



Minutes of November 12, 2014 Board of Directors Meeting, LMS Office

Call to order: The meeting was called to order at 9:10 am

Attendance: **Directors,** Shirley Blackstaff, Bob Cross, Cliff Fisher, Rod MacNeil
Betty Pearson, Jim Phillips, Tim Richards, David Grimstead

Regrets: Sonny Hockey

Guests: Lane Befus

Managing Director, Rod Smith

Agenda: Approved by consent

October Minutes: Approved by consent

New Members: Approved Richard Johnson by consent

Treasurer's Report:

Presented by Betty Pearson. Winter and visitor moorage revenue slightly down from budget estimates in October. There will be minor adjustments in budget accounts. Year-end adjustments will change the balance sheet as in past years. It is expected the financial statements will be presented at the AGM.

Motion: To accept the Treasurer's report. Moved by Betty Pearson. **Carried.**

Managing Director's Report:

(See attached) There was a discussion about the "Aberdeen", the process for removing derelict vessels and the harbour in general. Shirley Blackstaff asked a question about the museum flotation. Rod Smith replied that it is on the list to be addressed before the spring, **Action:** Rod Smith to confirm next steps. Tim Richards asked how the current staffing situation was working out? Rod Smith expressed confidence in the team, including the new bookkeeper and was glad that Trudy was back and the Oyster Bay Café operating again. There was a discussion about the breakwater and the Board asked that a consultant be brought in as planned. **Action:** Rod Smith to contact consultant.



President's report:

Tim Richards reminded the Board that he was stepping off the Board in December after seven years of service stating that he was looking forward to a break but that he wasn't going very far and will continue to stay involved. Tim expressed his confidence in the management of the Society operations. Tim suggested to the Directors reporting at the AGM to keep their reports to about five minutes each.

AGM Discussion

There was a discussion about the agenda for December 3, 2014 and the process as specified under the Societies Act. Nominations for Directors close on November 15th. Only one nomination has been received to date. Once there is a slate, the agenda, list of candidates and ballots will be sent to all members, **Action:** Rod Smith. If there will not be an election, the list of Directors for the new-year will be sent to the membership with the agenda. It was discussed and decided that this coming AGM should include a social component for the members (dessert and coffee before the meeting and wine and cheese following). **Action:** Rod Smith will organize. There was a discussion about Committees for the new-year. The feeling was that this would be left up to the new Board.

Heritage Vessels

Rod MacNeil advised that "Lesley" is almost finished and looking great. There was a discussion about where she would be stored – Wolf boathouse or the back of the museum. Rod M and John Beames will be decking out "Saravan" for the Christmas sail past. The cutter restorations are also underway with a volunteer coming forward recently to refit the engine. It is expected the cutter will be in the water next summer.

Heritage Museum, Harbour Heritage Centre and Education Program

Shirley advised that she had received two donated ship models and is looking for a volunteer(s) to help with rigging. She also received two donated outboard motors and has a lovely Ferndale brass coal-miners lamp. The Education Program is coming along with the brochures and booking process almost complete. There are about a dozen volunteers keen to help with the program. Samples of the brochures were presented and Shirley explained how the process would work with teachers pre-visiting the program and Pro-D presentations to learn about options which include activities the art gallery. While the initial program is designed for the formal educational market, tours and activities would also work for lifelong learners and tourist groups.

Other Business

Betty Pearson showed the group a 1980 original Michael Dean sketch of "Saravan" that Michael donated to the Society and asked that consideration be given to hanging it in the Welcome Centre above the fireplace. **Action:** Rod Smith to investigate.



Rod Smith presented a suggestion from Robert Lawson that the Society consider a revenue sharing arrangement (like Oak Bay Marine Group) with annual moorers when their slip is used while they are away. A good discussion followed with the Board willing to consider this option for annual moorers. Rod Smith had talked with marina staff in advance of the Board meeting and it was felt that we have the technology to make it work and it could be a good program for the Society, the annual moorers and visiting boaters. The suggestion was made to keep the wording in the current contract as is but include an opportunity for annual moorers to “opt-in” to this type of arrangement. **Action:** Rod Smith will create a draft of how the program might work and present it to the new Board in January for consideration in the 2014-2015 boating season as a pilot project.

