

M I N U T E S
of the Board of Directors of

PICKERING AUXILIARY RESCUE ASSOCIATION

September 22, 2020 TELECONFERENCE, 5:00 pm (EST)

ONLINE: Keenan Watters
Colin Thomson
Rob Anderson
Richard Rademacher
John Rycroft
Bill McLean
Gary Endicott
Shaun Collier

Also present at the invitation of the Board, Jennifer McGuinty, Treasurer and Secretary of the Association.

Bill McLean declared the meeting open at 5:05.

Declaration of Interest

There were no conflicts declared

Approval of Past Minutes

Colin Thomson moved that the Minutes of the May 26, 2020 meeting be approved as distributed, Rob Anderson seconded. ***Motion Carried***

Commodore's Report
(see Attached)

The Commodore's report was presented as distributed and taken as read.

Colin highlighted that due to COVID no regular patrols have been held but that training resumed mid-season.

McLean asked if co-ordination with Police and Fire departments was working well. Colin reported that there has been an improvement this year with call-outs initiating from Fire/Police, which is reflected in the number of standdowns in our stats as

Fire/Police were able to respond on their own after calling PARA out. Para is still using the Harris communication system, linking PARA with Fire/Police and has proven to be useful.

There was an increased number of small craft, inflatables in distress this year. The Whitby Marina also saw an increase in small craft issues.

Keenan expressed that he was impressed with the follow up care being provided to our members after an incident. Colin reminded the Board that PARA members have access to 2 critical incident support services, one through CCGA and one through a Durham company contracted by us.

There are 22 candidates for membership currently, interviews will take place this fall for next season. Colin is anticipating a higher than average number of dropouts from current membership at the end of the season, due to increased risk for COVID and lack of time on boat this season.

Shaun questioned if the electronics replacement had been an expected project this year? Colin confirmed that it had not been expected, however there is a problem with electronics and that the Chart plotter was replaced about 6 years ago, and the radio's in 2013. Current issue is that the systems are not communicating well with each other. The AIS stop transmitting last year, Swans Yacht Sales spent a four hours trouble shooting it this season and could not fix the issue. The Board questioned where funding would come from if we don't get funding for the electronics from the FIREHOUSE grant – part of the cost would come from operational funding, if we can't find extra funding Colin suggested it could come from "new boat fund". Shaun requested that if specific funding is not secured that the matter be brought before the Board before committing to the new system. Rob requested clarification on the timing needed to install the upgrades to the electronics, so not to affect the in-service date for 2021. Colin believed that Swans need about 3 weeks to procure and install the system which could be done over the winter, this will be facilitated by wintering PARU in Whitby.

Colin informed the Board that he had been in contact with a fundraising service, Grant Advance, fees would be \$1,586/year. Shaun mentioned that the Town of Ajax has a fundraising consultant on retainer and he could make her services available to PARA. At this time the Board will not pursue a paid fundraising service.

The recent survey of PARU was positive with respect to serviceability. We enquired if it was possible to downgrade the classification of PARU but due to its size it is classified correctly. The previous survey had questions regarding electrics of boat, tie down of batteries etc. not mentioned on this survey. Most of the electrical work done in the cabin in 2018 corrected those issues with the exception of the engine compartment. Rewiring of the engine compartment is still on the action list for PARU

but not as immediate. One bilge pump was burning out due to switch being left on, switch has been moved and more clearly labeled.

PARU is scheduled to be wintered in Whitby this winter and the Marina has agreed to store the community trailer as well, cost expected for the trailer ~ \$100/season.

Phase training will continue until October (under COVID tasking) as there is a timeframe to complete training within 3 years.

Community events – expecting community events in 2021 to be similar to 2020. Trailer purchase proposal is within the grant funds received last year from OPG. Ric questioned need for trailer if we expect reduced community events. Need exists because we are required to spend funds as per terms of the grant (or return funds and not qualify for future grants), and safety awareness campaigns are becoming more important as more people are having staycations and purchasing small craft to which the trailer will be useful.

John Rycroft moved, Rob Anderson seconded that PARA Marine Search & Rescue purchase a trailer for Community Events as per the attached proposal **CARRIED**.

City of Pickering grant deadline is Oct 23. Colin moved that PARA Marine Search & Rescue approach the City of Pickering for a grant to subsidize the upgrades to the electronics, John seconded - **CARRIED**

Proposed sale of one seacan to OPG – one seacan is still residing on the East Spit (the other has been moved to Frenchman’s Bay Yacht Club) OPG has expressed an interest in obtaining the seacan including upgrades. Colin mentioned that there may be difficulty removing the seacan from the spit due to structural issues with bridge at the foot of Liverpool Rd.

John moved to accept the Report of the Commodore as distributed, Gary Seconded. - **CARRIED**

FINANCIAL REPORT

Unaudited Balance sheet and Profit and Loss statements were reviewed as distributed.

Gary moved , that the financial report be accepted as distributed, John Seconded **CARRIED**

Other Business

No other business was brought before the meeting

Future Meeting Dates

December 8 at 5 pm – Web call

Ric moved; Keenan seconded that the meeting be adjourned.

There being no further business Bill McLean declared the meeting terminated.

Bill McLean

Jennifer S. McGuinty

Approved December 8, 2020