

# Ladysmith Maritime Society Board of Directors Meeting

February 24, 2015 9:00 am – Noon  
Expo Building LMS Office

## Minutes

**In attendance:**       **Directors:** Lane Befus, Shirley Blackstaff, Bob Cross, Allan Gould, David Grimstead, Rod MacNeil, Jay Page, Betty Pearson  
**Guests:** Cheryl Bancroft, Gerry Beltgens, John Dul  
**Staff:** Debbie Loewen, Marc Pettigrew, Rod Smith

**Regrets:** Jim Phillips

Betty Pearson, President, chaired the meeting

The meeting began at 9:00 am

The revised agenda and the January 21, 2015, board meeting minutes were approved. New members: Michael Casey & Veronica Van Wyk of Nanaimo; Frank & Mary Hager of Chemainus and Maida Valic & Shane Valic were **approved**.

The Board expressed its thanks to Anne Newell for her hard work on the membership program.

David Grimstead presented the **Treasurer's Report** beginning by thanking Betty Pearson for showing him the ropes. David said he was working with Stephanie to insure the Board members had the financial information they required while using the accounting package used by LMS to simplify the reporting process.

Shirley Blackstaff requested that staff consider combining the museum and waterfront experience accounts simply under "heritage" or "museum" to better reflect the reality of spending in these areas.

**Moved:** Grimstead/Gould to accept the Treasurer's report – **Carried**.

Betty Pearson presented the **President's Report** starting off on a sad note that longtime moorer, member and Director (2002 – 2007), Al Gilroy had passed away last week.

Betty expressed her thanks to Board members for taking the time to meet with her over the past month to talk about priorities. Betty stated that she had a number of phone calls/meetings including lawyer Brad Durvin about the pending law suit; Jacob Helliwell who is assisting the Heritage Branch of the BC Government regarding the economic impact of the restoration of Saravan; John Davies regarding a Search & Rescue fundraising draw August 28, 2015 on the

docks (a Dine on the Docks night); Duck Patterson regarding fundraising for the new Transfer Beach play area equipment. Betty also advised the Board that staff is taking over more functions previously done by the Board and that this is as it should be given the Board's desire to move towards the governance model.

**Moved:** Pearson/MacNeil to accept the President's report - **Carried**

Rod Smith presented the **Managing Director's Report** ([attached](#)). Cheryl Bancroft spoke to the planned April 22 – 26, 2015 Ladysmith Community Clean Up (which will correlate with Earth Day April 22): this will be year three of clean up initiatives. Cheryl urged Board member to visit the facebook page (see Managing Director's Report) and to sign up and encourage friends to get on board. David Grimstead asked how he could help. Cheryl responded that we need to involve more groups and LMS members perhaps through the MMS system and we need to have a motion of support from the Town. Just getting the word out would help. There will be a teaser article in the March issue of Take5 and there will be coverage in the Chronicle and Take5 in April. Gerry Beltgens advised that Ladysmith Rotary is on board and particularly concerned about the railway heritage equipment in the area of the Expo building stating that someone has been cutting pieces off the equipment presumably for the scrap value. There's lots of work to do in the area between the water and the highway and those interested should check out the facebook page. A meeting of more interested groups will be organized very soon.

There is a need to have a task force or ad hoc group take a look at the breakwater situation and the suggestion was made by Betty that perhaps this would be a project of issue for Jim Phillips because of his expertise.

Lane Befus raised the issue of pet owners not picking up after their pets. Everyone agreed that it is a problem and one that will probably be with us for a while suggesting that best we could do is pitch in as needed.

John Dul reviewed the technical upgrades mentioned in the Managing Director's Report. John was thanked for all the hours he has put into the development of the Marina Management System and these new upgrades. There is a problem with the new weather station but it will be resolved. Staff and Board should feel comfortable that there is solid back up with the new server and the POS and MMS back up system. Importantly critical documents like moorage contracts can now be scanned and will be stored on and off site.

