

GABRIOLA POWER and SAIL SQUADRON

Minutes of the Bridge Meeting

Held on October 25th, 2023.

The Meeting was held at the Commander's residence on Gabriola and on-line via GoToMeeting.

Call to Order: 16:05 by Commander Nigel Wells.

Present: On-line: Gary Small, Paul O'Sullivan, Jude Briscoe, Elaine Pearce, John Bullas, Bob Wood; at Commander's home Nigel Wells, Agathe Gaulin, John Van Praet

Regrets and apologies: Sean Lewis.

Minutes of the previous meeting of August 24, 2023. Agathe moved to approve these minutes. John Van Praet seconded, all in favour. Minutes approved.

Approval of the Meeting Agenda

The Meeting Agenda was approved.

Correspondence

- The introductory letter from Debbie Erdos, about contributions to Scuttlebutt, was discussed. Various persons among us have promised to support Debbie, including Agathe and Nigel. Nigel is advising everybody that Scuttlebutt is our main means of communication with our members. Debbie is also our link with the SBYC. After discussion, it was agreed that boating items for sale can also be advertised in Scuttlebutt.
- Letter received about Remembrance Day. Nigel confirmed that he will be present at the commemorative service on Remembrance Day. Other Squadron members are welcome to attend as well.
- Communications: Nigel mentioned that he continues to have problems with setting up his National CPS e-mail address.

Reports:

Officers' reports are on the website, including the Commander's, the Educational Officer's, the Communication and Privacy Officer's. The Financial Officer's report for the months of July and August are on the micro-site as well.

Our Membership Officer Elaine reported that our Squadron's current membership is 44.

Jude, our Financial Officer ,further reported that the financial situation of our Squadron is approximately as follows:

Balance beginning of October:		+\$1155
Moneys owed by National to our Squadron:	approx.	+\$1700
Moneys owed to National by our Squadron :	approx.	-\$1000

Jude reported that for an extended period, National's systems had not recognized her (Jude) as the Financial Officer of our Squadron. This had led to insufficient information over the months about what National owed our Squadron and what our Squadron owes National.

Agathe, at the occasion of her recently attending the CPS-ECP AGM, has been in communication with the people at National about this. The problems are now in the process of being rectified. Jude, Agathe and Nigel are working at it.

CPS-ECP Conference and AGM in Windsor, October – Agathe attending as Gabriola Island representative.

Educational Officer Agathe prepared a report about her attendance at the National CPS-ECP conference in Windsor Ontario. The report is attached to these minutes. Agathe went over the points made in the report as follows:

- There were only about 100 members present at the conference,
- Agathe attended a series of meetings, including a District Commanders meeting, the National Award ceremony, an Education/Membership & Marketing information session, the Membership/Marketing work meeting, a series of seminars on the Moodle education platform, Classroom Education, Electronic Cruising, Digital membership and Social media.
- A lot of the issues that were complained about in IT in past years have been resolved.
- The building owned by CPS-ECP in Scarborough was sold. National is now housed in a rented facility. Renovations on the new offices are still not complete, so office staff are still working remotely. Team cohesion is still lacking a bit and will certainly improve after staff are working from the CPS-ECP office again.
- The new National Managing Director is now the key person.
- The Squadron of the Year award went to the London Squadron for their efforts and work in moving the National Office and generating funds for National as well.
- Of the proceeds of the sale of the CPS-ECP building, 3 million \$ is being invested in GICs which will generate some \$150k a year. This yearly interest will go to National's operating expenses. The objective is to have a balanced budget in two years time.
- Communications from National to Bridge members are now via **WAYPOINTS**, National's monthly newsletter.
- Bridge Members, and especially the Commander, SEO and SFO have to work with Microsoft TEAMS (if they do not so already) TEAMS works with Outlook for emails.

- All departments report that all Squadron Officers do have access to the reports they need as long as they use the links on their “Dashboards” (to be found when the Squadron Officer logs in the CPS-ECP website.)
- CPS-ECP will not have a legal name change. Instead, CPS-ECP will adopt a modern “Operating as” name. There is a shortlist of 10 names so far. They are not made public for fear of domains with those names being taken by others.
- Governance and Management Structure. Squadrons are encouraged to develop the structure that they need and a Squadron-by-Squadron basis. We can also change the words “Bridge”, Commander etc. if we decide to. We are only requested to inform National about such change.
- Education: there is a call out for preparing “local knowledge” seminars and videos. Our other staple courses are PCOC and ROC(M). We do not have to offer all the boating courses, although we are encouraged to offer B2+3 in classroom and online formats.
- The names of the boating courses are changed again to a brief description of what the course is offering. (e.g., Navigation)
- Auto(matic) renewals of memberships will become possible.
- National is also continuously working on MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS. We must communicate these to our members.
- CPS-ECP is making available to Squadrons a “Local club and Supplier information package” along with digital marketing in social media. This we should also use!

Agathe further mentioned that Sheilah Boutcher is the VIND membership officer, and she is prepared to send us monthly membership reports, upon request.

Our Squadron’s Bob Wood received the CPS-ECP Volunteer of the year award for his lifetime contributions to CPS-ECP. Commander Nigel Wells extended his special congratulations to Bob. Nigel told Bob that Barry Ensign of the VIND had been singing Bob’s praises; he also noted that our Squadron remains the District RVCC leader. Bob responded indicating that his health will not allow him to continue in a leading RVCC role, but that he will remain available to help where he can. He mentioned Ivan Bulic, and Paul and Gary for the work done over the last few years. This year 2023, Bob said, our Squadron did 19 boat checks.

Our SMO Elaine Pearce was congratulated at the CPS-ECP AGM as a lifetime member.

Educational. Plans for Winter-Spring.

Agathe said that she has no detailed plan yet to present to this meeting.

An Education Committee meeting will be scheduled to finalize the plan.

The general idea at this time is to:

- Promote the PCOCs
- Offer ROC(M) on-line.

- Offer B2+3 possibly from mid- January or February on to March, in person. Agathe does have four names of potential students.
- Possibly the above B2-+3 course can be offered on-line, or another course.
- Plan a series of workshop sessions on Wednesday evenings, like we did this Spring, possibly starting earlier...end of February?

The Educational Committee will also look at advertising etc. for these courses.

Li'l Gabe, repairs and renovations required

A discussion took place about the repairs and improvements required. Improvements could be made -e.g. addition of cleats and equipment so that Li'l Gabe can better be used for teaching purposes on land.

Commander Nigel indicated that he sees this as winter project.

ANDERIDA update

Anderida is now at Jude's place, on a trailer, under cover. She needs a fair amount of work.

The owners continue with the ownership and insurance.

Open House/ Swap and Sell (Thanksgiving WE, Saturday 7, Community Hall)

Please refer to SEO Agathe's report. A discussion took place. It was mentioned that the people who attended (sellers, purchasers, people who used the simulator etc.) think that we should do this again, possibly at the end of winter. Commander Nigel mentioned that he is keen to develop this.

ALL OTHER BUSINESS

- **Bert ter Hart's talk at The Haven**
Bert is giving a talk ("Climate Change, a paddler's perspective") at The Haven on November 21 and has asked to advertise this to Squadron members. Debbie Erdos has a Scuttlebutt deadline "tomorrow October 26" and Nigel will contact Debbie about this.
- **A meeting is planned with Nigel, Agathe and Jude, on November 3rd** at Jude's, to look closer at some of the financial and course cost issues.

NEXT SQUADRON MEETING

The next Squadron Meeting is scheduled for Thursday December 14, at 3:00 p.m.

END OF MEETING