



MINUTES OF THE 56th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF VOGELVLEI YACHT CLUB HELD ON THE 20 MAY 2017 AT 11.18am

PRESENT – 34

(Senior voting members per the Attendance Register, signed on the day. 25 required for quorum)

Bev Le Sueur	John Mossner	Basil Cackett
Hendrik Schmidt	Rose Collins	Hein Brits
Kim Hatjigiannakis	Robert Sansom	David Krumbock
Danie Snyman	Natasha Sansom	Pat Bytheway
Colin Engel	Brad Stemmett	James Magner
Bert Collins	Saskia Stemmett	Norman Kearley
Dave Bytheway	Diane Webb	Grant Vincent
Paul Kotze	Kevin Webb	Natalie Vincent
Helen Kotze	Sarel Vd Merwe	Sean Le Sueur
Mark Tame	Andre Uys	
Bev Shaw	Stef Dinkelacker	
M L Meyer	Vincent Osborn	

APOLOGIES – 21

Janet Bytheway	Grant Ballantyne	Mel Meyer
Des Green*	Kirsten Veenstra*	Belinda Meyer
Jan Yntema*	Ian McRobert*	Edgar Morris
Kinny Yntema*	John Walmsley	June Morris
Craig Avery	Eileen Walmsley	Francois Cantin
Belinda Avery	Joost Smit	Gideon Snyman
George Hatjigiannakis*	Lyndsey Smit	Penelope Engel

PROXIES - 6

As indicated via asterisk (*) above

The Attendance Register was read. Apologies were noted as well as Proxies.

Commodore, Bev le Sueur (BLS), confirmed that quorum was present, welcomed everyone to the AGM.

BLS asked if everyone could stand and give a moments silence for all the loved ones that had been lost in the last season.

BLS thanked those who contributed platters of eats.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS A.G.M.

The Minutes of the previous AGM were accepted; proposed by N Kearley and seconded by D Bytheway.

MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

No matters from the previous Minutes were raised.

TREASURER'S REPORT - 2017

Cherona Vlok (CV) proceeded to read her Report as follows:-

Auditors have not yet finalized the AFS (annual financial statements), however, final profit has not been established due to stock change at end of year from R 33, 392.00 (2016) to R 9, 962.00 (2017), interest on HP (Fish Eagle) and depreciations.

Bank Balances as at 20th May 2017

- * FNB Money Market – R 109, 125.00
- * FNB Current Account – R 13, 672.00
- * Petty Cash – R 26, 503.00
- * Outstanding Membership Fees – R 46, 149.00

Fish Eagle was re-pontooned during the year at a cost of R 15, 000.00, of which R 5, 000.00 was donated by Bev le Sueur. The last payment on the HP is due at the end of this month (May 2017)

SAS Fees were paid in 3 Batches. This will be finalized once all fees are recovered from debtors. Total holding of cash, bank and outstanding debtors is R 195, 449.00.

Will all members please note that our Nedbank Account has been closed.

Payments to be made into our FNB Account, details of which have been provided.

Based on the prior subs and fees, we've proposed an average increase of 6.8% as per the schedule for 2017/2018

Closing Treasurer,
Cherona Vlok, Vogelvlei Yacht Club
2016/2017

CV tabled the Budget for the 2017-2018 season. Proposed by Norman Kearley and seconded by Paul Kotze. No objections were received.

COMMODORE'S REPORT – 2017

BLS proceeded to read her report as follows:

I would like to begin by thanking our Committee for their hard work and dedication to our Club.

Our Season ends today and I for one, hope that with it, ends the VYC slump. After numerous conversations both at our Club as well as chatting to other Clubs it is evident that this slump is not unique to our Club. In fact, it is not unique to Sailing. People's lives and priorities change, our children age out or we have to compete with other outdoor activities; some of which use less equipment and take far less time to get going. It is common knowledge that people of all ages today now demand instant gratification. Sailing does not fit this bill.

That being said, to the handful of members (mostly volunteers) that arrived at every Calendar event this Season, we say thank you. We have remained committed to our Club and served.

Each and every member is challenged to pick up the pace and commence the climb out of the slump ahead of our new season. The Calendar is on display and all members present are encouraged to volunteer to serve their Club at these events by adding their name under the respective columns; Bridge / Safety / Photographers / Shore Crew. One exciting change is that we have combined our Winter Olympics and 3-Legged Race; now referred to as the VYC Olympiad, followed by our Opening Cruise. This fun event takes place on 19 August 2017 and will once again include our kiddie circuit as well as karaoke (back by popular demand following 6 hours of incredible fun last month).