The **marina report** was presented by Debbie and Marc: Seven boathouse inspections are complete and all will be completed by the end of February. All boathouses are now in compliance with respect to the fenders on the front of the boathouses. There is still an issue with some of the electrical meters but John Dul is working on it. There was a substantial discussion about "deals" sparked by some moorers who have come forward to complain that they didn't pay the "regular" rate because they had volunteered so much time or for some other consideration. There was unanimous agreement from the Board that the "deals" stop now and the Board charged the staff to take control of this knowing the Board was fully

supportive of this position. There was agreement that this process won't be easy but the Board expressed confidence in the staff's ability to handle this over the next year with sensitivity and fairness. There was recognition that the exchange rate for our US visitors will be an issue this year and the simplest way to deal with this is to encourage visitors to use credit cards, failing that the exchange rate will be tied to community practices with cash back to visitors who pay in US funds in Canadian currency with no exchange applied. There was a discussion about how much the Dragon Boaters contribute to the marina through their volunteer activities but also how great it is to simply have these folks around. Rod Smith was asked to send a letter to the group expressing our interest in providing them free moorage for their vessel and suggesting, as LMS is a registered charity, a donation would be appreciated. Marina staff requested that the Safety Committee be reactivated. It was agreed that it will be as part of the "priorities" process. To date about half of the individuals renewing their moorage contracts have indicated an interest in opting in to the visitor's moorage revenue sharing opportunity. It was agreed that this program could use some clarity. An email will be sent out through the MMS reminding people of the contract renewal deadline and giving a clear example of how the revenue sharing opportunity would work and what was required to be part of the program.

Shirley Blackstaff put forward the idea of having a plaque on one of the Oriole mast pieces that identified what it was. The Board was supportive and suggested that Shirley and Cheryl Bancroft could work together on this and something that also identified the origin of the "bar" top and stools in the Welcome Centre.

Bob Cross reviewed plans for **Festivals** ([attached](#)) and thanked Cliff Fisher for all he has done and continues to do as he "steps back" from Festivals. Bob expressed his appreciation for how Gerry Beltgens has stepped in with great enthusiasm to take on the chair of the Kids Pirates Day. Bob presented an idea that the entertainment for the heritage boat festival would be a selection of buskers. Bob and his contacts will pursue this. It was agreed that having "signature" vessels would be important for the heritage boat festival. Master and the high-tech SeaSpan tug were suggested. Bob will be in touch with Art Rendell and Rob Pinkerton to review progress to date.

Shirley Blackstaff presented the Heritage/Museum report ([attached](#))

Rod MacNeil presented the Heritage Boats report ([attached](#))

There was a review of the **Board Priorities** document and the Board expressed its strong desire to have a one-day workshop to spend time discussing these priorities. March 10<sup>th</sup> is the proposed date for a 9:00 am to 3:00 pm session. Rod Smith was asked to confirm this and to come up with the format for the day.

**Correspondence:** Rod Smith read out correspondence received beginning with an email from Chief John Elliot thanking LMS for bringing its concerns to him about the Viki Lyne II in Ladysmith harbour. ICET advised that Mayor Aaron Stone has been elected to its Board. Ladysmith Festival of Lights is looking for new members and invites those interested to its AGM

March 19<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm. Duck Patterson advised that there is a fundraiser for the new Transfer Beach playground May 2 at 5:30 at Aggie Hall - \$30.00 includes a roast beef dinner and dancing. Blue Water Cruising Group – Nanaimo presents “Reverse Curse – Buy in Mexico and sail to Nanaimo” March 19<sup>th</sup>. A letter of thanks was received from Ladysmith Resources Centre Association for the \$107.00 donation to the Food Bank from the Grey Cup Day chili event at the Welcome Centre. Thank you Trudy for organizing this and for the chili of course.

### **Other Business**

There was a substantial discussion about the fate of the **Cutter** – are we moving ahead with restoration or not. It was agreed that everyone just wants clarity on this issue. Shirley offered to circulate a heritage boat intake policy to Board members and it was agreed that there would be a discussion on heritage boat intake at the priorities workshop.

30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary: **2015 is the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of LMS** – did we want to celebrate this? It was agreed that we can't just let it go by but perhaps the best way to celebrate this is in conjunction with another planned activity. Allan Gould suggested that perhaps we should include a “30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary” shield on all our correspondence. Agreed that Rod Smith should talk to Cheryl Bancroft about this.

**Nanaimo Boat Show:** LMS will be there with Saravan March 14<sup>th</sup>

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 noon

Next Board meeting April 14, 2015 at the LMS office in the Expo building

## **Ladysmith Maritime Society**

### **Managing Director's Report to the Board February 24, 2015**

#### **Welcome Centre Doors**

We have had a delay. We should see one set of doors reinstalled around the end of February and the second set around the end of March. The issue is about incorporating the locking and opening mechanism into the new John Marston artwork doubling as door handles. Don't worry we will be ready to go before the boating season and it will be worth the wait.

