

**MARINERS' ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR THE
BAY AND RIVER DELAWARE
MEETING – March, 11 2005**

MINUTES

The Regular Quarterly Meeting of the Mariners' Advisory Committee for the Bay and River Delaware was held March 11, 2005 at LaVeranda Restaurant, Philadelphia. Captain John Cuff called the meeting to order at 1030 hours. The meeting was attended by 52 Members, Associate Members, and interested parties.

I. Welcome

Captain John Cuff welcomed all members and guests.

II. Reading of the Minutes

Captain Mike Linton moved that the reading of the minutes from the previous meeting be approved, Captain Wayne Bailey seconded. All approved

III Report of the Treasurer

In the absence of Dennis Rochford, Captain Cuff reported a balance of \$12,504.00. Captain Cuff also noted that most of the annual dues have been received, **(The guy to the right of Tupper)** moved that the report be accepted. Mike Gabor seconded.

IV Aids to Navigation

John Walters distributed a report for the following:

1. Torresdale Upper Range Read
2. Fisher Point Range Front
3. Enterprise Lower Range Front
4. Liston Range Front Light
5. Baker Range Read Light
6. Duck Island Range
7. Enterprise Upper Range
8. Winter 1993/1994 Delaware River Ice Damage
9. Delaware River and Bay Deepening Project
10. Cape Fear Deepening Project
11. North Carolina Port Access Route Study
12. Chesapeake Bay Entrance Port Access Route Study

Mr. Walters also reported on the following items:

Bad batteries on the ice buoys caused 30% failures.

We are looking for feedback on the LED lanterns on the canal.

The USCG and the ACOE are funding the replacement of the 45 foot buoy boat at Cape May.

Horseshoe Bend Range Rear Light, currently located on top of a warehouse, needs to be moved. We are seeking new options. There is even a possibility that the light would be extinguished due to land development for condos planned for the area. Captain Cuff noted that the MAC would take action to prevent the light from being removed.

V. NOAA

Howard Danely reported the following:

The chart reports have been distributed covering new additions and corrections. Mr. Danley also reported the new addition of Coast Pilot is now available.

VI. Marine Safety Office USCG- Captain of the Port

On behalf of Captain Sarubbi, Spense Woods, covered the following topics: The new name for our district will be Sector Delaware Bay and will take place soon. Group Atlantic City will be field office under the new Sector Command. Command expands from 300 to 700 people at that time. Reorganization will include three departments; logistics, prevention, and response O&M will be blended into these offices.

Captain Scott (formerly Commander Scott of Group Philadelphia) will be replacing Captain Sarubbi on June 10th. Clean-up operations continue following the Athos I spill and expects to be completed by mid-summer.

Captain Cuff added that there is diving operations at Mantua Creek Anchorage looking for the cause of the spill. Divers found an object at 37 foot low water and the anchorage regulations have been temporarily changed to 35 feet until the object can be identified. Vessel going into Citgo are docking on the rising tide until further notice.

VII. Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE)

Charlie _____ of the ACOE distributed a report which includes the following projects:

Delaware River, Philadelphia to Sea:

Wilmington Harbor:

Delaware River, Philadelphia to Trenton:

Chesapeake Bay and Delaware Canal:

Schuylkill River

Mr. _____ reminded the committee to use the following web site:

<http://www.nap/usace.army.mil>

VIII. Old Business

Bridges.

Bob Reiner of the Burlington County Bridge Commission reported there will be minimal impact to vessel traffic for work on the Tacony Palmyra Bridge to commence in April through November 05.

ICE

William Tate, Commanding Officer, Owen Gibbons reported that the lights are expected to be restored by the end of the month.

Captain Cuff added that, next ice season, during “daylight-only conditions”, we are going to support small-draft tugs transiting the upper-river, with the final discretion being up to the Captain of the Port.

High Speed Ferry

John Anderson provided the group with new presentation for the Philadelphia to Baltimore, high-speed ferry service. Jim _____ from ABS Hovercraft provided a supply of promotional materials for the committee.

Proposed BP Oil facility

Captain Mike Linton reported the following on the proposed BP facility across from Marcus Hook in New Jersey: The MAC will support the project as long as it does not interfere with existing customers, tankers or cargo operations. The tug companies and the pilots would enjoy more trips. We are in favor of it, but with a lot of reservations.

IX. New Business

No new business to report

X. Adjournment

Captain Cuff announced that the next MAC meeting is scheduled for June 2005 at the LaVeranda Restaurant in Philadelphia.

Wayne Bailey moved that the meeting be adjourned. Tom Johnston seconded. All approved. The meeting was adjourned at 1145 hours.