



MINUTES OF PUBLIC MEETING #87

Greater Victoria Harbour Authority
Held at 5:30 p.m. on November 7, 2013
Hotel Grand Pacific – 463 Belleville Street, Victoria BC

Directors & Resources in Attendance:

Directors:

Bill Wellburn, Chair	David Everett
Chief Andy Thomas, Vice Chair	Shellie Gudgeon
Barbara Desjardins, Secretary	Pete Hartman
Doug Crowder, Treasurer	Graham Hill
Dave Cowen	David Marshall
Christina Clarke	Paul Ridout

Resources:

Curtis Grad, President & CEO	Rebecca Penz, Manager, Stakeholder Engagement & First Nations Initiatives
Mike Graham, Chief Technical Officer	Julia Park, Recording Secretary
Sonterra Ross, Chief Operating Officer	
John Briant, Manager, Western Stevedoring	

1. Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

2. Introduction of Guests

The Chair introduced Marg Gardiner, President, JBNA, meeting presenter. Deane Strongitharm, City Spaces.

3. Approval of Agenda

PB/M-2012-11-07 - #001 MOVED and SECONDED THAT the agenda is approved.

CARRIED

4. Declarations of Conflicts of Interest

- Barbara Desjardins, potential conflict in her capacity of director of the Victoria Regional Transit Commission, should any discussion around contracts arise, and CRD matters
- David Everett, potential conflict in his capacity of Chair of the Provincial Capital Commission (PCC), owner of the Steamship Building, a building leased by GVHA; and discussions re Belleville Precinct, owned by PCC
- Dave Cowen, an indirect conflict with ground transportation through his affiliation with Butchart Gardens
- Doug Crowder – Salish Sea Industrial Services Ltd., potential conflict as his employer (Ralmax) is a partner in the company
- Christina Clarke – Salish Sea Industrial Services Ltd. – potential conflict with her involvement with the company

- Chief Andy Thomas - Salish Sea Industrial Services Ltd., potential conflict as his Nation is a partner in the company
- Shellie Gudgeon – Fisherman's Wharf rezoning (recuses herself at City Council deliberations on this topic)
- Graham Hill – potential conflict as an elected official and appointee to CRD

5. Presentations

5.1 Fisherman's Wharf Rezoning Update (CitySpaces)

Deane Strongitharm of CitySpaces gave an update of the Fisherman's Wharf Rezoning project.

Mr. Strongitharm noted that he was part of a management company that assisted GVHA in initial transition management of facilities from Transport Canada when it was first divested in 2002. Over the past 12 years there have been huge improvements to the facilities by GVHA and Fisherman's Wharf is now one of the most unique and vibrant spots in the harbour.

An overview was given of GVHA's future plans for the facility including expansion of commercial space, working with the City on the harbour walkway and over time continued enhancement and improvement of Fisherman's Wharf. The report also emphasizes the importance of ensuring the working harbour mandate is maintained.

Board discussion included:

- An appealing tourist attraction for the region
- Future parking capacity/considerations
- Appropriate commercial uses
- Strict limitations on heights of buildings
- The pedestrian bridge at Heron Cove will be a key anchor for Fisherman's Wharf
- Future plans include reinvestment in the pier facilities
- Fuel dock is an essential service in the harbour

The Chair thanked Mr. Strongitharm for his presentation.

5.2 James Bay Neighbourhood Association – Harbour in Transition

Marg Gardiner, President, JBNA presented "Victoria Harbour Competing Interests",

The presentation centered on floatplane safety in the harbour and residential impacts. The presentation included details of harbour safety studies and rules and regulations relating to Canada Marine Act (CMA), Canada Shipping Act (CSA) and the Canada Aeronautics Act (CAA).

Discussion included:

Board - Has Transport Canada seen this presentation?

Ms. Gardiner - No, they have seen bits and pieces

Board – Transport Canada is the operator and regulator of the water airport; do you plan to show the presentation to them?

Ms. Gardiner – Yes, there have been talks and the presentation will be shown to them if they will agree to see it.

Board – Regarding your traffic scheme slide, and as a personal harbour user, paddling, etc., the Harbour Master is actively ensuring safety in the harbour, directing paddlers and others in the right direction.

Ms. Gardiner – Yes, he's been very active [keeping air/vessel traffic separated]

The Chair thanked Ms. Gardiner for her presentation.

5.3 Past Director Recognition

The Chair introduced past Director David Rand who served on GVHA's Board from July 2008 to February 2013. David served as both Board Secretary and Chair of the Governance and Nominating Committee.