#### **Law Suit**

You will recall that a past boathouse owner has brought a small claims action against LMS regarding the destruction of their boathouse after it was removed from the marina. My hope is this will go away soon but the Board and members should know, win or lose, the cost to LMS is substantial in terms of staff time, the time of other members, ex-staff time and the involvement of others plus hard costs like travel. There is a lesson to be learned here and I believe it is one about the type of culture we want in our not-for-profit community marina. There is a major role for the Board here. I want to thank Betty Pearson, Doug Bell, Barry McDonald, Mark Mercer and Dave Ehrismann for their help with this and for their willingness to be part of the discovery process.

## **No Discharge Zone**

January 22, 2015 with the approval of the Board I sent a letter to Minister Raitt (DOT) urging that DOT drop the proposed change in the no discharge zone from three miles to one mile at least until the science had been presented to support the proposed change. I can advise the Board that DOT has dropped this proposed change for now.

## **Grant Applications**

Since the last Board meeting four grant applications have been submitted: Grant in Aid request to the Town of Ladysmith; a request for funding for a summer student (for the marina) to Young Canada Works; A request for funding for a summer student (for Heritage programming) to Young Canada Works in Heritage Organizations (museum Program) and WestJet for two tickets to anywhere WestJet flies for a festival raffle.

## **Viki Lyne II (Aberdeen)**

Last summer two members brought this vessel (in water lot 651) to my attention stating that it was full of oil and listing. This past fall we achieved some success on this file when (through our intervention) the Canadian Coast Guard pumped out 20,000 litres of oil and other contaminants from the hull. About two weeks ago I noticed the vessel was listing again and went out in the workboat with Marc to examine the exterior of the hull and take some pictures. I contacted the Canadian Coast Guard again and sent pictures and two days later they came by to inspect the vessel. They determined that there had been little change in the status of the vessel. During this process I obtained a marine survey commissioned by the CCG done in June of 2012 in which it catalogued over 33,000 litres of oil on Viki Lyne II. Do the math: 33,000 – 20,000. There's still over 13,000 litres of oil on this vessel and more alarming is the summary statement made by the marine surveyor (McAllister Marine Survey & Design Ltd):

“It is the considered opinion of the undersigned surveyor that the Viki Lyne II poses a significant, imminent and ever-increasing threat to the environment due to her deteriorated condition and the significant amount of oil on board.”

And remember this was in June of 2012!

His recommendation then was:

“Disassemble and scrap the Viki Lyne II as soon as possible. All oils and contaminants to be dealt with according to the applicable regulations.”

We know we are not the only community on the coast dealing with derelict vessels. It's a huge problem and getting worse. The situation with the Viki Lyne II is grave and a clear threat to the harbour and our marina. This week, the attached letter went to Minister Raitt jointly signed by Chief John Elliott of Stz'uminus First Nation and Mayor Aaron Stone of the Town of Ladysmith. Next week there will be a debate on MP Jean Crowder's private member's bill to deal with derelict vessels. I will keep the Board advised on this matter.

## **Ladysmith Community Clean UP**

A number of our friends who frequent the Expo building area are fed up with and embarrassed by the look of the property from our shoreline to the highway and have decided to do something about it.

There's building that need painting, garbage to be picked up, bushes and trees to be cut or pruned, paths that are overgrown or dangerous and the list goes on. April 22, 2015 (Earth Day) is the start of five days of clean up – a chance to demonstrate a renewed pride in this part of Ladysmith. Cheryl Bancroft has created a beautiful logo and facebook page. Check out the link below and plan to get involved.

[www.facebook.com/LadysmithCommunityCleanUp](http://www.facebook.com/LadysmithCommunityCleanUp)

## **Breakwater**

Hugh Tuttle (marine engineer) was here in January to assess our options with regard to our breakwater. There's more work to be done but it looks like if what we really want (or need) is a wave attenuator the cost is about \$700,000 for a concrete structure about 120' by 20'. I had a long conversation with and received some information from Darlene the Wharfinger at Lund Harbour and will take a look at their set up at some point but she confirmed the cost and provided some tips on maintenance, etc. The good news about this type of structure is that you increase your available moorage space. They have four similar structures and they are full most of the summer. My recommendation is that we pull together an ad hoc team to seriously assess our needs and options.