Another exciting project for the new season is the commencement of a "Let's go Sailing" Program where we hope to attract youth to our Club and allow more fun to be had on the water and ultimately increasing the base of active sailors at our Club. We are also hoping to participate in a National Open Youth Sailing Day where Clubs across all Regions will showcase sailing to the public and encourage new blood to join our Sport.

For those of you who attended our Prize Giving earlier, you will have witnessed that not a single Sailing Trophy was awarded this season. The reasons were quite simply; lack of support and/or weather conditions. Of great importance to the Committee, is that our Prize Giving honoured our volunteers who served our Club this season with great pride and for your dedication, we thank you.

VYC's facelift will continue this season. Regarding the dam wall itself; it has been confirmed that it will not be raised. Dept of Water Affairs are hoping to have a weir operational by 2019 whereby overflow between the dam and the Berg River will be in place. We have requested a direct line to supply VYC and this will replace our current pump set up.

After serving on the VYC Committee since May 2011 in various portfolios, I will be stepping down today as the first woman Commodore of Vogelvlei Yacht Club. There is still much to be done by our Club as far as Development and Transformation is concerned together with the necessity to formalise the Cape Winelands Sailing Federation. Although we attempted each of these tasks this season, it seems the few willing members were not sufficient to achieve the required goals. Your new Commodore will also fill the role of Chairperson of the Voelvlei Management Committee when I step down at the AGM next month. I would like to thank those who supported me personally as well as our Committee and wish VYC well on her new journey.

Bev le Sueur, Commodore, 20 May 2017

BLS handed over to Hein Brits (HB) for his Vice Commodore's report

VICE COMMODORE'S REPORT

House and Grounds:

A lot of changes were made during this season. Combination lock fitted to club house as well as having a fridge, microwave and kettle made available to members during non-sailing weekends. The pool table and table tennis equipment were also made available.

With this however came certain challenges. Security found the club house unlocked and equipment breakages occurred.

Against the wall of the ladies ablution outside wall a sink has been relocated and now has hot water in the right hand side.

Outside LED spotlights have been fitted and now lights up the braai area better.

The junior sailing shed is almost complete with just the gates still to be fitted. This shed now houses the O9'ers, Toppers and Oppies.

The grass, or should I say the lack thereof needs no explanation. As you are all aware water restrictions were imposed at our Club too.

Bar and Galley

To the members that attended the regattas and supported the bar and galley, thank you very much. For all the ladies lending a helping hand in the galley and bar, thank you very much.

I think the best attended regatta was the Tour de Vlei. Once again we had Eisbein on sale but with a difference. It was not smoked but rather pickled, boiled and steamed. I just had to grill it here at the Vlei.

Not all the regattas were well attended and there was one where there was more bridge crew than actual competitors.

Hein Brits, Vice Commodore, 2016 2017 Season

BLS handed over to John Mossner (JM) for the Rear commodore's report

REAR COMMODORE'S REPORT

Safety

The boats, radios and other equipment are in good condition. Again we had a core of volunteers including Hendrik Schmidt, Basil Cacket, Bev Le Sueur, Andre & Dan Uys, and other.

On the water there were no major incidents, besides the usual rescue related work. Bev Le Sueur and Hendrik Schmidt attended a SAS safety boat course at TSC in March. Andre Uys is scheduled to attend later this month. We call on volunteers for Safety to please come forward; we are in desperate need of again need of extra support.

Bridge

VYC's Bridge equipment is in place and all functional. Bridge ran well this season, as usual, with 4 teams. Our thanks go to June, Rudy, Nell, Lisa, Kim Edgar, Cherona, Bert, Pat, Dave, Margaret, Marlou, Kinny, and all the others who have helped. Thank you to House + Grounds for the maintenance at our Bridge Hut. We really need some of our other inactive, non-sailing members, juniors, ladies and gents to come forward and join the Bridge team. Without Bridge crew, we cannot run a regatta. No experience is required as you are trained on the job. Get involved! Its social, it's fun and yes, it can be really exciting too!

Junior Sailing.

