



## HERITAGE GRANT MID PROJECT UPDATE REPORT

### A General Information

- |                        |                              |
|------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. Applicant's Name    | Frederick Francis            |
| 2. HP Reference Number | NHB/HP/13Q3005               |
| 3. Project Title/Type  | The Maritime Heritage Centre |

### B Project Timelines

- 1 Please declare any significant variance/changes to the project timeline as per the signed Letter of Acceptance. **Refer to attached Project Schedule.**
- 14/03/2014: Documented 'video' Maritime Stories of 100 Singaporeans.
  - 14/06/2014: Completion of four 'maritime museum on wheels'.
  - 14/09/2014: Maritime Heritage symposium/exhibition at Sentosa Boardwalk.
  - 14/12/2014: Virtual Maritime Heritage museum and On-line Education Website launch.
  - 14/07/2015: Official Opening of Singapore Maritime Heritage Centre.

#### Significant Variance/Changes

- To be inclusive, we changed title it to 'Maritime Stories of Singapore' as there were many who were PRs and non-Singaporeans who had stories to tell of Singapore. As such, we collected/scripted/edited over 120 maritime stories and also videoed more than 110 video stories. This is on-going as we continue to collect these stories and build on it. The challenging part is to find a platform within our YSF website to site the video stories. At the moment, we have over 1,600 gigabytes and can only use the youtube platform and supplement it on a DVD for localised viewing.
- No changes. However, due to many other SG50 activities, we did not schedule for the 'maritime museum on wheels' abbreviated as MoWs. This will be done in year 2016. The only public show done was by Team Raffles Institution who did a presentation at the Sentosa Boardwalk opening on 19 July for invited guests and the public. The recording is still shown at the Maritime Silkroad Heritage Centre. The Official launch for this project involving all 4 schools was done on 9 Nov'14 after Remembrance Sunday at Jurong West Secondary School. Each school presented their learning journey and the theme for their MoWs. The GOH for the official launch was Ambassador Kesavapany who is YSF's Senior Advisor.
- Maritime Heritage symposium/exhibition was brought forward and held during the Singapore Heritage Fest 2014 at the request of the organisers. We partnered Sentosa Development Corporation (SDC) for this event. It later led to SDC inviting YSF for SG50 celebrations.
- No changes. It is a dynamic site displaying artefacts with a story virtually and some eLearning and continue to be updated and improved upon.
- The Official Opening of the Singapore Maritime Heritage Centre was on 11 April 2015 in joint celebration with SG50. This is another partnership with SDC. The GOH was Dr Lily Neo.

- 1 Please declare any significant variance/changes to the project budget.  
**Refer to attached Annex A.**

The table below was the initial proposed budget based on \$540,000

Modified shipping containers customized as 'maritime mobile museums' uniquely displaying Singapore's maritime heritage with artifacts and LED TVs. It is also 'green' as solar panels are fitted to sub-power it. It is not just about displaying artifacts but telling the Singapore story with videos of Singaporeans sharing their experiences and tales of maritime Singapore.	
Restoration and preservation of ex-Sentosa museum native boats and artifacts and other maritime memorabilia from donors and made conducive as displays and learning journeys.	
Purchase of relevant maritime artifacts to complement existing ones so as to be able to bridge and tell the Singapore story and the different aspects of our maritime heritage.	
Set-up of Maritime Heritage Centre in terms of refurbishment work (depending on condition of premises provided/obtained) to display maritime artifacts and create learning and engagement spaces to be an inclusive place for our youth and all with an interest in maritime Singapore.	
Customized display racks with 'intelligent' tagging and weather proof (solar panels may be attached if displayed outdoors to power LED lights and dehumidifiers).	
Set-up and conduct a public Maritime Heritage Symposium/Exhibition at an appropriate location (e.g. Sentosa Boardwalk) to educate and engage the general public on Singapore's maritime heritage and links with the sea. Not just displays but live talks/stories.	
Part-time staff costs and expert consultancy (scholars, researchers, etc) allowances.	
Part-time secretariat fees and utilities expenses.	
<b>TOTAL COST OF PROJECT</b>	<b>S\$ 540,000</b>

As the total grant provided was \$150,000, we thus downsized our budget to \$300,000.

It was possible to do so as we managed to secure a site for the Maritime Heritage Centre from Sentosa Development Corporation that invited us to use the scenic Sentosa Boardwalk almost free (token sum of \$100). However, the real value of the site was about \$3,000 per month which would have been the market rate rental. Also our PRIDE centre at Pasir Panjang is rent-free but has a market value of \$12,000 per month. With the smaller budget, we thus reduced the amounts for all items where possible.

The estimated new budgets (significant variance/changes) are:

- i) Modified shipping containers (Museum on Wheels)
- ii) Restoration and preservation of native boats & artefacts
- iii) Purchase of relevant maritime artefacts to tell the Singapore Story
- iv) Set-up Maritime Heritage Centre and Official Launch
- v) Customised display racks with LED lights, etc
- vi) Set-up and conduct Maritime Heritage Symposium/Exhibition
- vii) Part-time staff costs (including manpower shifting of artefacts)
- viii) Part-time secretariat fees and utilities expenses

GRAND TOTAL

\$300,000

## D Launch Event

- 1 Has a Guest of Honour (GOH) been confirmed for the launch event?  
 Yes  
 No
- 2 If yes, who is the GOH? Please provide details in the box below, including date and venue of launch.

The Launch date was postponed due to the demise of Singapore's founding father, Mr Lee Kuan Yew. The GOH selected was Dr Lily Neo, MP of Tanjong Pagar GRC as she was one of the longest serving MPs with him. The Official Launch date was thus 11 April 2015. It was attended by over 250 people and had a brass band and several marching contingents at the scenic Sentosa Boardwalk.

See pictures below.



## E Other Comments

As YSF had to work on a much smaller budget (and await for a permanent site from NHB/SLA), we thus decided to open our Maritime Heritage Centre at the Sentosa Boardwalk as the SDC wanted to partner us. They thus provided a well located site at a token sum of \$100. However, taking over an empty space was not simple as we had to set up an air-conditioning and lighting system whilst we designed the maritime heritage centre to be for public display. This was brought forward to also celebrate SG50 with a theme. We thus named the centre Maritime Silkroad Heritage Centre (MSHC) with a theme – 50 maritime artefacts that tell the Singapore Story. The SG50 exhibition at the Maritime Silkroad Heritage Centre was thus to open to the public free of charge (6 days a week – closed on Mondays) up to the end of 2015. From 1 January 2016, the theme may change a little depending on the YSF team which comprised of youths as well. This is also subject to the YSF securing its own site where we would be able to display all our maritime artefacts especially the very large native boats.

The YSF continues to engage our youths, schools and the public to take ownership of Singapore's maritime heritage. YSF is also Singapore's first and only uniform group and continues to promote youth activities with a focus on maritime heritage and an understanding and appreciation of Singapore's past as well as her neighbours and beyond.

