

Minutes of Annual Winter Meeting

Date: January 19, 2008

Attendance:

Sam Jeyes, Tim Reicher, Joey Savoie, Mark Dean, Blake Daley, Tim Parker, Brendon McKenna, Michael Fuller, Mark Dempsey, Brian Wheaton, Ken Woods, Trevor (and Britney) Romo, Randy Corcoran, Carl Cameron (behind the bar)

President Brendon made a lovely introduction and welcomed all those present to the annual winter meeting of 2008.

The Minutes of the Annual Winter Meeting of 2007 were read and adopted as read.

The following reports were received:

1. Treasurer's Report- Tim Parker

Discussed possibility of becoming a charitable society to be able to recover a portion of the HST we pay out. This is to be investigated further.

2. Safety Report- Blake Daley

The importance of reporting all accidents and incidents to HPAC was stressed. Blake indicated this can be done online or alternatively can be reported directly to him. Even minor incidents such as equipment damage when launching should be reported. It was indicated there is a need to discuss all incidents, especially among ourselves, so that we can all learn from others incidents.

Sam Jeyes stressed the importance of keeping the top landing area of Fox River clear as it is quite small. A discussion of assisted launches and the need for communication between pilot and the person assisting the pilot was emphasized. It was indicated that there was a need for all pilots to loudly announce their intention to come in and top land so to alert all those on the ground.

3. National Report- Michael Fuller

Michael expressed that there was a concern that the criteria for instructors was being lessened and likely the basis for this was that National did not want to discourage people from becoming instructors. Of course, the flip side is less qualified instructors.

There was a discussion regarding Air magazine and the method of delivery. Our group voted overwhelmingly to retain the paper version, which could be combined with an electronic version. Todd had the excellent idea that members could simply indicate in their profile how they wish to receive Air magazine.

Michael then presented our very own Judith Newman with the Jamie Christensen award (in Judith's absence). Jamie Christensen was a HPAC member and paragliding instructor who contributed greatly to our sport. The award is made annually to an individual who has made significant contributions to the sports of hang gliding/ paragliding. Judith has contributed immensely especially with respect to website building, development and maintenance. Editor in Chief, Mark Dempsey was entrusted with the very important task of delivering the award to Judith and to partake in the photo-op so that a photo and byline could be sent for publication in Air. Mark welcomed the opportunity of being in a photo with an award, even if it was not his. It may be the closest he ever gets. Krista Wells had made an excellent award plaque which was unique in design and construction. Mark agreed to be responsible to forward the photo to Air and Michael would forward the byline. There was a loud round of applause for Judith.

Next, Michael had the very pleasant task of announcing that our very own Blake Daley had won the Cliff Kakish award which is an annual award given to a member for unselfish commitment to all aspects of the sports of hang gliding and paragliding. Blake was present to receive his award which was a beautiful hand carving of polar bears expertly mounted by our very own Randy Corcoran. There was a loud round of applause for Blake as all of our members clearly acknowledged what he has done for our sport.

4. Website

There was some discussion of HPAAC getting our own website. The West Coast Soaring Club was put forward as an example. The cost would be approximately \$75.00 per year.

It was moved by Michael Fuller and seconded by Randy Corcoran that we proceed to get our own website. The motion was passed.

Todd generously agreed to work with Judith on this project.

5. Half Island Launch Report

Mark Dempsey reported having made recent contact with Cathy Milner of Natural Resources and waiting for a reply as to whether the provincial government would entertain our request to alter the top of the cliff at Half Island to make a launch similar to Fox River. Stay tuned.

6. Atlantic In-Flight

Mark Dempsey reported that the presses were being readied for the Winter 2008 version of Atlantic In-Flight and informed all those present that despite popular belief, in fact he was not responsible for the bulk of the work to produce Atlantic

In-Flight, but rather Monika Wright. Sam Jeyes kindly indicated that he would assist with the printing of Atlantic In-Flight. Randy Corcoran suggested a new feature being to profile a launch site in each issue.

7. Point Prim

Brendan McKenna indicated that the PEI pilots were going to make contact with the land owner who owned part of the launch site there and that likely they would deal with this issue in the spring of 2008.

8. Old Business

The rule of no hang glider top landings at West Bay was reinforced. It is to be policed by our own flying community. We were again reminded that as pilots, we must always be safety conscious and expect the unexpected.

9. New Business

It was discussed that we could hold the annual general meeting after a regular meeting and that both of these meetings could be held at the May Fly-In Festival. Much discussion ensued regarding the Maritime Challenge, Tim Reicher's brain child. Tim indicated that due to low registration and participation last year that he was thinking of canceling the Maritime Challenge. The group as a whole indicate to Tim everyone was in favor of keeping the Maritime Challenge and very much appreciated his efforts in conceiving it and developing it. We managed to convince Tim to run the Maritime Challenge again for 2008 with a considered effort by all those present to register and participate in the Challenge. After much discussion, it was decided that Dennis Beach would be dropped from the Maritime Challenge with the three legs being the May Fly-In, June Tow Jam, and Welsford.

10. May Fly-In Festival

Michael reported that the usual format would be followed.

11. Site Maintenance- Dennis Beach

Brendon indicated that he would contact Mike Fougere to discuss Mike's suggestion that we send \$50.00 annually to the owners of the ASHAK cottages towards their expenses of maintaining our launch at Dennis Beach. This would cover gas expenses, etc.

Brian Wheaton moved and Blake Daley seconded it that HPAAC look into donating \$50.00 per year towards the Dennis Beach launch site expenses to be paid to ASHAK cottages once Brendon reports back after discussing the issue with Mike Fougere. The motion was passed.

12. It was discussed that it would be a good idea to keep poles (15 feet-20 feet in length) at each launch site for removing lines/ wings from the bushes/ trees, which would avoid the necessity of people having to climb trees, which is always a potentially dangerous event. Randy Corcoran generously agreed to procure the poles for the Parrsboro area launches and Trevor Romo for the Half Island/ Lawrencetown site. There was a lively discussion between Randy and Brian as to where and how Randy could procure the 15 foot-20 foot poles.
13. Michael Fuller reported that Harold, the land owner at Hungry Hill, passed away in December. Brendon is to send a sympathy card to Pat expressing our condolences.
14. Michael also indicated that as a result of heavy rains that the road leading to the Hidden Falls launch was in need of repair work. Michael Fuller moved and Todd Andrew seconded it that the Hidden Falls road be maintained appropriately. The motion was passed.
15. Also, it was discussed that wind socks must be replaced including Hidden Falls. Approval was given to purchase three wind socks from Kiss the Sky at a cost of \$15.00 each.

Randy thanked Blake Daley and Chris Ball for the excellent work they did on the High Head launch and approaches. Sam Jeyes thanked everyone for making him feel welcome and helping him with his first launch at Fox River.

There being no further business, the meeting basically disintegrated and those in attendance wandered away. The time was approximately 10:00 p.m.