

GABRIOLA ISLAND SQUADRON

Minutes of the Bridge Meeting

Held on January 26th, 2023

The Meeting was held both at a physical location (Commander's residence on Gabriola) and by GoToMeeting.

Call to Order: 15:05 by Commander Jean-Pierre Van Praet.

Present at Commander's Residence: Jean-Pierre Van Praet, Li Decosas and Nigel Wells.

Present via GoToMeeting: Don Butt, Agathe Gaulin, John Bullas, Elaine Pearce, Bob Wood.

Regrets: Sean Lewis, Gary Small, Jude Briscoe.

Minutes of the previous meeting of November 24th, 2022: moved by Agathe, seconded by Elaine, that the Minutes be accepted. Approved.

Reports: Reports submitted by Don Butt (Scuttlebutt and Communications), Li Decosas (PRO), Jude Briscoe (Financial), Elaine Pearce (Membership), J-P Van Praet (Commander) and Nigel Wells (Webmaster) are on our microsite.

Correspondence: No correspondence

Educational

Agathe explained the Education Department's tentative programme for courses and seminars. After discussion it was agreed with full consensus that these would mostly be run in the Gabriola Recreation Society (GRS) classroom at the Gabriola Elementary School. GRS would like to collaborate in the planning of the courses and would include them in their advertising online and in the Sounder. The Squadron would be able to use Mike's TV for presenting, and it and other materials might be able to be stored in the classroom for the duration of the courses. There would be a requirement that at least one person present at each event should have undergone a Criminal Records Check, but Agathe would find out and report back.

4 seminars: "Marine Electrical Maintenance" on March 1st, presented by Nigel using CPS-ECP materials, which the Squadron would purchase

"Knots for sailing and docking" on March 8th, presented by Sean

"Electronic Marine Navigation" on March 15th, presented by Nigel, using Boating 2 material and simulations

"Weather" presented by John Bullas on May 17th, but with Agathe and Nigel present in a supporting role.

It is proposed to run an in-person Boating 2 course. This course will take 3 sessions – March 22nd, March 29th and April 12th.

It is also proposed to run an in-person ROC(M) course over two sessions - April 19th and 26th, with the exam on the 26th.

Also there will be a PCOC in-person course over two sessions – May 3rd and 10th.

A Boating Camp for Youth is planned. It would take place on May 11 and May 12. (2 days). Agathe confirmed that both Thursday May 11th and Friday May 12th are professional development days for teachers at GES. This would be at the Community Hall, and there was discussion about the use of upstairs in the Hall, to give more bad-weather flexibility.

Don requested that he be given details of the various dates and times so that he could attend and take some photographs.

Advertising Courses and Seminars

Li reported on the relatively poor condition of the Sandwich Boards and asked whether she should investigate the construction of some new ones. It was decided that they were of good construction, and worth servicing, which Nigel agreed to do. There was discussion of the merits of the Sounder adverts, of inserts and Facebook ads. It was pointed out that the collaboration with GRS would allow wider advertising on all platforms and that we could use our Facebook page to advertise further.

Membership

Elaine gave details about issues that she had with the membership status of three members of the Bridge. One was resolved after communication with National and two remained outstanding. After some discussion about member benefits Elaine committed to confirm the nature of the benefits at various local businesses as these are the most relevant to our membership.

Social events winter and spring

Following discussion of the desirability of having an indoor social event it was decided that we would delay a decision until later in the spring, when an outdoor event would be more attractive.

Financial

Jean-Pierre described the Squadron's relatively healthy financial position, though there was some question about possible outstanding payments to National, as well as their slowness in making payments for expenses. Nigel reminded the meeting of the importance of sponsorship funds as part of our income stream, and Li was commended for her efforts to continue and expand them. It was noted that most of the \$1000 fee for Agathe's teaching of the ROC(M) course at the Global ROAMS School in Qualicum Beach in February would be taken up in exam fees, so there would be little net income from that source. A motion was proposed by Nigel, seconded by Don that **"the Squadron offer support for Agathe's travel expenses at standard CPS-ECP rates"**. Passed unanimously.

Hakai Light Trap project at Page's dock

Jean-Pierre reported that he had been asked by Heather Earle whether we would be prepared to take the lead on the Light Trap project. He was prepared to co-ordinate again and felt that there was real enthusiasm for the project among the volunteers. There was a consensus that we should continue and that the project was a good way of increasing our exposure to the island community. Jean-Pierre will communicate that to Heather and will contact the existing volunteers.

Nominating Committee for Bridge 2023-2024

Jean-Pierre advised that the Committee is making progress.

Next meeting:

Wednesday February 22nd, 3pm was agreed as the date and time for the next Bridge Meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting was ended at 4:40 p.m.