

Minutes of the 10<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Board of Directors held on 25<sup>th</sup> January 2017  
at the Geoff Edmunds Room, Royal Hong Kong Yacht Club at 1:00pm

Present:

Mike Tanner	(MT)	Vice-Chairman
Johnnie C K Chan	(JC)	Vice-Chairman
Luk Wai Hung	(LWH)	Director
Hans Joachim Isler	(HJI)	Director
Kevin Lewis	(KL)	Director
Peter Lam Kwok Leung	(PL)	Director
Ng Kong Wan	(NKW)	Director
Robert L Wilson	(RLW)	Hon Adviser
MK Lau	(MK)	Hon Executive Director
Mike Arnold	(MA)	Board Secretary

Apologies for Absence:

Raymond Ma Sui Wing	(RM)	Chairman
Terence HY Wan	(TW)	Hon Treasurer
Ian Brownlee	(IB)	Hon Adviser
Li Hong Man	(LHM)	Director
Anthony Chan Wai Lun	(AC)	Director

The meeting commenced at 1:03 p.m., with MT taking the chair in the absence of and at the request of the Chairman, who was unable to attend due to his father having suddenly passed away. The Board asked to record in the minutes members' personal condolences to the Chairman. MT then welcomed to their first meeting of the Board HJI and KL as directors representing the HKSF.

Action

**1. Confirmation of Agenda**

1.1 MT proposed two additional items and the Board AGREED to include two new items in the Agenda, namely, a new item 5(b) in respect of the Council's audited annual accounts and a new item 7 before Any Other Business in respect of the proposal for an East Kowloon Permanent Water Sports Centre.

**2. Co-option of Officers and Nomination of Directors**

2.1 MT noted that there were two casual vacancies on the Board for Directors and that the Board Secretary had received nominations from two Members for one member each from their respective Associations to fill the vacancies. The Board then APPROVED to appoint to the Board the following as directors, who will retire at the next AGM and shall at that time be eligible for re-election.

NG Kong Wan – representing the HKCRA

CHAN Wai Lun, Anthony – representing the HKLSS

2.2 MT further noted that Mike Arnold had also been nominated previously by the HKCRA to fill the casual vacancy of Board Secretary. The Board then agreed to co-opt Mike Arnold to fill the casual vacancy of Board Secretary until the next AGM when he would be required to retire but may stand for re-election.

2.3 NKW then joined the meeting.

### 3. Confirmation of Minutes of the 9<sup>th</sup> Meeting

- 3.1 The Board CONFIRMED the Minutes of the 9<sup>th</sup> Meeting held on 27<sup>th</sup> June 2016 with no amendment, which were signed by MT as the acting chairman.

### 4. Matters Arising from the 9<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting

- 4.1 Para 4.2 Change of bank signatories and re-activation of the HKWSC's account at HSBC: MT explained briefly the background for the benefit of the new directors. JC reported that he had spoken to TW, who had informed him that re-opening the account should be possible with the relevant documents being made available and a date arranged for all the account signatories to visit the bank together to verify their personal particulars. MK suggested that a suitable date might be after the Chinese New Year. General agreement was given to a day in the second week after the holiday. The Board then RESOLVED to unfreeze the Council's existing account with HSBC, to cancel any existing signatories who were no longer Officers or Directors of the Council, and to RE-AFFIRM the Resolution passed at the Board meeting held on 27 June 2016 that any two from amongst the Chairman, the two Vice-chairmen, the Treasurer and the Board Secretary were authorised to act as signatories in respect of operating the account.

[Post meeting note: Later at 5:12 p.m. on 25 January 2017, Ms Soey Lau informed the members of the Executive Committee by WhatsApp that she would have to resign as Company Secretary due to the illness of a family member. Action on this item and on the change of the Council's registered address (see para 4.3 below) may need to await a replacement being found to fill the position of Company Secretary.]

- 4.2 Invoicing of membership fees: The Board AGREED that TW/Chloe should be asked to invoice Member Associations the fee for the current financial year beginning 1 June 2016 immediately and for the next financial year commencing 1 June 2017 at that time. MA was asked to follow up with Chloe. TW/MA
- 4.3 Para 6.3 Change of registered address of HKWSC: MA was asked to check the progress of changing the registered address of the Council with the Company Secretary. [See post meeting note under para 4.1 above.] MA
- 4.4 Para 7 Update on Kai Tak Runway Fire Station Site- EKTWSC: MT provided the Board with an update on the situation. He explained that the Sir David Trench Fund had agreed to provide HK\$3 million, to be spent within two years, which would enable the Council to provide a pontoon and carry out other basic works. The Marine Traffic Impact Assessment and site survey had been completed and these would be submitted to the Government after the Chinese New Year. Given the possible need for Lands Department to re-circulate the STT proposals within Government, it was hoped that the Council should have the site allocated in about three months' time. The site survey at a cost HK\$30,000 was regarded as good value for money given the costs for similar work of this nature. MT went on to note that the Council did not at present have any formal procurement rules and that such rules would need to be put in place for the future. He also reported that Ian Brownlee intended to write to Wharf to see if the latter would be willing to help with some of the site development costs, such as clearing the topsoil. MT
- 4.5 Para 8 Update on Tseung Kwan O Site: MT reported that the consultants, Advisian, who were working on other projects for the HKJC, were providing their services at no cost to help collect and collate the proposed activities and funding plans from the Associations concerned. The Triathlon Association had decided not to participate at present. The aim

was for Advisian to complete their work and be ready to submit proposals to HAB by the end of March. As regards funding for the project, very preliminary discussions had been held with the HKJC and a further approach would be made shortly. However, the HK Sports Institute had submitted a rival bid for use of the site to provide an elite windsurfing training facility. After Advisian had collected and collated all the information from the Associations, it would be desirable to hold a meeting with HAB to agree the way forward. He expected that the DC and HAB would likely support community sports activities over elite sports, but if it could be possible to accommodate both requirements on the site that would be better. In reply to RLW's question why the TKO site had been identified for elite windsurfing, MT was of the view that it was because the site was conveniently located and the only one readily available.