The Chair thanked David for all his contribution to GVHA and for his keen interest in working collaboratively with everyone on the Board and presented him with a gift as a token of GVHA's appreciation.

6. Approval of Minutes of Previous Public Meeting

6.1 Approve minutes of Public Meeting #86 on August 15, 2013

PB/M-2013-11-07 - #002 - MOVED and SECONDED THAT the minutes of Public Meeting #86, August 15, 2013 be approved.

CARRIED

7. Report to Public from In-Camera Meeting of August 16, 2013

The Chair reported that since the last public Board meeting the following has taken place:

- The Board received and continues to discuss an opinion from legal Counsel on the recent Schlenker Decision and how it may affect GVHA directors, who are also elected officials, regarding their fiduciary duty to their public office and their fiduciary duty to GVHA
- GVHA has entered into discussions with Transport Canada regarding divestiture of the Victoria Water Airport
- GVHA is pursuing assignment and assumption the Pacific Undersea Gardens water-lot lease with the Oak Bay Marine Group and the Provincial Capital Commission.
- GVHA and JBNA have executed a non-binding Memorandum of Understanding regarding future developments/activity at Fisherman's Wharf
- GVHA has approved participating in the incorporation of a First Nations Special Purpose Company in conjunction with the Songhees and Esquimalt Nations.

8. Board Correspondence

PB/M-2013-11-07 - #003 - MOVED and SECONDED THAT the Board receives the correspondence as circulated.

CARRIED

9. Management Reporting

The P/CEO gave an overview of current strategic projects and initiatives. Focus is currently on Fisherman's Wharf, working with the Fisherman's Wharf Community Association, the local community, fishermen, commercial operators and live-aboards for input into the process. An MOU was reached with the JBNA but there is more work to do in the coming weeks and months.

Other ongoing projects include:

- Steamship Terminal (SST) restaurant fit-out – moving forward rapidly with a finish date of early December
- SST deck – seismic work is underway and project is targeted to be complete in early March 2014 – the deck is City approved and fits with the heritage design
- Hyack Terminal – repairs/reconfiguration continues, and will be in operation by year-end
- GVHA is in exploratory talks with Transport Canada regarding divestiture of the water airport, but these are early days – talks with other community stakeholders and operators will be necessary, and definitive regulations would have to be in place – insurance and liability are big concerns that will have to be reviewed

The P/CEO commended the Harbour Master for effectively managing busy and complex harbour and water airport operations.

First Nation Partnerships

- The P/CEO reported that the Special Purpose Company is close to being registered and GVHA is working with both Nations to finalize details.
- GVHA is working to involve local Nations in the economic activity in the harbour
- Work currently underway on restoration of the Hunt Pole at the Causeway (corner of Government and Belleville) by Hunt's grandson (Tony Hunt)
- The Unity Wall artists have done a great job on the mural, which is close to completion - they have added First Nations images on the outside of the breakwater
- The Unity Wall blessing for the third phase will take place in the spring of 2014

Multi-purpose/Customs Float

- The P/CEO reported that Salish Sea competed on and won the tender for construction and installation of the multi-purpose float at Ogden Point and the customs float, in its new location on the water lot fronting the Coast Hotel and Worldmark - the P/CEO thanked the Harbour Master for his assistance in getting this project completed and commended the Coast Harbourside Hotel and Worldmark for their cooperation
- The multi-purpose float is completed, and is now stored for the winter – it will be brought out in the spring in time for the cruise season for shore-excursion and water shuttle operations

Shuttle Bus

- The shuttle bus pilot project using transit buses experienced some difficulties in the first few weeks of the season, but overall it was a success – double-deckers worked well to move more passengers and the buses were well-suited for those people with mobility issues
- GVHA will review the Stantec report for the next steps and determine long term strategy

Ogden Point

- The Open House was well attended (just short of 300) and very successful
- Cruise numbers are plateauing allowing GVHA to better plan facilities for the future, not likely to see sustained double digit growth as in the past
- Ogden Point is seeing more marine commercial/industrial activity which is transforming it into a different kind of working harbour focused on services rather than commodity transport

Inner Harbour Festivals and events

The P/CEO noted in his presentation the many different notable vessels seen in the Inner Harbour over the season (i.e. the Rainbow Warrior, Athena, etc.)

The Inner Harbour hosted many diverse events over the summer:

- Classic Boat Festival
- Dragon Boat Festival
- United Way Kick-off
- Great Canadian Food Fight Mustard Seed Fundraiser
- GVHA Open House
- Breast Cancer Big Shave

The P/CEO commended Patrick Belanger, Wharfinger at Fisherman's Wharf for volunteering to have his head shaved with the donation proceeds going to cancer research - \$2300 was raised.

