

Preserve Our Wrecks (Kingston) Annual General Meeting
Sunday 24 January 2009,
14:00, Marine Museum of the Great Lakes at Kingston.

Minutes

Present: Hill M, Groll D, Neilson R, Barker M, LeBlanc K, Prince B, Bazely S, Grondin G, Vandenberg H, Vandenberg B, Chew S, Grenville J.

Regrets: Bird F, Haslip C, Haslip D, Drakich N, Bush J, Marshall T.

1. Call to Order 14:00, M Hill.
2. Introductions of all individuals present were made.
3. M. Hill extended appreciation to the photographers who had provided images for display at the AGM. Thanks to **Tom Rutledge and Warren Lo**.
4. Approval of the Agenda. M. Hill asked if there were any additions or changes to the agenda. None were put forward.
5. Approval of the Minutes of the POW AGM 2008. The minutes of the 2008 POW AGM were reviewed, attracting the following comments. In 2008 the Thibault Award recipient was Barb Carson. There have been no nominations for 2009, thus there is no 2009 recipient. Members were encouraged to consider nominating worthy candidates in the coming year. Mooring Director, Harold Vandenberg will continue in that position for 2009 – thanks were offered for all his hard work in 2008. Points arising were addressed as follows. POW donation boxes and membership information had been requested for disposal of the charter operators. No action had been taken on this, but the President assured members that the operators were supportive of POW and promoted the Organisation's aims amongst divers. A suggestion that POW enter into an agreement on joint web hosting had been considered. Instead, the website had been re-invigorated and now serves the needs of the Organisation well. Suggestions for improving it - and contributions to its content - were always welcome. A weblog had also been established and members were encouraged both to visit it regularly and to use it for posting news and information. The POW newsletter's quarterly distribution has been reinstated. The next edition is due to go out in February. As a cost saving measure, the publication is made available as a download only. In exceptional cases, a hard copy may be made available to specific members. It had been suggested that an enquiry telephone number might be set up in partnership with another charitable body. Instead, the President had undertaken to publicise his own telephone number and to answer enquiries directly. The number is 613-767-7446. The Marine museum continues to allow POW to use their address for mail.

Motion to Accept POW 2008 AGM minutes: S. Bazely, Seconded: B. Prince.
Carried.

6. Officers Reports.

President – Mike Hill briefly outlined work completed in 2008. As mentioned earlier, POW's web presence had been re-invigorated with a new look website and a blog. POW had been a partner in the organisation and running of the Kingston Underwater show in the Summer and had provided a booth that attracted a lot of attention. The relationships with the Marine Museum and Save Ontario Shipwrecks had been refreshed, with mutual benefits. The support of SOS was particularly appreciated. A number of shore dive sites had been improved, including one that had benefited, for the first time, from a guideline. The cooperation of other groups in this work was noted and acknowledged. A successful Fall social event, a Dive 'n Dine, had boosted membership and provided an excellent dive outing at minimal expense. 'Life Beneath the Lake' – a multimedia presentation highlighting the work of POW had been produced and trialed before a local boating group to general acclaim. Finally, without taking from the Mooring Director's report, it was observed that this vital activity had gone particularly well, with participation from many sectors.

Vice President – Chris Haslip – Report not submitted

Secretary – Report not submitted due to illness.

Treasurer – see separate report.

Mooring Director – Harold Vandenberg provided the following comments. There was a lot more support for the mooring effort this year than in past years. Many more individuals and organizations wanted to get involved, and did get involved. Many variables affected the ability for all to assist including timing and cost of things such as fuel, but overall it was a very successful year. In addition to repairing lines and replacing buoys when needed, the lines and blocks for the Frontenac and the Annie Falconer were moved and placed in better locations with respect to the wrecks. In 2009, we plan to fix the Wolf Islander II mooring that was damaged during the year. We also plan to continue inspecting lines, changing them as needed, and improving the tag lines from the blocks to the various wrecks, as needed.

Approval of Officers Reports: Motion: Kevin LeBlanc, Seconded: Diane Groll. Carried.

7. Election of Officers. Only the outgoing President, M Hill had indicated his willingness to continue to serve on the Board. Nick Drakich, for personal reasons, had undertaken to stand down as Secretary / Treasurer. Appreciation of his remarkable contribution to POW was unanimously expressed. The contributions of other outgoing Directors were also acknowledged. The following individuals volunteered for service on the 2009 Board of Directors:

Dianne Groll, Marg Barker, Mike Hill, Harold Vandenberg, Steve Chew, Kevin LeBlanc.

All of the individuals named agreed to accept nomination.

Motion to accept the above named individuals to the Board of Directors of POW for 2009: Moved: Brian Prince. Seconded Rick Neilson. Carried.

8. Outlook for 2009. M Hill outlined the following ambitions for 2009. Although it seemed to be a distant date, the bicentennial of the War of 1812 is actually fast approaching in planning terms. It was intended that POW participate actively in celebrations, using the event to focus attention on preservation issues and the importance of our underwater heritage. The best effect would be obtained by collaborative efforts and POW would seek to partner with other interested parties and to support common goals. Arrangements to run a Nautical Archaeology Society Level One course in Kingston in the Spring were already under discussion. Action was also in hand to work on a licensed survey of an historically significant wreck lying in Kingston waters. There would be further engagement in the identification and improvement of shore dive sites, including the production of guides. Work on presentation packages to fulfill POW's educational remit would go on.

Comment: Sue Bazely commented that the Cataraqui Archaeological Research Foundation would be supportive of efforts to promote awareness of POW and its mission. POW might be able to participate in CARF programs and a display module owned by CARF could be loaned to POW for specific events. POW's engagement in planning for the 1812 bicentennial would be welcomed.

9. Any Other Business. No other business was brought forward

10. Motion to Adjourn. Moved: Mike Hill. Seconded Marg Barker, Carried. Meeting adjourned 14:55.

Submitted by: Dianne Groll (Acting Secretary), January 24, 2006