approval from the Bridge.

**Old Business:** Bob Derksen questioned the validity of the events schedule as posted in the March-April 2013 Scuttlebutt. He informed the Bridge that he had not posted the events on the Squadron website for that reason. He suggested that the matter be discussed under New Business, Squadron

Activities.

### **Committee Appointments:**

**Mission Committee:** Bob Derksen, chair, and Bob Weenk and Bill Kalbfleisch. The committee is to report at the June 5 meeting on what it sees as the purpose of the Gabriola Island Squadron.

**Training:** STO Oliver Woolcock, chair, Bob Weenk, Bert Terhart, Mike Hoeinghaus (all ATO's) and secretary/webmaster Bob Derksen to constitute the committee. Commander Hagen stressed that the task of the committee was to get in place the training programme for the next year by the end of June, and should consist at the very least of Boating Basics, Boating Essentials and Seamanship.

**Youth programme:** Commander Hagen was not certain whether there should be a need for a separate committee or whether it should be part of the Training Committee's mandate. He presented a vision of a practical, hands-on programme run through the Gabriola Recreation Society by us and raised the possibilities of life boats being part of the hands-on instruction process. The matter will be raised at a future meeting.

**Boat Launch Ramp Committee:** Walter Berry, chair, Steve Kitchen and Commander Hagen will be looking for a third member. See his suggestions on a ramp under Reports.

**Communications:** Don Butt explained the difference between communication and marketing. The former is what he does as communications officer. Communications is concerned mainly with informing the Squadron membership. Basically, Don publishes our Squadron newsletter, *Scuttlebutt*, and plays an integral role with webmaster Bob Derksen in maintaining the web site's function of informing the Squadron membership. Marketing, on the other hand, is advertising our services in the broader, non-Squadron community. There was a consensus that there was no need for a Communications Committee, as the matter was well in hand as explained above.

**Marketing:** Commander Hagen emphasized that there was a need to get going on this by the time of the next Bridge meeting on June 5, as we need to gear up for the September course offerings. It was agreed to discuss this matter again at the next Bridge meeting. It was also noted in relation to marketing that Li'l Gabe needs a covered shelter and maintenance.

**Squadron assets:** Bob Weenk will look into possible solutions to storing the Squadron's assets.

**Safety Inspections:** Bill Kalbfleisch will get a list of all qualified safety inspectors to Ralph Hagen. Safe Boating Week is from May 18 to 24. There are no preparations in place at this time to take part in it.

**Port Captain:** Commander Hagen asked that before the next meeting some thought be given to this officer's role.

### **Squadron activities:**

No student cruise is in the works. The Nanaimo Squadron's halfway to Xmas cruise is not something we participate in the organizing of, although, given the desirability of inter-squadron activities, we would welcome an invitation. Questions were raised whether we are interested in a Squadron picnic on July 27 and a corn and strawberry cruise the following month. These questions will be raised again at

the June 5 meeting, as will the beach cleanup in September.

**Meeting venue:** The pros and cons of several locales were discussed but since no motion was forthcoming, the venue of the next meeting will be, once again, the Rollo Centre.

**VIND:** There is as yet no information on the annual VIND Rendezvous. The VIND AGM, so far, seems to be on the road to low attendance. Some members of the Bridge were encouraged to attend by registering on the VIND web site.

**Teaching hardware:** Bob Weenk noted that we have an old laptop that clearly needs to be replaced. Commander Ralph Hagen and STO Oliver Woolcock will study the issue.

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 2057.

The next meeting will be on Wednesday, June 5, 2013 at 1900, Rollo Centre. In addition to all the topics from this meeting that were referred to the next, the next is to address the “mini executive” and electronic meetings.

Bob Derksen,  
Secretary