

FRIENDS OF HMCS HAIDA

Annual General Meeting September 22,2022

Present:

Jeff Topping	Peter Dixon
Rick Bialachowski	Walt Dermott
Mike Vencel	Andy Barber
Jerry Proc	William Thomas
Suzanne McBride	Brett Slote
Barbara Shackleton	Dave Raman
Derek Threinen	Joe Iuso

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 PM.

1.1 Act of Remembrance: William Thomas, Moment of Silence, Prayer.

1.2 Motion: To approve the Meeting Agenda, Rick Bialachowski, 2nd Mike Vencel. CARRIED.

1.3 Move to approve the Minutes of the A.G.M, September 23, 2021 by William Thomas, 2nd by Walt Dermott. CARRIED.

1.4 Mission Statement Review; Jeff Topping stated the change to be made to His Majesty's Canadian Ship.

Finance Report:

Jeff Topping reported the Treasurer's position is vacant with the passing of Gail Urquhart. Walt Dermott is acting as the interim treasurer, pending reorganization. Walt has retained the services of Sandy Holst as our bookkeeper. He obtained Quickbooks for easy access.

Walt reported our financial position is "very strong". Assets of \$ 327,920. There was a donation of \$250,000. Expenses for the year consisted of a complete computer and software update, and salaries for the Gift Shop staff.

Move to accept the Treasurer's Report. by Rick Bialachowski, 2nd by Suzanne McBride. CARRIED.

President's Report: Jeff Topping reported the focus of the year was to strengthen the contribution of and with the RCN, grow the relationship with Parks Canada, and increase our interaction with social media.

The new Consular General for Poland had toured the ship and wished to continue the relationship. Rick Bialachowski has been liaising with *ORP BLYSKAWICA* and gave our support on Polish Armed Forces Day on August 15. He will be reinstating our "Twinning" with *BLYSKAWICA*.

Jeff thanked *HMCS STAR*, for their support, particularly LCDR Sowa, past Commanding Officer, and LCDR Deberatto the new Commanding Officer. There were two ship visits, *HMCS GLACE BAY* and *HMCS ORIOLE*. Jeff was a member of the RCN fundraising bike ride. The ship, and *STAR* played host to the Admirals Council. Jeff presented Vice Admiral Topshee with a cap, coin and book. VADM Topshee presented Jeff with a gift from *HMS BELFAST* of a set of drawings of *HAIDA* by Vickers Armstrong. VADM Topshee is a great enthusiast for *HAIDA*. There was a dialogue between Admiral Topshee and the CEO of Parks Canada.

Move to accept the President's Report: by Walt Dermott, 2nd by William Thomas, CARRIED.

Andy Barber asked a question on \$4,000.00 in Museum expenses. Walt Dermott answered it is \$190.00 per month for off site storage for museum stores-uniforms, shelving units and other museum items that cannot stay in the Gift Shop.

Gift Shop: The sales were \$42,000.00. Great thanks to Walt, Ralph Crystal and Ran.

Grants: There was \$20,000.00 in fundraising. We were not successful in getting a Summer Youth Employment Program grant. An application will be submitted in 2023.

Website/Communications: Many thanks to Joe Iuso for the website. Online shopping plans are ongoing. Thanks to Snezana Savic for increasing our

presence on Facebook and Instagram. Thanks to Barbara Shackleton for organizing the very successful webinars.

Volunteers: Thanks to Andy Barber and Dave Golding for a great program. There was great feedback from the Admirals. Andy Barber asked about the \$250,00 donation and that in the new area, and jetty development, the Guardhouse and Giftshop would be going. Jeff Topping said he had no knowledge of such. He said Parks has a five to ten year plan, with nothing a such at the moment.

Governance: Rick Bialachowski introduced the following slate of Directors; Peter Dixon, Mike Vencel, Ken Lloyd, Joseph Iuso for a three year term.

Rick Bialachowski for a one year term.

Motion: To elect Peter Dixon, Mike Vencel, Ken Lloyd, Joseph Iuso to three years as Directors and Rick Bialachowski for one year as a Director. by Suzanne McBride, 2nd Andrew Barber. CARRIED.

Motion: by Andrew Barber that: “ the acts, contracts, by-laws, proceeding appointments, elections and payments made, done and taken by the Directors and Officers of Friends of HMCS HAIDA, honestly and in good faith in the best interest of the Corporation and exercise with due care, diligence and skill, be one and the same, already approved, ratified and confirmed.” 2nd by Mike Vencel CARRIED.

Open Forum; Short Term goals;

Have more in person events with the RCN.

Need to re-negotiate the MOU with Parks Canada.

Continue online shopping with strategic selling.

Continue and expand social media awareness.

Explore new tasks with the Naval Reserve.

Keep the Volunteers engaged.

Andy Barber made a comment that Ralph Edwards should have more discretion in stock selection. Jeff Topping replied to the need for strategic pricing and in

what we are selling is relevant. Walt Dermott outlined the inventory function and how Shopify generates orders.

Barbara Shackleton commented on “life through technology” and if we are going to continue the webinars. The view is that they are imperative.

Membership: We need to make a drive on social media. Andy Barber commented to put ads in the press. Suzanne McBride suggested we liaise with the Legion, and get more presence. A membership package can be put in the website.

New Business: William Thomas commented that he needed to find new engraver for the names on the baptismal bell.

Mike Vencel commented that the C.O of the *HARRY DeWOLF* would like to bring his ship to HAIDA.

Motion: To adjourn the Annual General Meeting. By Andrew Barber, 2nd by William Thomas

The meeting closed at 8:22PM.