

COWICHAN WOODEN BOAT SOCIETY
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
COWICHAN BAY MARITIME CENTRE
NOVEMBER 28, 2015, 9:30 a.m.

Present: 24 members and guests

1) Approval of the Agenda

m/s Alan Paterson and Lew Penney' "The agenda be accepted." **carried**

2. Minutes of the 2014 AGM

m/s Dave Knott and George Karras, "The 2015 AGM minutes be accepted." **carried**

3. Financial Report

Treasurer Dale Gagne explained that there had been some problems in the office which meant the financial statement had not been finalized. This would be done in the next few weeks.

4. Business arising from the minutes:

There was no business arising from the minutes.

5. Reports:

A) President - In Tim Doyle's absence, Ion Barnes, vice-president

Ion explained he would be chairing the meeting as the president, Tim Doyle, had a new job in Vancouver so could not be at the AGM. Ion went over his report - see attachment.

B) Office Manager - Dale Gagne

Dale reported that a new person is now handling the office duties. This person also will be doing the janitorial duties. She pointed out there still are major problems with our old computer so we need to buy a new one.

C) Shop Manager - Tony Owen

- Tony's report is attached.

D) Pier Committee - Lew Penney

- the Pier Committee's report is attached.

E) Education: Victor Lironi

- Victor's course report is attached.

F) Maintenance:

- the bottom half of the new building was oiled. The rest will be done in the spring.

G) Donations: Ion Barnes

- we have been offer a number of boats but have had to turn down most as they were in such bad shape, they could not be sold.
- Len Mayea donated his 32 ft pilothouse sailboat, *Marcelle II*, to the Society after a ten year restoration. A marine biologist has bought her.
- *Dixieland Express*, a 25 ft Grew was donated to us. It will be put into dry storage for the winter and sold after its engine is fixed or replaced.

H) Bingo: Len Mayea

- The Bingo report is attached.

6. New Business:

A) Insurance - Dave Sharrock reported on our new insurance policy.

- our liability now is \$5,000,000.
- our buildings now are covered.
- the pier could not be insured because of the Herold Engineering report. There is liability on it but not replacement.
- insuring our rowboats so members can use them is very expensive, thus the coverage was stopped. There is the possibility the rowboats will be insured just for the summer months.

B) Membership

- Dave Sharrock would like ideas on how we can increase our membership.

C) Computer

- m/s Dale and Lew, "The CWBS acquire a new computer with the appropriate programs." **carried**

7. Election of Officers:

- Dale Gagne, Len Mayea, Victor Lironi, Lew Penney and Keith Williston were elected. There is a vacancy for a one year term.

Note: these Directors still have one year remaining of their term in office: George Karras, Ion Barnes and Dave Sharrock

8. Adjournment: 11:45 a.m.

9. Refreshments

Leonard Mayea
Recording Secretary

Treasurer's report for the CWBS AGM, November 28
by Dale Gagne

We were in a better position at 2015 year end than previous year – and this was achieved without a Gaming Grant which we failed to receive in that fiscal year. We resubmitted the application but it was still refused due to errors.

We have, thankfully, received our grant for this year, which arrived after fiscal year end in the amount of \$34,000.00. The terms and conditions for use of Gaming Grant funds are quite stringent and are limited to providing the means to put on all the programs that we do for the community.

The major differences between the 2014 and 2015 financials are self evident but I will briefly list them

Income

Pod fund raising occurred in 2014

A Summer Student grant of \$11843.17 in summer 2015 allowed us to get 3 students which helped with fund raising events. However you will note that wages were somewhat higher due to the extra staff and corresponding payroll costs required.

Courses/education classes income totalled 6200.19 in 2015 vs \$511 in 2014 The 2015 classes were well attended.

The Centre had a garage sale this last summer which netted 2224.25 and gave Tony room to move!

The negative figure for Shop Materials account 5210 is a result of instructions from our Accountant in May 2015 and required Sharon to do a journal entry of \$15,000 to put the donation of of *Marcelle II* and related equipment into our books.

Unfortunately as a result of Office staff disruptions since just before year end to date, the bookkeeping duties have suffered. Therefore, these financials are not audited yet by our Accountant but I have an appointment to meet with him on Tuesday at 10 am.

As of August 31, 2015, our bank balances were:

Operating account: \$7078.21 Pier: \$22731.87 Gaming: \$3351.20

Vice-President's Report in the absence of President Tim Doyle by Ion Barnes

It has been a difficult year. I have, for this past year, sat on the Board as Vice-President and have been exposed a number of issues that have tested your board of directors.

We had, in no particular order;

- 1) A shop injury that could have been much more serious than it turned out, if it could be graded as such. Safety is primary in our field of endeavours.
- 2) Hiring of a temporary replacement shop manager.
- 3) We held two events, Small Boats and Crab Fest.
- 4) The office was not immune to the turmoil; The computer had been operating in an overload fashion, acquired a virus and then experienced a crash.
- 5) Our office manager, Sharon left on maternity leave and we accepted a replacement that did not worked out and we have recently hired another temporary staffer.
- 6) We continued to struggle with low volunteer participation on a daily level.
- 7) Pier reconstruction has become our focus point, as without the pier, we have lost our prime attraction and yet we continue with the constant need to maintain our present facility.

