

**Minutes of the Gabriola Island Squadron Executive Meeting
Thursday, January 21, 2016
Robert's Place**

SEO Bert terHart called the meeting to order at 1906.

Present: Don Butt, Elaine Pearce, John Woods, Bert terHart, George Myette, Jean van Praet, Bob Derksen

Regrets: Bill Kalbfleisch, Mike Hoeinghaus, Ralph Hagen, Fred Kaarsemaker, Jude Bristow

The Secretary raised **the matter of a quorum** at the start of the meeting and before the seventh member arrived. He informed the Executive that in his interpretation of CPS rules the previous standard for Squadron Executive meeting quorums, namely, that a majority of members must be present, in our case that being seven (*Model Squadron Regulations*, Article 7.4), no longer applied, as the *Model Squadron Regulations* have been replaced by the *Board Regulations*, the latest edition being October 2015. While the *Board Regulations* mention quorums twice in relation to squadrons (for the squadron Nominating Committee and for the Squadron AGM), the new Regulations are silent on Squadron Executive quorums. Accordingly, the Executive can decide whether a quorum exists and it did so promptly before the seventh member arrived somewhat belatedly.

Additions to the agenda:

under new business: bylaw committee (Don Butt)

under new business: fundraising (Bert terHart)

under Officers Reports: Secretary, correspondence received

under Officers Reports: XO's oral report on the January 17 VIND meeting

Motion (Don Butt, George Myette): to accept the Minutes of November 19; passed unanimously.

Officers reports received and posted: Commander, SEO, PRO, Communications, Privacy, Scuttlebutt Editor, Webmasters, Membership, Financial

No reports received and posted: Past Commander, XO, Secretary, members-at-large

Secretary Bob Derksen introduced two **correspondence** items. One was from Past Commander Ralph Hagen, who outlined his reasons for advocating the sale

of the Squadron's projection screen; the other was from Commander Mike Hoeinghaus regarding the fact half the Executive had not forwarded to him their merit marks before the end of 2015.

Committee Reports received and posted: Social, Education, Communications
No reports: Nominating, Boat Launch Ramp, Environment

Bert terHart stated that he would contact the chair of the Nominating Committee, Past Commander Ralph Hagen, as to the state of the Committee's progress.

Two items of old business were discussed. John Woods outlined the next steps in the process of identifying sites for **public boat ramps** on Gabriola Island. He indicated that first of all, members of the Executive should indicate their preferences which could then be ranked. He expressed a desire to have a deadline of March 1, 2016 for this stage and this was met with approval. John will then be able to report his findings to the Executive at the meeting on March 24, which will place members in the position of being able to discuss the results of the survey and come to decisions regarding this matter.

On the basis of Commander Mike Hoeinghaus' letter regarding **merit marks**, Don Butt explained the significance of submitting merit marks and Bob Derksen indicated that according to Section 8 of the *Guidebook for CPS Officers*, retroactive recommendations can be made. Bert terHart will follow up on this with Commander Mike and will contact those that have as yet not submitted their merit marks for 2015.

With this the Executive moved on to new business.

An item which had been on the agenda under New Business is now no longer applicable. It concerned the establishment of a Squadron policy regarding the Vancouver Island North District publication, ***The Roster***. Privacy Officer Don Butt explained that VIND no longer will publish a hard copy of *The Roster* and that District, on information from PDC Sheila Boutcher that National was in the process of developing a National Roster, suspended further action on the District Roster. In short, the publication is discontinued.

John Woods informed the meeting that the matter of **road signage** on Gabriola, especially on Ferry Hill, is once again in the sights of Island Trust bylaw enforcement and that the Gabriola Chamber of Commerce has opened a dialogue with the Trust about this. John outlined the various options and scenarios that might come up in the near future. The Executive was unanimous that the renewed controversy could have serious consequences for how Squadron is able to advertise its courses. For example, regulation might involve

payment for the use of approved event notice boards, something the Squadron might not be able to afford. An outright ban would have a crippling effect on Squadron's ability to promote its courses. The Executive concluded unanimously that the Squadron needs to be part of any public consultations regarding road signage. PRO George Myette will spearhead this. He will draft a letter, in Commander Mike's name, in consultation with Executive members via email, to the Trust, expressing Squadron's concerns. He will attend a Trust meeting on January 28.

On the subject of the winter 2016 **course advertising**, PRO George Myette will contact Dr. Bob Rooks regarding the placing of a banner on the fence at the ferry turnaround on Taylor Bay Road. George also indicated that roadside advertising would continue for both Boating Essentials and Maritime Radio until those courses commence in February.

Don Butt indicated that in light of the quorum issue mentioned earlier (see above), it would be desirable to set up a **Bylaw Committee**. The **Motion** to do so (Don Butt, George Myette): the Executive approves the setting up of a Squadron Bylaw Committee, passed unanimously. The following volunteered and were duly appointed: XO Jean van Praet, SEO Bert terHart, Communications Officer Don Butt and Secretary Bob Derksen. It is understood that the committee will select its chair, identify what topics and procedures need to be addressed and set its timeline accordingly.

Bert terHart informed the meeting that Squadron needs a second **ROC (M) recognized examiner**. **Motion** (Don Butt, George Myette): that Bert be the Executive's recommendation on the application; passed unanimously.

Bert terHart indicated his willingness to arrange for a series of hands-on **workshops** to be offered to CPS members over the next several months. The offer was met with a great deal of enthusiasm. He proposed docking, anchoring, man overboard, and sail handling as possible topics. The consensus was that Bert will decide which of the options to offer and the dates. The number of participants for each workshop will be limited to eight.

With the demise of VIND's Roster (see above), Bert terHart raised the question of whether the Squadron should continue with local **fundraising** through selling advertising. **Motion** (Elaine Pearce, Don Butt): that the Executive is in favour of continuing the Squadron's local fundraising efforts to support specific Gabriola Island Squadron projects and programmes and that the fundraising take the form of advertising the Squadron's sponsors at Gabriola community events and programmes in which the Squadron participates; passed unanimously.

On the basis of Ralph Hagen's letter (see above), the following motion was passed unanimously: **Motion** (Don Butt, Jean van Praet): that the Squadron will sell its **projection screen**, currently installed in the Rollo Centre, to the Rollo Centre for \$75.

There was a consensus that the Social Committee be given the mandate to decide on the date, the venue and the format of the **2016 Squadron AGM**. The Executive also expressed its preference for May 1 but has left the final decision to the Social Committee.

XO Jean van Praet reported on the **VIND Council** meeting held on January 17, 2016 at the Beban Centre, Nanaimo. About twenty attended the meeting. He noted that there was a positive atmosphere, especially around the topic of ways to increase membership. Jean felt that the emphases on members' needs and community outreach were especially salient.

After a brief discussion, a consensus was reached that the **next meeting** of the Executive will be on Thursday, March 24, at 1900, at Robert's.

Bert terHart adjourned the meeting at 2055.