

**Minutes of the Gabriola Island Squadron Bridge Meeting**  
**Wednesday, May 14, 2014, 19:00**  
**Robert's Upstairs**

**Call to order:** The meeting was called to order by Commander Ralph Hagen at 19:00.

**Present:** Ralph Hagen, Don Butt, Elaine Pearce, Steve Kitchen, Jude Briscoe, Bill Kalbfleisch, Bob Derksen

**Regrets:** John van Praet, Bob Weenk, Christine Pufield

**Changes to agenda:** Recreational Vessel Courtesy Check programme was added.

**The minutes of April 10:** accepted as posted

### **Reports**

See the reports posted. Those who submitted written reports for posting were the Commander, Treasurer, Membership Officer, Webmasters, Communications / Privacy Officer and the Boatlaunch Ramp Committee.

No reports were received from the Executive Officer, Training Officer, Secretary, Public Relations Officer, MAREP Officer and Past Commander.

Secretary Bob Derksen noted **correspondence** received from Membership Officer Elaine Pearce regarding the use of the terms Executive and Bridge. After some discussion it was decided that the matter would be taken up by the Mission Committee under the leadership of Don Butt who will report the outcome of the committee's deliberations at the next meeting.

**Steve Kitchen's** excellent report on the public boat launch on Denman Island generated a discussion about the lessons learned. One matter that has become obvious is the role Provincial parks can play in providing a public boat launch. A second observation is that creating a ramp can be a partnership project of the Regional District and islanders. Steve is going to contact the Regional Director.

### **New Business**

**Nominating Committee Membership:**

**Motion** – Bob Derksen / Don Butt: that Bill Kalbfleisch be the third member of the Committee.  
Carried unanimously.

**Committee on Mission Statement:** Don Butt was appointed chair with Bob Weenk, Bill Kalbfleisch and Bob Derksen being the other members. Don noted that he reserved the right to ask others to join the group as well if and when he deemed it necessary. That was met with general acceptance.

**Training Committee:** to be made up of TO Bob Weenk, XO Mike Hoeinghaus, Secretary Bob Derksen and *ex officio* Commander Ralph Hagen.

The discussion on **social events** basically took up where it had left off at the April 10 meeting of the previous Executive. There was a consensus that our social activities for the summer should focus on fun things and our proximity to the water. Suggestions were bandied about. Possible activities include a

picnic at Wakes Cove, a trip to the Dinghy Dock, a barbecue at Twin Beaches. It was noted that we had visited Newcastle Island in the past. Jude Briscoe volunteered to assist in organizing our socials but only if she will have a companion to share the job with.

After a brief discussion it was decided that we should examine the possibility of taking part in the **annual beach cleanup** slated for the week of September 20. Don Butt will communicate about this with the Squadron membership, asking for volunteers to help organize the event. The discussion on this topic will continue at the next Executive meeting in June.

Our **summer marketing programme** will follow the same pattern as last year. We will have a presence with Li'l Gabe at Ocean's Day, the Concert on the Green, the Salmon Barbecue and the Gabriola Theatre Festival. In addition, we want to participate in a new event as well, the Salish Sea Islander Festival. The purpose of this summer programme is not to promote specific courses as it is the wrong time of year to do so, but to make our presence felt in the community and to provide some entertainment for the children. It was noted that we should be aware of safety concerns and that we need more of an adult presence to supervise at these events.

Ralph noted that **Li'l Gabe** needs to be adopted by someone so that it can be properly maintained and trailered to various Island locations. Ralph will contact Mike Hoeinghaus.

**Motion:** Don Butt, Bill Kalbfleisch – that we approve expenditures to renew the trailer license and insurance. Carried unanimously.

Don Butt informed us that since the **Gabriola Museum** will have a nautical theme this year, Li'l Gabe's presence at the Museum's seasonal opening on May 18 might be desirable. It was noted that to do so, the boat would need a new coat of white paint first. If that can be done, it will be available on the 18<sup>th</sup>.

**Training Programme:** In the absence of Bob Weenk, Ralph shared with us some of Bob's tentative proposals. Basically Bob would like to see Seamanship offered this coming fall and have the remainder of our offerings take place in 2015. The matter will come before the Training Committee and a report and specific proposals for the Bridge to consider should be ready for the June meeting.

**Motion:** Don Butt, Jude Briscoe – that Seamanship be offered in the fall of 2014 for a course fee of \$175, if a minimum of six students register. Carried unanimously.

Because our organization contributed to equipping the new **Ladysmith RCMSAR** vessel, we received an invitation to attend its launch on June 7. Don Butt will convey this to the membership.

**Venue:** There was a general feeling that the Bridge should continue meeting at Robert's. Concern was expressed that in the dark days of winter the unlit entrance presents a problem.

**Motion:** Don Butt and Bill Kalbfleisch – that Mike Hoeinghaus be asked to install motion sensor lighting for a maximum expenditure of \$100. Carried unanimously.

**Boat Safety Checks:** Jude Briscoe volunteered to manage this summer's RVCC programme.

May 31 **Electronic Navigation workshop:** Ralph noted that so far, only three had signed up. Oliver Woolcock was to have conducted it but other duties have gotten in the way. Ralph will see if he can find someone else to lead it, but if not, then the workshop will have to be postponed.

**Next Meeting:** Wednesday, June 18, 19:00 at Robert's.