We have had very few juniors on the water this season. Probably the most visible on the water has been Mel sailing with his daughters Claire and Kirsty. Also to Kerstie Reid; usually out sailing with Bev Shaw. Jonathan Brits has also been seen on the water, and is getting better with every outing. If there

are any juniors who would like to get on the water, please do come forward and let us know. Whether it be on a dinghy, cat, as a skipper or crew or passenger.

The 2016/2017 season:

SPRING REGATTA (September)

Although the wind was too strong to sail, a lot of fun was had. There is always lots to do at the club; both on & off the Vlei. Pool games, bean bag fun, round table dinner, catching up & hanging out with prospective new members and of course maintenance. Thank you to Hein & Lisa, Jonathan and Meghan and the others that helped them in the Galley with the food and stocking the Bar.

Special thanks go to our Safety team as well as Bridge team who spent their weekend at the Vlei, waiting for the wind to behave. Thank you to Polla Van Der Westhuizen who modified the braai's he built for us some years ago, by adding handles on the sides of the braais; assisted by Ricardo. Greg Davis spent the day with us on Sunday and shared his knowledge once more to assist us improve on our skills. Greg stressed the importance of sailing on practice days and helping each other.

So although the regatta was by definition not successful, members who arrived enjoyed their stay.

TOUR DE VLEI (October)

This was by far the best event of the year, and has become a “well known, must do” event in the W Cape.

37 boats sailed TDV and 4 remained on the water to complete the Endurance race. Tough competition and friendly banter ensured that everyone had a fantastic race. The winds on the day really put our sailors to the test and 100% focus was required. WELL DONE to all competitors. This is one event we need to leverage more to get more visitors & sailors to the club, & keep up the numbers.

SUMMER REGATTA (November)

The theme was “BIKERS, BOATS & BABES”. Thank you to our VYC biker members who brought their bikes to the Vlei which non biker vlei members were able to admire.

VALENTINES REGATTA. (February).

THANK YOU Kim Hatjigiannakis for making the beautiful decorations for the Valentine's Regatta; Lisa & Hein for preparing the Valentine's Dinner; Race Officer Rudy Braam and our Bridge Crew : Nell Braam, Marlou Walters and Kinny Yntema; our Safety Crew : Dan and André Uys on Fish Eagle and Andrea Das Neves and Bev Le Sueur on Baby Duck. Entries were as follows : Sonnets – Mel & Belinda Meyer, John Mossner + Bev Shaw; Mosquitos - Jan Yntema, Sarel van der Merwe, and Francois Cantin; Darts - Edgar Morris & Hendrik Schmidt Paul & Helen Kotze; Hobie 16 – Des & Mark Green.

The sailors survived challenging sailing conditions but sadly not enough races to qualify for a Regatta. Safety was kept busy throughout the time on the water on Saturday and Rudy had a first ever: 2 Sonnets crossing the finish line at exactly the same time. The spirit created and enjoyed by all sailors, volunteers and guests was really enjoyable.

MAC 24

The Mac 24h Endurance Challenge was unfortunately postponed due to water quality issues. VYC had entered only one team, and we were in serious threat of losing our team Spirit award. But fear not, it has been postponed so we have another shot at it. There is still time for any more teams to enter, and for others to prepare & plan to provide support. The event will be held on 28 – 29 October, and VYC don't want to lose our Spirit Trophy award.

Conclusions

We saw fewer boats at our home events this year due to various factors, I however hope that we can set this straight and see growth over the next 12 months in the number of boats that we see on the water at VYC.

If there had to be an award for “The Joy of Sailing”, it would definitely have to go to Bev Shaw. She is often to be seen out there sailing solo in every weather type; often when the waves are huge & other sailors are scarpering for cover. Well done Bev; keep up your enthusiasm!

Sailing is faced with many hurdles; numbers are declining generally, lowering living standards mean folk have less cash available to spend on sailing, adverse weather, apathy, lack of water, and a myriad of other potential challenges .

I find it disconcerting to see so many fine boats forgotten & forlorn in the sheds. Especially if there are members around who are keen to sail, but don't have a boat. I'd like to make an appeal to those that are in a position to do so, to consider loaning or gifting your boats & other sailing equipment to others who will get use out of it.

I'd like each of you to think of new ways to get guests here, & more of our dormant members to the club, and to participate in the various activities: Bridge / Safety / Sailing / HAVING FUN!