What do we have and need?

- 1) We have had a strong nucleus of board members that have ideas and concepts with which to move forward on and I am very pleased to be associated with this enthusiastic group.
- 2) We are committed to improving on the past events that may not have been as successful as we had hoped but we are ready to evaluate and make the necessary changes.
- 3) We are determined to complete the changes to our financial records that we require and give you a proper financial record with Dale Gagne's expertise..
- 4) We became a partner in an Island group of Maritime Heritage Societies, namely BC maritime Museum, Ourselves, Port Alberni Heritage group, Ladysmith Marine Heritage, and Campbell River Maritime Heritage. On the heels of that first encounter, I was asked to participate in a culture and heritage Round table sponsored by the BC government. Through contacts made there, we are working with all Cowichan Valley Museums and Heritage sites to further our visibility. Are you aware that there are about 14 heritage groups from Bamberton to Ladysmith?
- 5) We have a new facility wide insurance policy thanks to the hard work of Dave Sharrock and George Karras.

6) We recognize the need for more, specific roles with respect the governance of the Cowichan Wooden Boat Society and I foresee, a public communications role, an event coordinator, a newsletter editor, and a curator.

7) We need to have committees of volunteers to help define some of our needs and report to the board rather than the board being expected to do it all. This will be a big task and communication will be the first order of business, letting members and public alike know that we are here and we need their help.

There is more news in the following reports.

Ion Barnes

Presidents Report in the absence of Tim Doyle

2015 AGM Shop Manager's Report

Tony Owen

Slip Ways

With the help of volunteers Ron Lindsey and Ian Murray, the slip ways have benefitted from the revamp at the turn of the year and in the early spring with new galvanize beams and pulleys and epoxy coatings. These are part of the ongoing maintenance we undertake to ensure safe passage of member's boats while they are in for scrapping, painting etc. Another innovation undertaken by George Skarras and Ion barnes this fall was the installation of a safety net on the apron of the ways that hang out over the water.

Shop

The shop is always in flux between undertaking regular maintenance of its machines and tools for various courses that have been put on during the year as well as prepping all the wood for the popular lap strake course.

Summer camp

For the first time to my knowledge Cowichan Maritime centre introduced summer camp for 9 to 11 year old folk. 5 children partook in the week long adventure. Our two Summer students Kelly and Hanna were invaluable in this under taking. In the morning we all worked on a small row boat called an "Elegant Punt" ...elegant it is not! In the afternoons we did nautical projects from Knot tying with Ted Gainer to rudimentary course and map reading. One afternoon they went up to the nature house for a beach seine...then we hosted the nature house camp kids to a fun afternoon of fishing from our pier. Using our new underwater camera on loan from Ian Murray the kids explored the bottom of the harbour. The week ended with the launch of the dinghy the kids built with the appropriate christening libation sparkling ginger ale.

Ongoing projects

Safety is one area that we have been trying to improve, like the safety net we now have gates to all our lower docks and ways thank you to our newest volunteer Steven. Young toddler children now cannot gain access to the docks that have no railings, unless an adult unlocks the gate. The upper railings now have all their bracing that makes safe and tightens up a problem that has been made worse with ongoing pier deterioration.

Thanks to Ion Barnes and Lew Penny our building has seen power washing and some oiling also new red paint on windows and doors.

Steve also helped us with a new safety railing along the edge of the boat shed deck. A great dry covered place to bring your lunch or take out fish and chips that I saw this Fall.

You will see a dragon boat in our back yard. This belongs to the Jolly Dragons normally moored at the Bluenose marina. We have the contract for new bottom and interior paint and having it ready for April 1 next year. Again a big shout out and thank you to all the volunteers that came out to help with the turning over of the 50 foot 750 lb boat. It proved to be a fun chance for members to meet other members...

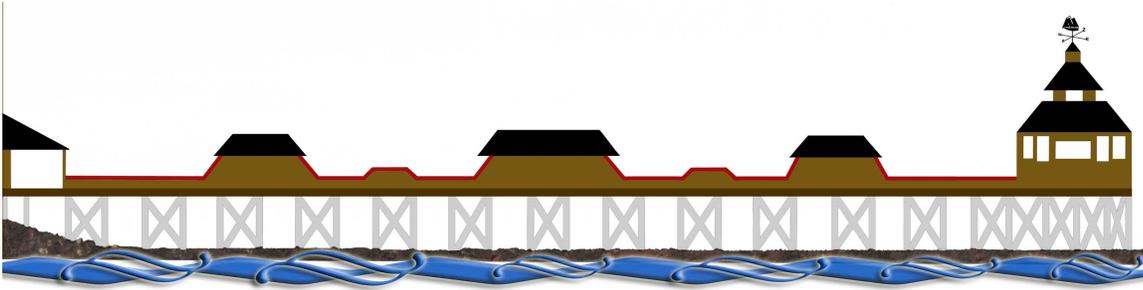
This year we are again involved with the Duncan food bank. As in past years we will be taking one of our lap strake dinghies up to the hotel...they will decorate it and put all the donated food inside to be taken up to the Giant food truck in Duncan. Bring a non perishable donation to hotel and they will serve you up a tasty brunch in return.

