

CLUB DE VOILE DE LA RIVIÈRE GATINEAU RIVER YACHT CLUB



Minutes of the 2003 annual general meeting. Held at the Chelsea Community Centre Wednesday February 4th, 2004

The Chairman, Commodore Neil Berman, called the meeting to order with a quorum at 19:03. The following members were in attendance:

Neil Berman	(Commodore)
John Hennessy	(Facilities)
Leeanne Johnson	(vice-commodore and youth committee)
Richard Yeo	(fleet captain)
Maureen Fehr	(secretary)
Jane Foyle	(communications)
Gonnie DeWitte	(Rear commodore)
Laurent Bissonnette	(Treasurer)
Dave Maitland	(Past Commodore)

Alan Richens	Muriel How	Douglas Marshall
David Newing	Bruce Lorimer	J.F. Cote
Anneke Schhur	John Glynn	Malcolm McHattie
Isabelle McHattie	Aidan O'Neill	Beth Clark
Mike Murray	Rebecca Renner	Dwight Morley
Jim Coderre	Jos Woods	Marylies Woods
Seymour Hamilton	Bill Burr	Heather Gibb
John Crook	Pat Etue	Paul Johansen
Fatima Martin	Tim Martin	

Items of business are presented below:

1. Adoption of Agenda

Muriel How moved and Paul Johansen seconded a motion to accept the adoption of the agenda. *Carried.*

2. Minutes of the 2002 General Meeting

Neil Berman tabled a letter written by Jane Foyle (Past secretary 2001-2002) explaining that the notes taken at the 2002 Annual General Meeting (AGM) were destroyed. She was unable to produce an accurate record of the discussions.

Discussion:

Neil Berman expressed his assurances that all matters requiring action after the 2002 AGM were in fact taken. He also requested that the by-law revisions voted on in the 2002 AGM be reviewed to ensure accurate records.

Neil Berman moved to accept the letter from Jane Foyle. Jean-Francois Cote seconded. *Carried.*

3. Treasurer's Report

Laurent Bissonnette tabled the attached report.

Paul Johansen inquired about the Club's current bank balance. Laurent Bissonnette indicated there is approximately \$38,000. This surplus comes from various donations over the years.

Joe Woods suggested that there could be some environmental requests that could cost money, and it would be good to have some reserve for future needs.

Alan Richens asked for an explanation of the Club's insurance. Laurent Bissonnette explained how our insurance fees cover accidents, boats and motors, sailing, regattas, equipment and board members.

One member proposed to raise fees if we need money.

Bruce Lorimer moved to accept the approval of the Treasurer's Report. Joe Woods seconded. *Carried.*

4. Youth Committee Report

Leeanne Johnson tabled the attached report.

Discussions concerning the Counsellor in Training (CIT) program took place. Heather Gibbs inquired whether the CITs would ever receive compensation. Leeanne expressed that in other clubs children pay to become CITs, so it is unlikely that GRYC will ever offer compensation.

Leanne indicated that Maria Lyons (who has been a member of the Youth Committee has moved). The committee is looking for more parent volunteers. They would like to find one parent to take responsibility to lead a committee for away regattas and one to join the committee as a parent representative for the younger children on the island.

Leanne mentioned that special thanks go out to Susan Moon for her work in organizing the Youth Banquet and also to Liz Stewart and Kevin Jones for their work with the Youth Committee.

Leanne tabled the report from the Safety Sub-Committee. She indicated that black water safety training will again be offered to the counsellors this summer.

Marylise Woods moved to accept the Youth Committee report (including the safety sub-committee report) as tabled. Bruce Lorimer seconded the approval. *Carried.*

5. Fleet Captain Report

Richard Yeo tabled the attached report.

Richard worked with the Youth Committee to give the children a broader range of sailing experience. He made special mention of the many volunteers who helped to continuously maintain the fleet throughout the season.

Richard recognized that maintenance on the fleet will be a continuous, yearly task. He indicated there was less damage than in previous summers, and that the repairs have already begun. He is confident that the fleet will be in very good shape for starting the season.

Joe Woods recognized and thanked Richard Yeo for his diligence and hard work.

Erik Rask moved to accept the Fleet Captain Report as tabled. Malcolm McHattie seconded the approval. *Carried.*

6. Rear-Commodore's Report

Gonnie DeWitte tabled the attached report.

Discussions:

Gonnie suggested that discussions regarding club social evenings and Wednesday club nights will need to take place before the new summer season begins.

Special thanks were mentioned to Michael Murray (manager) and Beth Clark.

Doug Marshall moved to accept the Rear Commodore's report as tabled. Aiden O'Neil seconded. *Carried.*

7. Facilities Report

John Hennessy presented a verbal report.

Major projects during summer 2003 were:

- Docks. Some finishing touches still outstanding
- Pool. This arrangement of the docks has worked well.
- Bathroom. Renovations completed.
- Road. The road had not been fixed for several years, hence the cost was more than anticipated.
- Entrance Gate. Still needs some final work.
- Hot Water. New tank added.

Future projects (still outstanding)

- Repair the remaining part of the back deck for safety and aesthetics
- Extend the life of the steel crash boat.
- Acquire and install twin batteries and bilge pumps on the safety boats so that they are always ready to go.
- Provide a short course on how to use club safety boats to members with Coast Guard operating cards so that GRYC can respond to rescue operations, no matter who is on the island.
- Formalize the relationship with the Chelsea MRC and Police regarding their use of our crash boats

Neil Berman made special mention of the Club's contract with a local contractor for supplying and installing the steel gate. This person is threatening to take the GRYC to the small claims court. Neil Berman feels the membership should note the decisions taken by the board.

