

SOS 1000 ISLANDS MEETING MINUTES

DATE: Tuesday, March 9th, 2021

LOCATION: Zoom meeting

PRESENT: Tom Scott, Stephen Hatch, Sharon Van Schyndel, Stéphan Senécal, Helen Cooper, Neil and Gail O’Hare, Matthew Charlesworth, Gaétan Grondin, Dominique Gingras and Nathalie Landry.

REGRETS:

Agenda: Motion to approve the agenda for March 9th, 2021:

Motion: Stéphan Senécal, 2nd Gaétan Grondin

Approved

Meeting called to order at 7:01 p.m.

⚓ **Previous Meeting Minutes**

Tom Scott asked Nathalie Landry to produce the minutes of our last meeting at our next meeting.

⚓ **Election for 2021 Board Executive of 1000 Islands Chapter**

President: - Stéphan Senécal

Vice-President: - Helen Cooper

Treasurer: - Stephen Hatch

Moorings Coordinator: - Stéphan Senécal

Secretary: - Nathalie Landry

⚓ **Financial Report Steve**

○ SOS Year End Bank Balance as of December 31 st , 2020	\$11,555.25
○ Dave Cooper Memorial Fund project balance	\$2,837.24
○ Adjusted SOS bank balance	\$8,718.01
○ 22-Feb-21, Cheque #212 City of Brockville 2020 Tokens	-\$2,731.02
○ 26-Feb-21, Cheque #213 Ketchum Token Invoice	-\$678.00
○ 01-Mar-21, E-Transfer Token Sales – EPSO	\$450.00
○ Adjusted SOS bank balance as of March 1st, 2021	\$5,759.00

Motion to approve payment of \$2,731.02 to City of Brockville, being their 50% share of the token revenue for 2020 with cheque # 212.

Motion: Tom Scott, 2nd Matthew Charlesworth

Approved

Motion to approved payment of \$678,00 to Ketchum in payment for our 2021 token with cheque # 213.

Motion: Gaétan Grondin, 2nd Helen Cooper

Approved



Report from the Board – Matthew Charlesworth

- Save Ontario Shipwrecks received our Provincial Grant and part of the funds were used to purchase moorings and anchoring equipment as well as to purchase marketing material.
- The new moorings have been received at RJ Equipment.
- The 2021 AGM will be held virtually via a ZOOM Webinar on Sunday, May 16, 2021. All members are invited and the complete agenda and meeting details will be sent out eventually.
- The board talked about the possibility of doing photogrammetry of all the wrecks in our lakes and river.
- SOS Website issues – It seems that SOS Website was hacked and they had some issues with it.
- The board had a talk about the request from Thousand Islands Chapter to have a look at the feasibility of bringing an artificial reef in the Brockville area.
- Dominique Gingras asked if it was normal that Chris Phinney is the owner of the domain name of the SOS Website and asked that the domain name be handed over to SOS.
- Matthew Charlesworth will follow-up with the board regarding our Chapter submitted application for the Summer Experience Program.



Mooring Report – Stéphan Senécal

- Ice is slowly melting.
- The 2 jugs on the Robert Gaskin and on the fireworks site are still standing. Helen Cooper said that she will message a friend and ask for the ones on the Muskegon and maybe ask Jeremy Hobbs to look over those on the Henry C. Daryaw.
- Stéphan Senécal said that the buoys are ready to be put in place as soon as the ice is gone and weather permitted. He said that the Underwater Task Force formed last year will be there and that he plans to split the team in two, the 1st team will have the task of locating and inspecting the rope, chain and equipment used to secure everything and, the 2nd team will deploy and secure the buoys.
- Kinghorn: the chain and the ascent line on the North mooring must be changed.

- Stéphan Senécal and Stephen Hatch went to visit the Coast Guard in Prescott and they had a talk with Christoph Opalka and his boss Dave about the mandate of SOS and we ask them if they were willing to help us by donating some old steel buoys (and other stuff) that are now surplus. They confirm that they could, they want to help us as much as possible, so after the visit, Stephen Hatch wrote them a letter in which we describe all the stuff that was interesting for us and that could be donated to our chapter. Waiting for an official answer from them. – **Action Item: Stéphan Senécal and Stephen Hatch**

⚓ Token Project

- We sold 712 tokens for 2020 for a total token income amount of \$6,408.00. Out of that amount, we had \$945.97 in marketing and expenses for a total profit of \$5,462.03. Everybody at the meeting said that the amount was outstanding considering our late start for the diving season due to the pandemic. Since the beginning of this token project in 2015, we sold a total of 4,142 tokens for a total token income amount of \$37,278.00. Out of that amount, \$6,943.55 was for marketing and expenses for a total profit of \$30,334.45. Over the years, we gave the City of Brockville \$17,573.68 and we made \$12,760.77 in profit.
- Stephen Hatch gave a cheque in the amount of \$2,731.02 to the City of Brockville for their 2020 share (50%) of our tokens' program on February 22, 2021.
- Tom Scott gave his presentation to the City of Brockville on March 2, 2021. He said that the City was pleased with our Reynold' Yard plan and that they will contact us soon. Since then, we received emails from the Mayor saying he was pleased with our work and from City Manager saying that some staff will contact us to look at everything.
- DBIA: Tom Scott mentioned that there is somebody new. We have agreed not to solicit any company to offer us discounts considering that they have already suffered a lot from the pandemic.
- We have 5 new vendors for tokens.

