

**MARINERS' ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR THE
BAY AND RIVER DELAWARE
MEETING – June 12th, 2008 MINUTES**

The Regular Quarterly Meeting of the Mariners' Advisory Committee for the Bay and River Delaware was held June, 12th, 2008 at Ristorante LaVeranda Philadelphia. Captain John Cuff called the meeting to order at 1100 hours. The meeting was attended by 46 Members, Associate Members, and interested parties.

I. Welcome

Captain 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, Tom Johnston seconded. All approved

III. Report of the Treasurer

Captain Cuff reported again that the MAC has a new Treasurer; Jim Lombardo. Jim reported a balance of \$14,426.96.

Don Ivan's moved to approve the report. Tom Johnston seconded.

IV. Aids to Navigation USCG

John Walters reported on the following lights and projects:

1. Horseshoe Range Rear Light
2. Mud Island Upper Range
3. Baker Range
4. Ship John Shoal Light
5. Acquisition, Instruction and Improvement funds.
6. Delaware River and Bay Deepening Project.
7. Navigation Items of interest
 - a. GPS interference test
 - b. LORAN
8. Lighted Ice Buoys

Captain Cuff requested that he be informed when Astra General Contracting starts and where they are starting so we can keep mariners informed.

V. NOAA

Howard Danley reported on various chart updates and availability.

VI. Marine Safety Office USCG- Captain of the Port

COTP Dave Scott reported on the following:

Lt. Jason Aleksak was transferred to Washington DC and Lt. Ann M Wickham will be replacing Jason.

Jason Aleksak reported the distribution of the Hurricane Season report and recommended using www.homeport.mil as the season progresses.

Captain Scott added the importance of getting your TWIC cards sooner than later to meet the compliance date of 2009.

Captain Cuff commended Jason Aleksak for his excellence service and dedication.

VII. Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE)

Charlie Meyers distributed his report for the following areas:

1. Delaware River, Philadelphia to Sea
2. Chesapeake and Delaware Canal
3. Delaware River, Philadelphia to Trenton
4. Schuylkill River
5. Wilmington Harbor
6. District web site info.

Mr. Meyers also reported the following:

Working closely with Delaware's Department of Natural Resources for a disposal location, they created a 3-D "sediment transport" model to help choose a site. The model led them to a site is just inside of Cedar Creek near the Delaware Bay Launch Service slip. The sand there is very heavy with a lot of shells mixed in that has been as a "beneficial use project" for re-creating habitat.

The McFarland will be in Tampa for service maintenance from July 12th until the end of September.

He added that Grows and Fairless terminals will have their berthing lanes dredged.

Discussion continued on recent meetings with Nature Marine and Fisheries agency and the Fish and Wildlife agency to help establish disposal locations in New Jersey.

Further discussed centered about the signing of the PCA. Once the PCA is signed, he said, we will have to discuss Dredge Material Management Plan for New Jersey. We still have a permit issue with the State of Delaware to resolve and there is a feeling that new testing is warranted because of the delay. He added that there is a lot of state environmental coordination involved.

VIII. Old Business

Anchorage Committee

Captain Cuff asked Captain Tom Sharp to report on the actions of the Sub-Committee.

He reported that members visited the Buzzards Bay facility in Cape Cod to see how they handled their traffic situations there and what kind of equipment and personnel they require. He added that they also went to New York to see their VTS operation there.

Following that, the Sub-Committee created a report called the Delaware River and Bay Vessel Reporting System. Tom asked that the document be reviewed by the MAC for comments for 60 days. Following that, the committee will re-convene and determine how this is going to affect the port community and members of the MAC. The Maritime Exchange has offered to disseminate this information. It was reported that nearly 100% of the tugs using the Marcus Hook and Mantua Creek anchorages are reporting into the Exchange and that the Exchange is logging that info into their system.

IX. New Business

Captain Cuff announced that he is stepping down as MAC Chairman and that Captain Tom Sharp is assuming that role beginning at the next meeting.

X. Adjournment

Captain Ward Guilday moved that the meeting be adjourned. Tom Johnston seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 1152 hours. Captain Cuff announced that the next MAC meeting is scheduled for 1100 hours, September 11, 2008 at the Ristorante LaVeranda in Philadelphia.