**5. Matters Arising from the 3<sup>rd</sup> AGM held on 30 November 2016 not covered under item 4 of the Agenda**

5.1 Para 6.2 Application to IRD for charitable status for the HKWSC: The Board noted IRD's rejection of charitable status for the Council. JC reported that Patrick Wong was now working on alternative arrangements and should be in a position to report back after Chinese New Year. JC would follow up on this issue. JC

5.2 RLW explained briefly some of the requirements of IRD and the Inland Revenue Ordinance. He noted that the IRD may require payment of tax where over 50% of its income came from non Members and the question of granting Member status to donors might need to be addressed. The Board AGREED to await the advice from Patrick Wong before taking this matter further.

5.3 Audited Accounts for the year ended 31 May 2016: MT noted that the AGM in November had approved the draft unaudited accounts and that these still required auditing. MA advised that he had passed a draft of the Directors Report and Financial Statements to Chloe. JC said that he would follow up with TW or Chloe. JC

[Post meeting note: Using the draft, Chloe has filled in the figures required in the financial statements for the year ended 31 May 2016, and returned the document to MA on 26 January 2017, explaining that neither she nor TW had any point of contact with the auditor, Patrick Wong. As at 28 January, MA with the assistance of MK is now endeavouring to pass the accounts to Patrick Wong for auditing so that Council's annual return can be submitted to the Companies Registry.]

**6. Proposal for HKSAR 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration water sports event to be organised by HKWSC**

6.1 MT asked the Board for their views on the Council organising an event in the Harbour to celebrate the HKSAR's 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Members in general considered that the date of 1 July should be avoided because there would be many other events being held on that date that would overshadow any event organised by the Council. Some Members also advised that their associations had already arranged their own celebratory events and that government had offered funding up to \$100,000 per NSA for that purpose. For example the HKCRA Festival of Sport regatta to be held in Shatin on 9 April 2017 or the HKCDBA event to be held in the Kwun Tong Typhoon Shelter on 3 September 2017. RLW emphasised the desirability of involving senior government officials and of fixing a date early so as to be able to ensure their participation. KL said that private clubs should be encouraged to participate, but the sailing calendar is very busy and early date selection was essential. He also commented that clubs and the HKSF have limited funds. The Board MT

noted the desirability of obtaining government funding support. The Board AGREED to MT's proposal that a date be fixed for a smaller meeting to be held after the Chinese New Year holidays to discuss this issue further. (The initial suggestion for participants for the meeting was MT, NKW, PL and LWH) . It was noted that the Chief Secretary had indicated that separate funding would be available for such celebration events.

## 7. East Kowloon Permanent Water Sports Centre

- 7.1 MT expressed concern that the Council's previous submission to the Government had probably become lost due to subsequent changes in personnel in the bureaus and departments involved. For example, the change in land use from GIC to Commercial probably indicated that there was now not much support from the Planning Department. He proposed and the Board AGREED that a fresh submission should be made to the Government suggesting that the first two floors of one of the commercial sites be allocated to the Council as a permanent water sports centre. MA was asked to assist in drafting the submission. It was also agreed that a Working Group or Steering Committee be established to take forward this project and manage the strategic approach. In due course, government representatives should be invited to join the group. MT/MA

## 8. Any Other Business 7.2

- 8.1 NKW advised that the RHKYC was trying to bring rowing to the Harbour. There would be a regatta held on 11 March 2017 using coastal rowing boats. He suggested that it would be beneficial if the Council could become involved, as it had in the previous year, by endorsing the event through allowing the Council's logo to be used in the promotion materials for the event. The Board AGREED to this suggestion. NKW
- 8.2 In respect of the earlier discussion item in the agenda concerning the HKSAR's 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations, HJI advised that the Hong Kong leg of the Volvo Round the World Race would form one of the celebration events in October 2017.
- 8.3 KL asked whether the Council had a website. MT advised that an English language version of the website had been prepared, but as yet it could not be accessed. He was following up on this matter. A Chinese version was under planning. MT
- 8.4 LWH asked about the printing of name cards for Board members. MT said that this could be arranged once the registered address of the Council had been changed.

## 9. Dates of Board Meetings in 2017

- 9.1 The Board AGREED that future regular meetings of the Board should be held at lunchtime on the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of January, April, July and October, provided that such dates did not fall on a public holiday. For the remainder of 2017, this would mean the following dates – MA
1. Wednesday, 5 April 2017 (the day immediately following the public holiday for Ching Ming)
  2. Wednesday, 5 July 2017
  3. Wednesday, 4 October 2017 (the day immediately preceding the public holiday for the Mid Autumn Festival)

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 2:05 p.m.

Raymond Ma  
Chairman