

**Canadian Wayfarer
Association Annual General
Meeting Toronto Sailing and
Canoe Club
Saturday 17 January 2015, 6:00 p.m.**

Minutes

In attendance: Rob and Daniel Wierdsma, David and Anne Pugh, David and Carol Hansman, Leo and Joanne Van Kampen, Kit and Patsy Wallace, Sue Pilling, Steph Romaniuk, Mike Codd, Kirk Iredale, Al and Julia Schonborn, Scott Ramsay, Hans Gottschling, Bob Stevenson, Barry Hitchcock, Mike and Marg Duncan, Eric Johanson, Joe and Janis Schnur, Annelies Groen, Stewart Adams, John Blythe

1. Call to Order and Chair's Welcome

- Al Schonborn welcomed the members and called the meeting to order;

2. Approval of the Minutes of the 2014 AGM

- Scott Ramsay moved approval of the minutes (seconded by Dave Hansman): carried;

3. Business Arising

- Al reported that the new boats competed fairly evenly with the older boats; the decision not to split the fleet worked quite well, and the issue is effectively resolved;

4. Financial Report

- Mike Codd presented the financial statement for 2014;
- Based on increased memberships and interest, revenues were up for 2014; the AGM generated a small surplus; expenses were up based on increased costs for the Boat Show, publications and the purchase of Books; net for the year was just under \$300;
- Total assets are just over \$4200.
- The association owes Al approximately \$1800, with an instalment to be paid in the next few months;
- Kit Wallace mentioned that the membership revenues were surprising considering the number of members is down; Mike reassured him that the numbers are correct; some members paid for more than one year in 2014;
- Al mentioned that there would be some saving this year since the Executive decided to withhold producing a DVD this year; there was one suggestion to make the yearbook available online instead of producing a full run of disks;
- Mike moved approval of the financial report as presented (seconded by Anne Pugh): carried;

5. Membership Report

- Kit Wallace reported that the membership was just under 70 for 2014, which represented a loss of about 20 compared to the previous year;
- there was a question of whether the increase of membership fees last year might have been a cause of the decrease; Kit suggested that there may have been some case;
- there was also some discussion of the importance of enforcing membership at regattas and how it might be implemented;

6. Major Discussion Items

- a. Strategies to increase membership numbers and engage more members in Class activities;
 - there was some discussion of making access to sections of the *Whiffleweb* for members only, however there were concerns that the web content is attracting members;
 - there was a suggestion to approach advertisers to see if they might offer discounts to Association members;
 - Another suggestion was to increase the visibility of the request for donations on *Whiffleweb*;
 - Other suggestions included have additional cruising events, and offer a crewing databases for regattas;
 - There is a lot of loss of renewals following the free first year for people who have purchased a boat; Al suggested he would appeal to people's better nature on the *Whiffleweb* encouraging renewals;
 - A number of suggestions focused on making acquaintances between members and new owners, including an offer of mentorship;
 - The Executive will consider the ideas that were put forward and how they might be implemented;
- b. The policy on breaking ties at major Class regattas;
 - Mike Codd explained the history of the current policy of not breaking ties at Class events; the intention was to recognizing more winners and is unique among sailing classes;
 - There was some spirited discussion of the merits of both positions (breaking vs not breaking ties);
 - the USWA has decided to go ahead with breaking ties;
 - Motion to change the class rules to break ties as prescribed in Appendix A of the ISAF rules (moved by Anne Pugh, seconded by Hans Gottschling): carried
- c. Boat Show
 - there was some discussion of the merits of continuing to have a booth at the Boat Show;
 - the chief concerns related to the fact that the Boat Show is not a dinghy show, and the presence of sail is declining;
 - alternatives to the Toronto International Boat Show might be smaller local events, including mall displays, etc.
 - The Executive will act on the recommendations;
- d. Honorary Life Member Nominations
 - i. Hans Gottschling for obvious reasons
 - ii. Dick Harrington for his long contributions as the dean of Wayfarer cruising in North America;
 - iii. Nick Seraphinoff for long, enthusiastic participation, putting great time and effort to market the Hartley Mark IVs in North America;
 - iv. Jim and Linda Heffernan for vast contributions to the life of Wayfarer's world-wide;
 - v. Ton Jaspers (Holland) for his willingness to share his knowledge of technical matters raised by members everywhere;
 - Motion to make the nominees honorary members of the Canadian Wayfarer Association (moved by Dave Hansman, seconded by Mike Codd): carried;

7. Executive for 2015

- Al expressed his desire to retire as Chair of the Association; there will be further discussion of succession at the Executive;
- Al is also reaching out to volunteers to assist with maintenance of the websites: Linda H (WIC), and Scott R (CWA)

8. Other Business

- None

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm (Moved by Hans Gottschling, seconded by Carol Hansman);