I'd like to reiterate everyone to make use of this wonderful facility; fun can be had here whether the sailing takes place or not. It's up to YOU!

I am sure there are other dedicated, selfless volunteers who haven't been mentioned; be sure your efforts are appreciated. Remember, this club can only exist through the input of its members. Each contribution, no matter how small, makes a difference – to you & the club.

I challenge each of you to make an extra effort to at least once this coming season, to bring a family, or a single friend to share with them this special place we are privileged to have access to.

John Mossner
Rear Commodore
2016 2017 Season

BLS gave special thanks to her Committee for serving VYC this season.

ELECTION OF PRESIDENT AND PATRON

President: **Bert Collins**
Proposed – Grant Vincent
Seconded – Kevin Webb

Patron: **Kevin Webb**
Proposed – Bert Collins
Seconded – Paul Kotze

At this point, BLS disbanded the existing Committee and Kevin Webb (KW) took the floor.

KW thanked BLS for her energy and the rest of the committee for their hard work. KW asked if the new committee could really focus on sailing. KW stated he had sailed more this year than previous years, such as the Mykonos Offshore, which had 90 entries. He asked why those events were drawing the numbers. The H23 Worlds event also attracts large numbers. Our Tour de Vlei was well attended. We should focus on drawing numbers and speak to our members.

KW asked for proposal for the position for Commodore for the 2017-2018 season. Saskia Stemmett proposed John Mossner, Dianne Webb seconded. Bev le Sueur proposed Hein Brits; seconded by Andre Uys. KW asked HB and JM to leave while members voted. Bert Collins stated that he was glad to see that there was more than 1 nomination for the position. Vote was in favour of John Mossner by 1 vote. KW handed over to the new commodore JM. KW asked if there could please be a full committee this year.

At this point, JM thanked KW and he chaired the remainder of the AGM.

JM asked for nominations for Vice Commodore. Hendrik Schmidt was proposed by Bev le Sueur and Seconded by Brad Stemmett. Hein Brits was proposed by Bev le Sueur and Seconded by Margret Meyer. Rose asked for clarity on the Vice Commodore's duty. BLS explained. JM asked for Hein Brits and Hendrik Schmidt to leave and proceeded to ask members to vote. The votes were in favour of HB (18 votes) to Hendrik Schmidt's (10)

Vice Commodore:	Hein Brits Proposed – Bev le Sueur Seconded – Margret Meyer
Rear Commodore:	Bev Shaw Proposed – Pat Bytheway Seconded – Hein Brits
Treasurer:	Helen Kotze Proposed – Bev le Sueur Seconded – Kevin Webb
Secretary:	Lisa Brits Proposed – Bev le Sueur Seconded – Saskia Stemmett
House & grounds:	Hendrik Schmidt (Anker) Proposed – Saskia Stemmett Seconded – Norman Kearley
Sites and sheds:	Bev le Sueur Proposed – Paul Kotze Seconded – Norman Kearley
Bridge Convener:	Lisa Brits Proposed – John Mossner Seconded – Bev le Sueur
Safety :	Hendrik Schmidt Proposed – Hein Brits Seconded – Andre Uys

BLS asked if anyone was willing to take on the sailing portfolio to help reduce the workload

Sailing : **Grant Vincent**
Proposed – Kevin Webb
Seconded – Bev le Sueur

JM then asked the members if there were any items they wished to raise.

GENERAL:

1. Life members

Bert Collins proposed that Dave and Pat Bytheway become life members. Pat had been secretary and Bridge Officer. Proposed by Margret Meyer, seconded by Di Webb.

2. Water Crisis

Rose Collins brought up the lack of signage with regard to the water crisis. She also pointed out that there was still a lot of water wastage.

3. Nominations blackboard

Helen Kotze asked if the blackboard with nominations could please go back up prior to the AGM. KW stated that it was not part of the constitution, he had used it previously to streamline the voting process.

4. NSRI Competition

Bert Collins spoke about the competition that NSRI is running. The tickets are R695 each. 1st prize is a 4x4, 2nd prize a holiday of a lifetime and 3rd prize money. He apologised for not having all the paper work with him. He mentioned that a group could buy a ticket and share the prize as they deem fit. He encouraged members to take part in the competition and said that the secretary would send the information out to the members.

There being no other items on the Agenda to discuss, JM closed the AGM and invited all members to enjoy the table of eats supplied by members.

The meeting closed at 12.09.