

Minutes of the Third Annual General Meeting held on 30 November 2016
in the Pat Loseby Room, Royal Hong Kong Yacht Club, at 12:30pm

Present:

Dr. Raymond Ma Sui Wing, MH	(RM) Chairman representing Hong Kong, China Dragon Boat Association (HKCDBA)
Mike Tanner, MH	(MT) Vice Chairman representing Hong Kong, China Rowing Association (HKCRA)
Dr Johnnie Chan Chi-Kau, BBS JP	(JC) Vice Chairman representing Hong Kong Life Saving Society (HKLSS)
Terence Wan Ho Yuen	(TW) Treasurer
Luk Wai Hung MH	(LWH) representing Hong Kong Canoe Union (HKCU)
Warwick Downes	(WD) representing Hong Kong Sailing Federation (HKSF)
Soey Lau Chui Ping	(SL) Company Secretary
Robert Wilson, MH	(RW) Honorary Adviser
MK Lau	(MK) Honorary Executive Director
Mike Arnold	(MA) Board Secretary

Apologies for Absence:

Peter Lam, JP	(PL) Board Member
Representative of The Hong Kong Triathlon Association Limited (TriHK)	

In attendance

NG Kong Wan	(NKW) Proxy for Hong Kong, China Rowing Association (HKCRA)
Kevin Lewis	(KL) Hong Kong Sailing Federation (HKSF), Observer
Chris Howarth	(CH) Hong Kong Water Ski Association (HKWSA), Observer

The Meeting Commenced at 12:30pm. Dr. Raymond Ma Siu Wing took the Chair.
It was noted that a quorum of members was present in person or by proxy.

The following agenda items were then considered:

1. Minutes of the Second Annual General Meeting

1.1 The Minutes of the Second Annual General Meeting were approved.

2. The Directors' Report and Audited Financial Statements of the Council.

2.1 TW tabled the summary of the Financial Statements setting out the year-end financial position as at 31 May 2016, and explained that although simple in nature, the Financial Statements were still subject to formal review by the Council's auditors. He highlighted in particular the conditional nature of the donation made by Seiko and advised that this should be ring fenced. The donation should be regarded as a liability for tax purposes rather than income until such time as the Council obtained charitable status under the Inland Revenue Ordinance. Therefore, while it could be shown as a balance sheet item as a loan or deposit, it would not be included in the Income & Expenditure Account, RW asked about the status of the application to IRD for the Council to be granted charitable status. TW explained that he had been unable to find any records of previous correspondence on this matter. MT said that this issue had been raised in the Executive Committee and it had been agreed that TW should write to IRD to check the status of the application.

- 2.2 In response to TW advising that the Council's bank account at HSBC had been frozen, MT suggested that it would be desirable if the account could be re-opened within the next two weeks. TW agreed to check on what would be required.
- 2.3 WD proposed that the members accept the Directors' Report and Audited Financial Statements. The motion was seconded by JC. All members voted in favour of accepting the Directors' Report and the Financial Statements subject to audit.

3. The Report of the Board on the affairs of the Council

- 3.1 MT reported on behalf of the Board on progress as regards the status of the various sites being considered as either temporary or permanent water sports centres. In respect of the East Kai Tak Water Sports Centre (EKTWSC), which would make use of the former Fire Station at the Kai Tak runway, only two items appeared needed in order to meet Land Department's requirements for granting an STT for the site. The first was to carry out a Marine Traffic Impact Assessment, and the second was to conduct a survey of the site to locate the position of trees and other features within the site, such as the HK Observatory's tower. He expected both tasks to be completed in December. An application for \$3 million had been made to the Sir David Trench to cover the cost of a pontoon and other basic works. In this context, he noted that a site visit for representatives of three Member Associations (HKDBA, HKCU and HKCRA) had been arranged on 3 December to finalise their requirements for the site.
- 3.2 On the Tseung Kwan O site, MT reported that he had held several meetings with Advisian (consultants currently acting on an honorary basis) and arrangements were in hand to invite various sports associations to give their input and views. A series of meeting would be held over the next few weeks. As regards obtaining the site, the Government had indicated that it was only willing to grant a short term tenancy. WD said that the HKSF was interested in establishing an elite training centre at TKO.
- 3.3 As regards the permanent location for the permanent Kai Tak Water Sports Centre, MT reported that the Government had decided to change the zoning of the proposed site from GIC to commercial. A proposal would be made to the Government that the EHWSC be allocated the first two floors of the commercial accommodation. Noting that Hon Ma Fung-kuok had indicated his support for the centre, RW suggested that the Council should try to take a higher profile by inviting the Government to be represented and participate on the planning group.
- 3.4 MT concluded the report by saying that the possibility of obtaining a site at Tung Chung should be kept in view, although the project remained very much in the air at the present time.
- 3.5 CH asked about the possibility of there being a cable ski area being provided at the EKWSC. MT reported that this proposal had not been discussed recently, but the idea could be re-looked at.
- 3.6 JC and RM noted that there would be opportunities in the near future to meet with various government officials when the possibility of Government's support and participation in the development of the permanent Kai Tak centre might be raised.
- 3.7 All members voted in favour of accepting the Report of the Board.