## **Website and Other Goodies**

Thank you for your feedback on the website. Some changes have been made and there's more to do. My thanks to Cheryl for jumping on this as soon as she got back from her vacation. I am sure you all know John Dul our uber volunteer and technical wiz – the creator of the marina management system. John is here from Calgary for a couple of weeks adding some toys that will make life better for your staff, add to our security and make us more interesting for those we serve. We now have a server in the office that connects us all and will provide secure back up on and off site. We have had ongoing problems with about eight electrical meters. Hopefully John will sort this out for us. We have also had problems with WiFi access points at the Welcome Centre (2<sup>nd</sup> floor and desk). Replacing these points will also include internet access for our security cameras allowing authorized staff to view the cameras remotely through the internet. A real time live streaming web cam will be added to the website allowing anyone with internet connection to enjoy a HD view of the visitor dock and the harbour. Again on the website, overlaid on the web cam image or connected to it will be a live weather station that shows outdoor temperature, humidity, barometric pressure, rainfall, wind speed and direction (all taken at the marina) in real time and will also include an archival feature. We are going to upgrade our Purple Martin web cam with one that is in HD and includes an audio feature also available in real time on line and John is also setting up a key-scanning sign out system, using bar codes to track usage. Hey, will we be cool or what!! Thanks John, this would not be happening without you and thanks for getting this equipment at cheap prices or free – I think I counted five donated items.

Rod

# **LMS Festivals 2015**

**Kids Pirate Days – June 4, 5, 6**

**Ladysmith Maritime Festival – May 29, 30, 31**

**Kids Pirate Days Schedule:**

June 4<sup>th</sup> – Pirates take over Ladysmith

June 5<sup>th</sup> – Pirates at the Pub

June 6<sup>th</sup> – Kids Day

### **Pirates take over Ladysmith**

- Pirates arrive by pirate ship in the LMS marina and storm the town (by bus)
- Captain Jack & crew lead the rabble through town stopping at Laff, LIS, LPS and merchants – merchants are dressed in Pirate or “colonial town” attire
- Pirates capture the Governor and put him in the stockade in the public space. He will not be released until \$500 is raised for the food bank (donations secured in advance)
- Possible visit to North Oyster School by school bus
- Work with the schools to get kids into costume

### **Pirates at the Pub**

- Rum tasting at the pub, rum punch for the ladies
- Encourage costumes with a prize for the best male and female (harbour tour for 4)
- Special(s) for anyone in costume

### **Kids Day**

- Usual activities, fishing derby, bouncy castle, face painting (CLIFF LIST)
- Invite Georgia Strait Alliance with skulls etc.
- VIU touch tank
- Rotary to cook food
- Art Gallery involvement
- Coast Guard to provide first aid, safety and man the life jacket booth (need more PFDs)

### **Marketing, Promotion & Fundraising**

- Ads in Take 5 and Chronicle
- Signs on the highway
- Blow up Pirate on the highway 4<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup>
- 2000 Pirate stickers with June 6<sup>th</sup> date available in February for distribution
- Web site & social media campaign
- Marina Management System outreach (promotion and fundraising)
- Lead sponsors (\$500 plus) supporters (\$100)
- Westjet raffle tickets (30 tickets at \$100 each) to anywhere they fly

### **Ladysmith Maritime Festival Schedule**

May 29 – Welcome Pot Luck

May 30 – Festival and Captain’s Dinner

May 31 – Pancake & sausage breakfast

### **Welcome Pot Luck**

- Craft Beer tasting
- Welcome package/gift
- Music

### **Festival**

- “Signature” boat plus good assortment including walk-ons
- SS Minnow for harbour tours
- Habitat restoration plan unveiling
- Heritage boat restoration announcement
- SFN presence
- Maritime art exhibit

### **Pancake, Sausage & scrambled egg breakfast**

- Lots of food & real maple syrup
- Town bakery sticky buns

### **Marketing, Promotion & Fundraising**

- Ads in Take 5 and Chronicle
- Signs on the highway
- Web site & social media campaign
- Marina Management System outreach (promotion and fundraising)
- Teaser announcement campaign
- Lead sponsors (\$500 plus) supporters (\$100)
- Westjet raffle tickets (30 tickets at \$100 each) to anywhere they fly

## **HERITAGE/MUSEUM UPDATE – Feb. 23, 2015 by Shirley Blackstaff - LMS Board Meeting**

### **Harbour Heritage Centre**

- The coal wharf diorama has its wooden cabinet base installed (storage for school program kits, charts and tables)
- Wood and glass top cover installed over diorama with light switch moved to the outside top
- Diorama volunteer crew will be here Wed. afternoon to do the finishing touches
- Colin is still working on the ship –*“Can't wait to get the Highland Light in the diorama. Still stringing the rigging and constructing tiny blocks.”* - Colin
- Harry Southern –*“I spent several hours yesterday going over the oodles of pictures I have accumulated on the construction of the coal dock. I put together another updated slide show but will add to it when all is said and done.*
- *It's just under 12 minutes in length and the music added was taken from You Tube so that I wouldn't violate any copyright laws. For the finished product, I am assuming the one that will be used at the Harbour Heritage Centre, there will be no music so that people can see the slide show in peace and quiet...”* 😊