Up-coming Events

- Warm-up at Ogden Point
- IEOA Lighted Truck Parade
- Lighted Ship Parade

Board feedback included:

- GVHA is working with Tourism Victoria, Attractions Victoria and DVBA to create one destination map reducing waste and improving the visitor experience
- The Stantec review was a very effective way to ensure third party objectivity/evaluation on the shuttle service to determine the best way forward

Unity Wall Video

The P/CEO announced that a five minute video would be presented of the Unity Wall and the painters. The video shows firsthand images of the wall, and parts of a talk Chief Andy Thomas gave on the Douglas Treaties. The P/CEO thanked the Board for supporting the video.

Chief Andy Thomas thanked everyone who worked on the Unity Wall and those that put the video together.

The Chair thanked Chief Thomas for the Douglas Treaty talk he gave earlier in the summer at Ogden Point for the benefit of the youth painters, the Board and GVHA staff and management.

The entire talk Chief Thomas gave on the Douglas Treaties will be available on video in the near future.

10. Public Input

Dave Featherby, Victoria Harbour Master

Mr. Featherby, Victoria Harbour Master stated that the Unity Wall video was a very moving presentation and a great project, Victoria should be very proud of it. Thanks to GVHA for the positive comments regarding safe operation of the harbour, a lot of time and money goes into managing safety. The ferries are not crossing runways – he also advised attendees that handouts for the airport and how it is managed were available at the door, for those interested.

Barry Hobbis, Victoria Harbour Ferries stated that it's easy to look at safety within the statute, but "practice what you preach" is critical. Randy Wright of Harbour Air and other operators meet every month to discuss regulations, safety, etc. and it is a well-managed integration of marine and air operations.

Should Transport Canada divest the water airport, the regulations will stay in the hands of Transport Canada, and they will keep doing what they've done for 12 years.

Jack Bragg – Canadian Water Airport Society (CWAS) advised that he has been a member of the CWAS since 1998. He was the first member of the advisory council of vetting airport safety standards. Safety standards and the implications of the CMA has not been an easy job for Transport Canada, and continue to be a long process. Divesting the airport to GVHA is the best solution at present; however liability issue will be key. Mr. Bragg offered his services to GVHA in working through the various acts should there be a need in the future.

Don Prittie, GVHA Life Member stated the Unity Wall video was very touching, noting he was on the Board when the project originally began. He pointed out that Paul Servos, previous CEO worked with both Chief Thomas and Chief Sam to get the project started, and it is remarkable.

Brian Scarfe, JBNA, inquired if and when the Stantec report would be made public as there is public interest and what it means for the future. Brian stated the Marg Gardiner's presentation was meant to clarify liability concerns if GVHA took over the airport. He also expressed the opinion that there is regulatory incoherence in sorting out the marine/air traffic and the "ask" from her presentation is a full study be commissioned for safety recommendations.

Chris Doyle – JBNA, stated that none of the marine/air regulations are being followed in the harbour and he doesn't believe it is safe. He also stated concerns around the lighting at the south end of Ogden Point.

Mike Graham, CTO replied that the lighting has been looked at and GVHA will be making certain improvement by next cruise season.

Paul Servos, Resident (and former GVHA CEO), stated that the breakwater handrails and the mural are great enhancements to the breakwater.

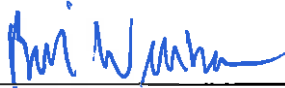
The Chair thanked Mr. Servos for his comments, and for his past contributions GVHA as CEO.

11. Motion to Adjourn – Moving In-Camera

PB/M-2013-11-07 - #004 – MOVED and SECONDED THAT under section 33 (2) (b) the Board may exclude from the meeting, all persons other than the Directors and officers of the Society, as it is in the opinion of the Board that the public interest requires the exclusion.

CARRIED

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 pm.



Bill Wellburn, Chair

Recording Secretary

12. Members of the Public in Attendance:

Stephen Baxter, Helijet
Jack Bragg
Margaret Bragg
Tom Coyle, JBNA
Chris Doyle, JBNA
Adam, Faria, GVHA
Dave Featherby, Harbour Master
Marg Gardiner, JBNA
Barry Hobbs, VHF
Peter Lehman, JBNA
Don Prittie, Life Member
Janis Ringuette, JBNA
Brian Scarfe, JBNA
Corey Schofield, Resident
Paul Servos, Resident
Bob Vander Steen, JBNA
Phil Westoby, Western Stevedoring
Randy Wright, Life Member