

# VEHS Meeting 13/04/2021

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13 April 2021 / 5pm / Via Zoom

## ATTENDEES

Nathan Bird, [Lyle Soetaert](#), Denton Pendergast, Jonathan Secter, Bernie Talbot, Dave Cowen, Don Prittie, Ryan Burles, Austin Willson, Courtney Crisp, Doug Crowder, Jane Vermeulen, Jordan Welch, Matthias Pahnke, Paul Bruce, Craig Norris, Jurgen Pokrandt, Gary Leibel, Mark Stevens, Hannah Horn, Anna Poustie, Mark Brathwaite, Leslie Welsh

## AGENDA

Chair call to order and introductions Called to Order: 5:05pm

Approval of agenda -- Jordan, Don as a second

Approval of the Minutes of February 16, 2020 VEHS Member meeting -- Craig, seconded by Ryan

Presentation: Denton Pendergast,

- Ship Building, deep roots of maritime history in Victoria. Thank you, Denton!
- 350 - 400 stories on the Harbour History Site. Please visit!  
<https://www.victoriaharbourhistory.com/>
- Denton will be making the same presentation to the Victoria PlaceMaking Society <https://victoriaplacemaking.ca/>

## Chair's Report

- Sad news about John Sanderson's passing since the last members' meeting

- As a thank you, VEHS purchased a set of indigenous-designed forks. Was appreciated by Sandra (John's wife)
  - We're following up to ensure a publication about John will be in a local newspaper
- Talked to James Bay Anglers' Association. They have spoken with GVHA regarding ramp, facility. Positive meeting
- Derelict (Dead) Boats Society (Gary Leibel -- Ralmax)
  - \$2M Contract will be awarded to Songhees Nation to deal with 100 derelict vessels
    - This will create jobs, and skills for the Nation
    - Ralmax supports the ability for the Nation(s) to contribute to this part of our economy. Excited for this opportunity
- Sat in on the Chamber of Commerce discussion with Rob Fleming
  - Not much interest into the ferry from Royal Bay to downtown (yet)
- Spoke with David Leverton, who has since left his post at the Maritime Museum
  - Langford opportunity has not gone through
  - VEHS will do its best to support the Maritime Museum as much as we can
- Sat in on a few COVE presentations (east coast). They seem to be ahead of where we're at on the west coast
  - VEHS has offered for COVE Members to present at a members' meeting
- Attended the GVHA's tour of physical properties. Gave some good perspective

**Craig Norris Report on COAST <https://canadacoast.ca/>**

- WD Funding was over March 31, 2021
- Report is being submitted. Will show what the next 6 - 12 months will look like
- Where is going to live/go? (Tremendous online presence already). Location TBD -- waiting for funding
- Discussions with Feds still going on. Very positive and receiving support from (in particular) three ministers
- Babcock Canada, the Naval Base and BC Ferries are the major players
- Physical location(s) will be (tough). Still working through this process

- Not a lot of west coast members. Encouraged everyone to get onto their newsletter (it's free!)

## Treasurer's Report -- Ryan Burles, Treasurer

- Currently 54 members
- Chequing: \$4,860.57
- VEHS David Featherby Award: \$128.33
- Savings: \$13,568.19

## GVHA rep report -- Ryan Burles, GVHA Rep

- With cruise cancelled until February, 2022 there was talk about a 'waiver' to allow cruise ships to not have to land in a foreign port
  - CEO Ian Robertson felt this might not happen
- Prep-time for cruising is minimum 60 - 90 days
- Finances (down 70% without Cruise) continue to be a high priority
  - Many projects/wish-list items are being delayed/shelved until the resumption of Cruise
- GVHA wishes to thank Horizon and CHEK News for picking up the tab for the Welcome to Victoria Flowers on the south side of the causeway
- Shore Power -- still don't know if Province or the Feds will contribute
- Reduction in staffing levels
- Strategic Meeting was held today (April 13)
  - Diversification and optimization of existing properties were discussed

## Committee Reports

### Communications -- Hannah Horn

- Transport Canada is looking for input for (changes) to the Marine Act
- Vancouver Island Economic Alliance is holding a meeting April 29 from 11a - 12p -- will be included in the newsletter
- If anyone is interested in volunteering for any of our committees, please let us know

## Events/Social, Nathan Bird

- No updates. Still hoping for something in September (in-person)

## Governance, Christina Clarke

- Board Skills Matrix has been completed
  - Strong in many areas, but we're looking for some assistance in other areas. Doing the ByLaw Reviews to possibly change "sectors", to allow for more skills to enter the board
  - This might lead us to reaching out to some members

Anna Poustie will pass along the notes from the GVHA's communications plan, which is pivoting. Ian (CEO) is lobbying different levels of government. VCIA will push a communications plan that prioritizes the diversity of employment opportunities. This will tie in nicely with what the VEHS members do. This is in an aim to create better story-telling. GVHA also wants to be more engaged with the community. CLIA and GVHA will take on communicating the positive facets of the cruise industry

- VEHS will do our best to listen to all sides of the cruise-debate and to hear what our members/community have to say and how they're affected
  - Victoria Operators need to speak to the positives of cruise. PNWTS and other companies have "gone green". Somehow, the voices of the (cruise) naysayers are more easily-heard than the other side

Jordan Welch brought up the recent Op-Ed written by Ian Robertson (GVHA CEO) in the Times Colonist <https://www.timescolonist.com/opinion/op-ed/comment-it-s-time-to-discuss-a-roadmap-to-re-opening-our-borders-1.24305595>

## Membership, Jordan Welch

- Encouraging our members to work in tandem with each other
- VEHS Board is available for a call. Call us and let's make this harbour better!

## Risk Management, Paul Bruce

- Still working with VicPD to align VFD, Harbour Patrol, VicPD for operations in the harbour

### Economic Impact Study

- VEHS has been requested to review the study
- HDR (company that ran the report) did a nice job

### Announcements CLOSE

Motion to adjourn -- Gary Leibel, Seconded by Dave Cowen