Here's the link: [http://youtu.be/WoVxXF\\_Q5AI](http://youtu.be/WoVxXF_Q5AI) -

- Borrowed 6 photo binders from Barbara Robertson and scanned in many good forest industry photos for use in our new LMS/LDHS Education Program
  - Had a photo shoot with a family with two girls at the Ladysmith Museum and Harbour Heritage Centre so we now have some excellent photos for use in our Educational materials for LMS and LDHS.
  - Had a productive meeting with Bernardien Knoll, Ladysmith Museum curator and we discussed and brainstormed ideas for our combination Field Trip – Education Program. We decided to focus on the Forest industry this year.
  - As Bernardien has no experience or interest in teaching students she was happy to have me create her entire Education Program with materials for students and teachers.
  - Three Education Program brochures are now ready for field trips 1) LAC – Waterfront Gallery & LMS – Harbour Heritage Centre; 2) LDHS – Ladysmith Museum & LMS – Harbour Heritage Centre and 3) LMS – Tour Boat ride, Maritime Museum/ Heritage Boats, and Harbour Heritage Centre.
  - Booking forms and Education Program field trip Information for Teachers is on the Website. Thanks Cheryl.
  - Education Program binders and kits have been made for the Coal, Forest, Oyster and Fishing Industries.
  - Hands-on materials have been collected and interactive activities created
  - Cecilia Grimstead and Judy Durban have been gathering materials and helping to brainstorm ideas for student involvement
  - Cecilia, Barrie, Cheryl and others have assisted editing my educational and heritage written work. Thanks!
  - Created a sign for the Oriole pillar in the Welcome Centre to provide information to visitors
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- Made a slide show showing what LMS is about (2015)
  - Put some photos in binders to show some of our LMS activities, sites and programs
  - Five LMS members will attend a dinner meeting on February 28, Saturday at noon in Qualicum with other Maritime Societies to share ideas, etc. Edna Cox for Port Alberni Maritime Society has organized this.
  - Received donations of nautical books, etc. – stored in Archive room ready to be catalogued
  - Have created for my use a Contact List of all the Heritage Volunteers that I can call on when there is a job for them to help with

### **Work in Progress**

- Working on a new door sign for the Harbour Heritage Centre
- Keeping up with Archival records, providing documentation for tax receipt and thanking donors
- Ready to work on **Maritime Museum's** new exhibit – March – April (waiting for volunteers to help)
- Starting to print off old photos and current photos of LMS activities and cooperative activities for the HHC window display.

- We will plan a Teacher's PRO-D Day Workshop, do a presentation at a principal's meeting and go to all of our area schools with our brochures, hand-outs and explain our new cooperative community Education Programs.

**BIG Break-in at HHC!** One glass pane was carefully removed by chipping away the putty. An empty candy tin and a few chocolate bars were taken from the display. There was a 2 inch air space at the bottom of the strong Plexiglas covering over the window where someone managed to reach in just a little. Feb. 19<sup>th</sup> the Police and Town were informed. The window was covered up with plywood by the Town crew. When I left to go home I saw on the ground, a display chocolate bar wrapper. It had a piece missing. I HOPE THE CULPRIT ENJOYED BITING INTO A THICK PIECE OF CARDBOARD/FOAM.

### **A Community Challenge**

- LMS has been invited to participate in Earth Day – April 22<sup>nd</sup> – a Clean-up of the Waterfront areas.

### **HERITAGE BOAT COMMITTEE**

FEBRUARY 20 2015

NOON CAR SHOP

#### **PRESENT**

Bob Hogberg  
Robert lawson  
John Beames  
Rod Mac neil  
Sonny Hockey

#### **REGRETS**

Jack Bennet

Priorities for the next few months will focus on shop security, shop cleanup. Also upkeep and maintenance of the existing fleet will be job one, to have every boat shipshape for the summer months.

C.A. Kirkegaard haul out was completed - bottom painted, prop installed and surveyed. Surveyor has a few recommendations on page 7 of his report to be completed within 30 days. All in all, the Kirk is in good condition.

Rowboat will be back afloat by April 15, 2015.

Leslie should be finished and ready for April 30, 2015.

Reconfiguring the cabin and bunks on the Saravan is progressing slowly and carefully.

However, we have lots of time before the first Ambassador trip in May.

Saravan has to be hauled out soon for survey and her bottom painted. Also to be fitted with new navigation equipment.

This concludes my report, Rod Mac Neil

