

**28<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting of Friends of H.M.C.S. HAIDA**

**Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Saturday 8th September 2018 at 13:30hrs**

**at HMCS STAR**

**1.0 Call to order**

1.1 Attendance:

|                |                   |
|----------------|-------------------|
| Walt Dermott   | Ron Kirk          |
| Gisela Dermott | Crystal Stevenson |
| Ken Lloyd      | Rick Bialachowski |
| Gail Urquhart  | Sabrina Taylor    |
| Andy Barber    | Jane Evans        |
| Mike Triska    | Bob Lively        |
| Mike Vencel    | William Thomas    |
| Jeff Topping   | Jette Thomas      |
| Sandy Keynon   | Kirk Campbell     |
| Barry Butcher  | Ian Greaves       |

Board Apologies: Snezana Savic      Barb Shackleton  
Peter Dixon

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 1338 hrs and asked Padre Thomas to give the Act of Remembrance.

Noted that there were fourteen (14) members eligible to vote and seven (7) proxies in favour of the Chairman.

1.2 Motion to approve the Agenda

Walt Dermot outlined the Agenda and asked for a motion to approve.

Moved by Mike Vencel

Seconded by Bob Lively

Vote: Approved – unanimous

### 1.3 Motion to approve the Minutes of 24<sup>th</sup> September 2017

The minutes were circulated and motioned for approval

Moved by Rick Bialachowski

Seconded by Andy Barber

Vote: Approved – unanimous

## **2.0 Financial Review and Treasurer's Report**

The Treasurers' Report was presented at the AGM and some of the highlights were discussed such as the continued reduction of the overall membership and donations that are affecting the income line. On a positive note the continued increase in the Gift Shop revenues as of August 2018 were approximately \$33,000.00 with approximately six weeks left until the site is closed for the season. We also had a large expenditure related to the renovation of the Gift Shop/Museum at approximately \$28,000.00. Overall, we are sitting with a balance of \$45,974 in our bank accounts.

### 2.1 Motion to accept the Treasurer's Report & Financial Statements

Moved by Rick Bialachowski

Seconded by Jette Thomas

Vote: Approved – unanimous

## **3.0 Presidents' Report (Including Director's Reports)**

The report started off with a review of the Corporation's "Mission" and "Vision" statements and then proceeded with the departmental reports including an update on the Membership status. It also included highlights from some of the Director's reports. The report concluded with the identification of the direction over the upcoming year.

The report highlighted the major renovations that were completed this year to the gift shop, with pictures of the various stages of the renovations. Through smart procurement, Walt Dermott was able to negotiate savings of over \$14,600.00 for the FOH.

Walt Dermott talked about the reorganization and re-merchandizing of the gift shop which included expanding the merchandise offerings and product quality. The gift shop was staffed with one full time student and one dedicated volunteer. Sales as of this meeting are at \$30,012 with approximately six weeks left until the site is closed for the season.

Miscellaneous events included the completion of the Parks Canada Gun crew training this year, liaising with Parks Canada regarding HMCS HAIDA's hull survey and maintenance, and participating in the ceremony to mark HMCS's designation as the flagship of the RCN.

3.1 Motion to accept the President's report

Moved by Jeff Topping

Seconded by Bob Lively

Vote: Approved – unanimous

#### **4.0 Directors' Reports**

##### 4.1 Director of History

Peter Dixon completed the HMCS HAIDA timeline from 1941 – 1963 as well as her operational history for the FOH website. He participated in two key interviews, one for World of Warships which is a You tube success, and the other for Canadian Geographic.

##### 4.2 Director of Education

With an overall exposure of 5,400 people, Mike Vencel's outreach program included visits to 13 schools, 7 Scouts/Guides groups, 6 Senior Residences, and 12 Sea/Army and Air Cadet Sqns, Sir Wilfred Laurier University (2 days) resulting in educating 5,400 people on the history of HMCS HAIDA.

##### 4.3 Director of Volunteers

The current volunteer base is 62 personnel which assisted in hosting over 23,000 visitors to date in the 2018 season. With the support of the large group of volunteers we had schools, cadets, service clubs, Rotary and Lions, and Sir Wilfred Laurier University come and successfully tour the ship. Volunteers supported the Battle of Atlantic ceremony held at the ship. Many Volunteers participated in the FOH display at events such as the Admiral's Board and Honouary Commissioning, and events with the Vintage Signals Team.

##### 4.4 Director of Membership

Overall memberships for 2018 has decreased.

With 89 renewals, along with 5 new members for a total of 94 paying members, and 66 life members for a total of 160 members. We are looking at ways to increase our numbers and to encourage existing members renew their memberships. Membership billing is 1 January of every year.

#### 4.5 Director of Public Relations

Social media has been increasing on the FOH Facebook page. We currently have 1,532 followers and 1,525 likes. Many people are reaching out by posing questions and responding to posts. New quick videos snapshots are reaching over 7K people. Great engagement is happening as visitors are taking videos / pictures and are sharing these memories for us to post.

#### 4.6 Vintage Signaling Team (VST)

The VST takes the name of HMCS HAIDA beyond Hamilton and Canada to museums, schools and conferences around the world. From April 2017 to September 2018 the team has included:

- a. Exhibitions at museums, national historic sites with presentations at 10 shows, 21 cadet units, Canada's largest CTC with over 2,200 pers training 3,326 cadets;
- b. Overseas exhibitions including Ypres, Passchendaele, Vimy, Arras;
- c. An estimated number of students reached 12,000 and non-students 15,000.

#### 4.7.1 Motion to accept the actions of the Board of Directors 2017-2018

Moved by Ian Greaves

Seconded by Jette Thomas

Vote: Approved – unanimous

### 5.0. Election of Directors

#### 5.1. Proposed Slate of Directors to be elected to a Three-Year Term:

1. Walt Dermott
2. Gisela Dermott
3. Snezana Savic
4. Jeff Topping

#### 5.2. Motion to accept the Election of Directors for a three-year term.

Moved by Andy Barber

Seconded by Mike Vencel

Vote: Approved – unanimous

## 6.0 New Business

The Board is to create three, five, and ten-year business goals, develop a DND/Cadet Program, look at the revitalization of membership and increase our volunteer base.

The following suggestions were made by various attendees:

- a. Send out a two-page newsletter to all FOH members with news of what the board is doing on their behalf for HMCS HAIDA;
- b. Post the President and Chair's AGM presentation on the FOH website along with a membership form;
- c. Create a calendar with pictures of what the FOH volunteers are doing on board HMCS HAIDA throughout the season which could be emailed to FOH members.

## 7.0 Presidents Closing Remarks

We will continue to increase our event repertoire, bringing in a diverse audience (fun for whole family) to ensure that the legacy of HMCS HADIA continues to flourish. We will extend our reach into the community to seek additional members in support of our volunteer base and the Board.

## 8.0 Adjournment and next meeting

8.1 Motion to adjourn the meeting at 1455.

Moved by Rick Bialachowski

Seconded by Padre Thomson

Vote: Approved – unanimous



W. Dermott, CD, Ph.D., RCN  
President & Chairman  
Board of Directors  
Friends of HMCS HAIDA