



FINAL

**Victoria Esquimalt Harbour Society
Special General Meeting**

October 11, 2016, 5:15pm at Ogden Point, Pier B, Dallas Rd

MEMBERS PRESENT:

VEHS directors: Hannah Horn, Dee Govang, Ryan Burles, Bernie Talbot, Mark Braithwaite, Jon Sector, John Sanderson, Brian Henry

VEHS members: Don Prettie, Lyle Soetaert, Kim Young, Leslie Welsh, Gary Leibel, John Briant, Nick Banks, Mike Graham

Guests: Doug Crowder, Jack Cox, Mike Howe

Proxies declared: Randy Wright (proxy: John Briant), Alan MacGillivery (proxy: Nick Banks)

REGRETS: Paul Ridout

NOTE TAKER: Trish Suzanne

Meeting called to Order at 5:20pm

Approval of Agenda

Leslie Welsh approved; John Sanderson seconded. All favoured. Nothing added.

1. Establishment of quorum and call for volunteer vote counters

29 active members in good standing so 15 members needed to make a quorum.
16 members in attendance with proxies. Quorum established.

2. Selection of candidates for GVHA Board

Nominations Chair, Don Prittie, presided over the voting process and counting of ballots.
Non-members Doug Crowder and Mike Howe were ballot counters.
Don briefed everyone on the VEHS Constitution on membership.
Announced declared nominees (Mark Braithwaite, Ryan Burles, Dee Govang, John Sanderson);
Called for nominations from the floor, three times as per VEHS governance.
Comment: It should be a VEHS decision who we want to put forward, not GVHA's as to who they want to accept. *Response:* VEHS voted in the past to agree to the process that the GVHA put forward.

Since there were more than three nominees, voting occurred by secret ballot rather than by acclamation as per section 4 of the VEHS Constitution.

Results of Ballots

One person with most votes and a three-way tie. VEHS will put all four names forward for the one position on the GVHA Board.

Motion to destroy the ballots. Leslie Welsh moved, Brian Henry seconded. All in favour. Carried

3. VEHS Strategic Priorities for 2016 - 2017

The board presented the VEHS strategic priorities for 2016 – 17:

1. Communications:

Core business:

- Ongoing publicity - topical speakers, promoting awareness of harbor
- Ongoing expansion of VEHS membership

Priority actions for 2016 – 17:

- Harbour tourism forum/ mixer
- Harbour tour for local politicians and media to highlight working harbour assets and issues

2. Collaboration with other harbour interests:

Core business:

- Supporting and promoting awareness of harbour development
- Guiding, supporting and influencing the direction of harbour-related programs and projects
- Opportunities for hands-on experience e.g. cable ship tour
- Ongoing liaison w/Songhees and Esquimalt First Nations.

Priority actions for 2016 – 17:

- Input to Ogden Point planning process
- Involvement with Inner Harbour planning process
- Support for cruise and other activities
- Continue fundraising for VEHS bursary in the marine trades.

3. Initiatives/Issues:

Core business:

- Identifying and influencing planning and regulatory initiatives and actions
- Influencing the management & resolution of harbour issues that impede and impair VEHS objectives.

Priority actions for 2016 – 17:

- Increased focus on environmental issues and initiatives in and around the Harbour
- Marine trails – Victoria Waterways Loop initiative
- Survey of harbourfront businesses for enhancement to their waterfront, potential.

Comments:

- VEHS membership should be open, but need members who are passionate re our harbours.
- Suggestion for a speaker on the new Blue Bridge and its impact on harbour environment.
- VEHS has an opportunity to move forward as the voice of the harbour. Need good communication – e.g., newsletter. Jackie Suzanne is working on the newsletter and has a draft that will be sent around.
- Update on website. Have hired a new web designed and is almost ready to Beta test.

Motion to approve proposed Strategic Priorities for 2016 - 2017

Leslie Welsh moved. Kim Young seconded. All approved. Carried.

4. Ogden Point rezoning – VEHS input to Ogden Point rezoning process

There are two steps to the Ogden Point Master Plan - rezoning and plan implementation. Does VEHS support the rezoning. Members have already spoken about concerns re the hotel. Two proposals: (1) support the rezoning without a hotel; (2) support the rezoning with other provisions

Discussion 1:

Proposal (a): VEHS supports the rezoning without a hotel.

Comments:

- Concern that a hotel is not appropriate and can end up curtailing activity on working harbour.
- This is about rezoning, not the actual developments – can we support rezoning and deal with development proposals down the road?
- Want no form of residential on the property.

Motion to accept proposal (a)

Mark Braithwaite moved, Bernie Talbot seconded. All favoured. Carried.

Discussion 2 (presented by Mark Braithwaite ILWU):

Proposal (b): Ogden Point rezoning must not convert existing laydown area to permanent buildings.

Rationale: If Ogden Point is to continue to serve the water there needs to be a significant amount of laydown area. This proposal seeks no permanent buildings where parking lot open space is to maintain laydown area

Comments:

- The property has been open over 100 years and is vital to the future of the deep sea port.
- A large laydown area is not required. The bigger cruise ships will only need 10% more area.
- Buildings will support employed cruise ship workers.
- The rezoning is about high level concepts. Do not want to limit GVHA's options for the future potential of OP.
- There will be opportunities after the rezoning to communicate VEHS concerns as development proposals are presented. During the implementation plan VEHS is to be consulted with.
- The priority is to keep residential out.

No support for the motion to accept proposal b).

Proposed an amended motion that VEHS formally support GVHA's application to rezone with one exception, that the rezoning not include a hotel and that there be no residential development.

Moved by Kim Young, seconded by Brian Henry. All favoured. Carried.

What is the next step from the motion?

The VEHS Board to submit a letter to GVHA stating the VEHS position

Send it to the CEO and chair of GVHA.

Will not take the matter up with the City at this point – will see where this goes.



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5. Announcements

Clarification: the GVHA Board no longer has a plan to eliminate the public input session at its quarterly public meetings.

November 8, 2016 VEHS member meeting cancelled. Social gathering on November 15 instead

BC Maritime Museum Thursday, November 13th, Discovery of the Erebus and the Terror.

Bernie Talbot moved to adjourn, Leslie Welsh seconded.