Activities

Our boat festival was well received this year with both entries' that came by water and by road trailer to our site. Water race events and The fast and furious boat building challenge was interesting for our visitors to see. The sit salmon down BBQ rounded off one of the event nights. The Remote control boats from Victoria and Nanaimo put on a show for the kids and they provided special boats that the children could use themselves. The Coast guard came with their popular interactive display to help folks keep safe on the water.

Speaking of sitting down to eat 300 Dungeness crab were served up along with freshly picked corn and slaw. True grain supplied the fresh buns and we had wine and beer on tap for an enjoyable 1st annual Cowichan Bay Maritime Centre "crab feast".

COWICHAN WOODEN BOAT SOCIETY



Pier Restoration Report: AGM 2015

- July, 2014, Herold Engineering, conducted a survey of the pier recommending that repairs are considered significant and necessary in the short term. Estimated costs over \$200,000.00.
- Consulted with the BC Ministry of Forests Lands & Natural Resources ,Cowichan Estuary Restoration and Conservation Association, and the Cowichan Estuary Environmental Management Committee to establish environmental protocols for piling replacement.
- Established creosote pilings are not acceptable in the Cowichan Estuary and steel or concrete would meet environmental standards.
- Herold Engineering has now been contracted to provide a report estimating the cost and placement of steel or concrete pilings in the structure.
- A fund raising events has commenced with, a very successful Crab Fest and public awareness handout developed "Save Our Pier". A large information board is being drafted for display in front of the main building.

Background:

- Built 1925 by Standard Oil..
- 1988 Cowichan Wooden Boat Society took possession of the lease, designed and built the buildings on the pier.

Community pledge :

- ❖ Restore to the highest environment standards
- ❖ Maintain its appeal and charm
- ❖ Retain a major community landmark and registered community heritage site

Pier Committee: Dale Gagne, Sharon McLeod, Tony Owen, Jocelyn Larsen, Lew Penney

Report on Courses by Victor Lironi

Over the last twelve months we have had great success in running our lapstrake courses. Many thanks go to Tony Owen for his careful searching for top notch materials, and for all his prep work, and to Eric Sandilands for doing such a great job of running the courses. Our raffle boat earned good money for the society, and we now have buyers for two of the Acorn Dinghies that have become surplus to our needs.

We had a successful family boatbuilding course under the direction of Mark Reuten, producing four Bolger Elegant Punt dinghies. We have advertised this course again but it has been undersubscribed, possibly due to the higher price we needed to cover the cost of materials. The same dinghy has been constructed by participants in the Children's Boat Building Course which was held this summer, and we plan to continue using this design as we have been approached by another school wishing to participate in the very successful School Boat Building Course which we started with Maple Bay Elementary School last fall. Thanks again to Tony Owen for doing such a good job as a teacher.

Under the direction of Cim MacDonald we have had two very successful photography courses this year, and Cim has agreed to return early next year to put on a level two course. We also ran the introduction to navigation course which was well attended. If there are members who would like to take a formal navigation course with both a shoreside and practical section, please let me know.

Ted Geiger kindly put on a make your own nautical Christmas present last December. Ted and I will be putting on a knots and splices course this year on the evening of Thursday December 3rd, not specifically aimed at making Christmas gifts, though some of the splicing work may offer that opportunity. The course starts at 6.30 and admission is by donation.

Before the start of next year's cruising season I will be giving a talk entitled "cruising without tears" which is designed to show how pre-planning can assist in avoiding lee shores, marriage breakups, and "it's the boat or me" situations.

Finally I have asked Tony Owen to put on some basic introductory sessions for members planning to use the shop tools, and plan to build on that to offer two courses designed to teach the basic carpentry skills required in small boat construction, but also useful for domestic use e.g. a deck box for the boat or patio. I am looking for an instructor to run those two levels, and would welcome a volunteer.

If there are courses you would like to see offered, or speakers you would like to hear, please let me know. Victor Lironi. 250 746 7102 vlironi@shaw.ca

2015 AGM BINGO REPORT

for the COWICHAN WOODEN BOAT SOCIETY

- 1) Since the last AGM, I have attended the four scheduled meetings of the Duncan Dabber Bingo Society on behalf of the CWBS.
- 2) Only a few dividend cheques were given out this year. The main reason for this was because the Board needed to build up funds for the ongoing negotiations involved with the selling of the Society's gaming licence.
- 3) DDBS still is negotiating the sale of its gaming licence with the Cowichan Tribes who, as partners with the DDBS in Cowichan Chances, have the first option to buy the licence.
- 4) I will be attending the next DDBS meeting on Dec. 17th at which time it is hoped more details of any sale will be announced. Before the sale can be finalized, the sixty-one charities which make up the DDBS (this includes the CWBS) will be asked whether they support the decision to sell.

Leonard Mayea
DDBS rep.