4. Election of officers and Directors of the Council

- 4.1 It was noted that Anthony CHAN Wai-Lun, MH JP had not been nominated as a director by the HKLSS, probably because he was out of town. It was suggested that Anthony together with Terence Wan and Mike Arnold might be co-opted at the first Board meeting after the AGM.
- 4.2 As regards the election of Directors, since nominations did not exceed the number of vacancies, WD proposed and MT seconded that the Directors be voted en bloc. It was unanimously agreed to appoint the following directors who had been duly nominated by the members as indicated, for a

one-year fixed term:

LAM Kwok Leung, Peter Nominated as director by HKCDBA
Luk Wai Hung, Nominated as director by HKCU
Li Hong Man, Nominated as director by HKCU
Joachim Isler, Nominated as director by HKSF
Kevin Lewis, Nominated as director by HKSF.

5. Appointment of the Auditors and remuneration

5.1 Following CH proposing and MT seconding, it was unanimously agreed to appoint Patrick Wong & Co as the Honorary Independent Auditor for the Council to hold office until the next Annual General Meeting.

6. Any other ordinary business

6.1 RW considered it very important that a working group comprising the sports associations and representatives from government be formed as soon as possible to push ahead on the permanent Kai Tak WSC. He was concerned that with staff and other individuals constantly moving in the government, the comprehensive information previously imparted to such people might easily be forgotten. While the government remained supportive of water sports, there could be a risk of ending up with the wrong sort of facilities because of loss of knowledge. A working group would help to give the government a more complete understanding of what was required. RM proposed that the two Vice Chairmen might take the lead on this matter. MT noted that a senior representative of the International Rowing Federation was due to visit Hong Kong in February and if the working group could be set up in time, she might be invited to attend one of the meetings.

6.2 RW noted the earlier mention in the meeting of there being an absence of any records concerning an application to the IRD for the Council to be granted charitable status. He felt it important that there should be an online secure, central repository of important correspondence and records that could be accessed by those permitted to do so. He suggested that the Council might consider setting up a Drop Box account for such purposes.

6.3 RW reported that every issue of the magazine Fragrant Harbour contained an article written by him on behalf of the HKWSC. While he was happy to continue writing the articles, he would like to enlist the help of members to come up with ideas and content for the articles. CH advised that all the back issues of the magazine were available online if members wished to see examples of the articles. It was agreed that RW should be provided with the contact list of members so that he could send out a circular enlisting their help.

6.4 Referring to the earlier report of the Board, CH mentioned that there was a cable ski facility at Lake Egret in Tai Po Kau. MT suggested that CH might send members details.

6.5 WD reported that in respect of the TKO site there had been useful meetings with Advisian. It was important that all associations came back with their ideas and comments as soon as possible. The HKSF was in urgent need of a site for boat storage. In reply to MT's question whether the HKSF would support an application for a temporary provision of the site for boat storage, WD confirmed that the HKSF would do so.

6.6 WD also asked if there had been any movement of a possible site in East Kowloon. MT indicated that to his knowledge there was nothing firm, but a sailing centre had been discussed in an area on the outside of the old runway, and agreed that this issue might be revisited in the future.

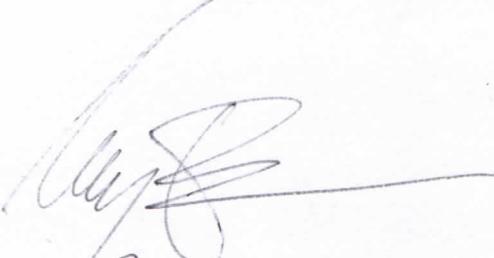
6.7 LWH advised that the Canoe Union was ready to move into the Kai Tak Fire station site as soon as the site could be made available.

6.8 **Honorary Legal Advisers:** RM reported that Dr Vitus Leung had been invited to become the Council's Honorary Legal Adviser and that he was agreeable to the invitation. The plan was to invite Dr Moses Cheng to also become an Honorary Legal Adviser. WD proposed and LWH

seconded the proposal, and all members voted in favour.

- 6.9 **Award to JC:** By way of a round of applause, all members congratulated JC on receiving an award from HRH Queen Elizabeth at the 125th anniversary of the Royal Life Saving Society held in London on 22 November 2106.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 1:30pm.


Ri Ma
Chairman
6/10/17