The next meeting is the December 3, 2014 AGM at the Welcome Centre.

The next Board meeting is proposed for Tuesday December 9, 2014

The meeting was adjourned at 12:05 pm

Managing Director's Report to the Board for November 12, 2014

Aberdeen

As reported to the Board earlier, we have had some success in lessening the environmental threat from the “Aberdeen.” To recap: The Aberdeen actually named the Vicky Lynn II registered in Aberdeen is the large steel-hulled vessel (with the crow's nest) abandoned in water lot 651 next to our marina. Rumour has it this vessel was towed here by the Coast Guard a couple of years ago. Two of our members, Richard Armitage and Howard Smith, brought this vessel to my attention last June expressing the fear that if this vessel went down it would be an environmental disaster as the hull was full of an oily liquid.

I contacted DFO's Environmental Emergency Response unit in Victoria and was advised that the Aberdeen was “on their radar” but that their priority was clean up or imminent sinking. I then wrote to the same office expressing my opinion that the Aberdeen represented a clean and present danger to our marina, the harbour and the marine life and copied Jean Crowder, MP, Nanaimo-Cowichan and advised the town. After more phone calls, emails, meetings with Jean and contact from Jean to the Minister of Transportation, the Aberdeen was pumped out on Friday October 24th. DFO removed over 20,000 litres of “oil and oily water” from the bilges. But they are not finished. I am advised that about five feet of oily sludge still remains in the hull.

We should celebrate this as a partial victory, in particular, the efforts of our members Richard and Howard who, at risk to their personal safety, first investigated the situation and brought the vessel to the attention of the Coast Guard and to me. There is a plan being put forward to finish the job (from the DFO staff to management) but DFO will not do so unless we keep the pressure up. I believe the job is not finished until the Aberdeen is removed from our waters.

I have great respect for the front line staff at DFO Environmental Emergency Response but they are desperately under-resourced. We have had some attention, I am told, because we were the “squeaky



wheel.” Should it be this way – no. Can we do something about it – yes. But it will take the support of the broader community and a commitment to not just get rid of one derelict vessel but to participate in the development of a process for handling an issue that plagues communities up and down the coast. I look forward to working with you over the coming months on this issue.

Visitor Numbers

So a partial celebration on the environmental front...but feel free to break out the party horns and cake over our visitor numbers! 2012 – 2013 saw 1248 visitor nights in the marina. This past year 2013-2014 the number was 1624 – a 30% increase! There are more stats to be gleaned from the information we captured from our visitors and that will be reported on later. One thing that was evident and was reinforced at a recent Vancouver Island Economic Development Summit I attended in Nanaimo is that the US recovery is well underway. The number of US visitors to the marina and the size of their boats were impressive. It appears LMS is indeed a destination – check out the comment book in the Welcome Centre.

Environmental Leadership

At the last Board meeting I presented a vision document that, among other things, would see LMS taking a leadership role in creating a “clean, vibrant, safe environment for boaters and community members on the water and on the shoreline” in and around our water lot. I was encouraged to share some thoughts on this at the recent membership meeting. I was encouraged that night by the number of members who came up to me after the meeting to say they wanted to be involved in this initiative and more have come forward since. I have begun working with Rob Waters of Castor Consulting to develop a plan around habitat restoration and shoreline enhancement and will be meeting with the Purple Martin folks to see how they would fit into the plan. The other component which has been suggested by a few people is the idea of some type of paddling centre in our waters north of the boat houses. I am sympathetic with the thought that it gets harder and harder to load the kayak onto the roof of the Jeep each year and it would be nice to have someplace on the water to store it for a nominal fee.