⚓ Sculpture Park

- **Pamphlet about Save Ontario Shipwrecks protocols (Marine Heritage):** no update. Stephen Hatch will follow with Tom Scott regarding the files and see what he can do. – **Action Item Tom Scott and Stephen Hatch. Stéphan Senécal to provide Steve Hatch a copy of any pamphlets that we want printed.**
- **Sculpture for 2021:** It was discussed at the meeting that since nobody is doing any sculpture, we could search for finding one already done and maybe put some more money into this, around \$2,000-\$2,500. Dominique Gingras has showed us a Neptune's sculpture that he found on the Internet near Guelph and said that he will follow-up with the company for the price of it. Helen Cooper said that she will

follow with her friend in the coming week about some sculptures and she also said that on the road in Picton, there is a place with some sculptures and that she will go and take a look. Stéphan Senécal and Stephen Hatch said that if we don't find anything for this year, we could surely do something with the old buoys from the Coast Guard.

- **Sculptures' Park Map:** Dominique Gingras is still working on it and should be done soon. He was waiting for the orientation of the sculptures to make sure that the map was right. - **Action Item: Dominique Gingras**
- **Sign for the City:** Dave Sheridan is still waiting after the Brock Trail committee for the finalization of the sign. – **Action Item Dave Sheridan**
- **Annual Sculpture Day, Clean-up Dive and BBQ:** We discuss the feasibility of doing something in June but we all the uncertainty regarding the pandemic and our insurance coverage, we decided to cancel the event for this year.



Dave Cooper Memorial Fund

- Current project balance \$2,837.24
- We are awaiting the City of Brockville to give us a go for the Reynold's Yard project. We need to complete the final design drawings; Steve Hatch will follow up with CRCA and Phil Wood for the required permits. - **Action Item: Steve Hatch and Stéphan Senécal**



SOS T-shirts and SOS Toques

- We did the inventory of t-shirts and toques and we still have 28 t-shirts and 66 toques. We had a discussion about ordering more t-shirts and decided that the t-shirt with the map of Centeen Park was the best vendor and since most of them are sold via Helen Cooper's store, we had nothing to lose, and decided to order some, but in the bigger sizes. – **Action Item: Stéphan Senécal to confirm inventory and decide what to order. Steve Hatch will place the order.**

Motion to approve the ordering of more t-shirts.

Motion: Tom Scott, 2nd Nathalie Landry



Updates:

- **Buttons:** Helen Cooper said that the buttons last year were a very good hit. She said that she would order more. - **Action Item: Helen Cooper**
- **Aquarium:**
 - Interactive map: – No update. – **Action Item: Dave Sheridan**
 - Artificial reef: We are still talking with them. Lesley White and Katrine Hobbs are looking at some grant that we could apply for. Tom Scott

mentioned that the committee at the City of Brockville was less enthusiastic about our plan for an artificial reef and science center. If we plan this project, it will be more feasible into the boundaries of the harbor since it is considered like a river lot. We have to first find the boundaries of the harbor in Brockville, Tom Scott found somebody at the City who knows about it. Stéphan Senécal approached Queen's University to know if they could be interested in our project of collecting data from the river in Brockville and he is awaiting an answer from them. Steve Hatch will draft two letters to Steve Clark & Michael Barrett, MP & MPP, Leeds, Grenville, Thousand Islands and Rideau Lakes District, explaining the SOS mission and our artificial reef project. We are still looking for a boat or other exhibit that could fit our requirements. – **Action Item: Tom Scott, Stephen Hatch, Helen Cooper and Stéphan Senécal**

- **Slates of our Underwater Sculptures Park:** Dominique Gingras and Stephen Hatch are working on it. **Action Item: Dominique Gingras and Stephen Hatch. Stephen Hatch will order printed copies when design is completed.**



New Business:

- Rotary Club asked if SOS will be willing to help with their River Clean-up scheduled for April 25, 2021? We discussed this demand and since we have issue with the pandemic and our insurance coverage, it was decided not to participate. Tom Scott will contact Mark Fournier to explain our decision. – **Action Item: Tom Scott**
- Stéphan Senécal mentioned that the sign near the pipe going to the Robert Gaskin is in a bad shape and should be replaced. He proposed that we could make a sign similar to the sign used in cave diving indicating the danger not trained divers face using this line. We discussed it. Stephen Hatch said that Henderson Printing or D&D could make the sign. We could make 3 or 4 sign and use them at the Robert Gaskin and Kinghorn sites and have some in inventory. The sign could be octagonal, like a stop sign and can be put at both end of the wrecks. Stephen Hatch said that he would ask a quote from Ketchum and D&D. – **Action Item: Stephen Hatch**
- Neil O'Hare will prepare 2 wood and plastic pallet platforms to be sunk in the water park in Prescott. He mentioned that he asked the Ottawa Chapter for \$1,000.00 to make them. We said that if he needs some hands that we could help him. Steve Hatch said that he will contact John Ratcliff and see with him. – **Action Item: Neil O'Hare and Stephen Hatch**



Next Meeting: April 13, 2021 via Zoom or in person if permitted.



Adjournment: 21:20 p.m. Motion: Dominique Gingras