John Hennessey presented his recollection of events. They are:

- Contractor did not deliver according to the contract signed by GRYC.
- GRYC retained fees on what was not delivered.
- GRYC sent the contractor a letter stating why partial payment was withheld.
- Contractor claims he completed the job and delivered everything according to the contract.
- GRYC is withholding a balance of \$700.00.
- Mike Murray has full documentation in his diary.

Neil Berman, Mike Murray and John Hennessy are prepared to represent the club should this matter go to Small Claims court.

Bill Burr thanked the club board members and the management of the GRYC for the way they welcomed several visitors to the club this summer.

Neil Berman asked for a motion to accept a verbal report on Facilities. Jean-Francois Cote moved to accept the verbal report and Bruce Lorimer seconded. *Carried.*

8. Manager's Report

Neil Berman asked Mike Murray to give an informal report. Mike informed the meeting that:

- There was a good relationship between him and the staff.
- The Junior Program used the assistant manager to their benefit this past summer, especially for after-five coil down.
- The Club will start to receive applications for assistant manager in a few weeks

9. Commodore's Report

Neil Berman tabled the attached report.

Paul Johansen moved to accept the report as tabled. Marylise Woods seconded the approval.
Carried.

10. Budget 2004 Approval

Laurent Bissonnette tabled the 2004 budget.

During discussion, some members noted that since there are funds available, the membership should decide what to do with them.

Muriel How suggested that a boat-launching trailer would be useful on the island. David Newing has one and will bring it to the club for members' use.

Jim Coderre asked to consider raising membership fees. Richard Yeo and Joe Woods both suggested that this is probably a good year to wait and see. Several members suggested that the board should take a closer look at what the year-end banquet, the Regatta and the Club nights cost the club in 2003, to see how these costs balance out.

Some members asked how the fleet maintenance budget is divided. Richard Yeo explained that the \$5,300 budget is split between junior program boat maintenance (five sevenths) and club fleet maintenance (two sevenths).

Richard Yeo mentioned that should club members come across any good Lasers at a reasonable price, than we should purchase them to replace our aging Laser fleet.

Anneke Schwartz moved to accept the budget as tabled. Seymour Hamilton seconded.

11. By-Law Revisions

ARTICLE #6-6.

Neil proposed that the \$2, 000 limit on spending without full membership approval be changed to \$3,000, to enable the board to make purchasing decisions.

David Newing moved to increase this to \$3,500, and Erik Rask seconded. *Carried.*

Amend 6-6.

No commitment exceeding \$100 shall be made on behalf of the Club without approval of the Treasurer and no commitment shall be considered for approval save one arising from an activity duly authorized by the Board of Directors. No commitment exceeding \$2,000 (change to \$3,500) shall be made on behalf of the Club unless such an expenditure has been budgeted for and approved at a General Meeting. An unforeseen commitment exceeding \$2,000, (change to \$3,500) not included in the budget requires General Meeting approval prior to expenditure.

12. Other business

1. Member in good standing and volunteer efforts:

Leanne spoke to the idea of membership in good standing as it relates to participation in the voluntary labour that keeps the club going. She voiced a generally held opinion that the club has grown in the past years, and that there is a need to find ways to formalize volunteer efforts. It seems it's always the same 20% of the members who do 80% of the work. Discussions took place regarding ways to encourage members to perform their volunteer duties.

Neil proposed that we defer this topic to a by-law revision committee, which will report at Bridge-Down. The members who agreed to be on this committee include: Aiden O'Neil, Joe Woods, John Crook, Paul or Mary Johansen, Tim Martin.

A special meeting of membership at Bridge-Down was proposed, where any amendments to the Bylaws could be raised in reference to "member in good standing."

2. Special thanks to the board:

Alan Richens thanked the board on behalf of Jimmy Brown for providing him with a GRYC plaque that he gave to Mr. Frazier Harris in England, one of the Club's charter members. It was greatly appreciated.

3. Security:

Small thefts in the summer.

Pat Etue questioned whether police report was filed. He asked if anyone notifies members when there is a theft on the island, and also what the club policies regarding theft are.

The board answered that there is no formal policy at this time. John Hennessy and Mike Murray continue to improve security at the club. In the case of this summer’s theft, the club manager filed a police report less than a week after the event. It was suggested that next year’s communications person should take on the role of notifying the membership in the future.

13. Elections and Appointments

The Commodore invites Past Commodore David Maitland to handle the elections for the 2004 board members.

Position

Commodore	Richard Yeo
Vice-Commodore	John Hennessy
Fleet Captain	David Newing & Joe Dion
Facilities	Jean-Francois Cote
Communications	Seymour Hamilton
Treasurer	Laurent Bissonnette
Rear-Commodore	Gonnie DeWitte & Anne Burbidge
Secretary	Maureen Fehr

Carried.

14. Special Awards

Neil Berman announced the following honorary member recipients: Muriel How and Isabel and Malcolm McHattie.

Neil also recognized and thanked the following departing members Jane Foyle and David Maitland.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 10:15 p.m. Thank you.

Maureen Fehr
Secretary