

**MARINERS' ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR THE
BAY AND RIVER DELAWARE
MEETING – June 14th, 2007 MINUTES**

The Regular Quarterly Meeting of the Mariners' Advisory Committee for the Bay and River Delaware was held June 14th 2006 at Ristorante LaVeranda, Philadelphia. Captain John Cuff, called the meeting to order at 1100 hours. The meeting was attended by 45 Members, Associate Members, and interested parties.

I. Welcome

Captain Cuff welcomed all members and guests.

II. Reading of the Minutes

Captain Linton moved that the reading of the minutes from the previous meeting be approved, Tom Johnston seconded. All approved

III. Report of the Treasurer

On behalf of Dennis Rochford, Captain Cuff reported a balance of \$12,296.52. Captain Linton moved that the report be accepted. James Young seconded.

IV. Aids to Navigation USCG

John Walters distributed a report and discussed the following lights and projects:

1. Duck Island Range Front Light
2. Cherry Island Range Front Light
3. Bristol Range
4. Baker Range
5. Ship John Shoal Light
6. Acquisition Construction and Improvement funds
7. Delaware River and Bay Deepening Project

Mr. Waters went on to report that in the April 26, 2007 issue of the Federal Register there is a **request for comments** section on the continued need to provide HF radio weather forecast warnings.

Mr. Waters went on to report that the National Weather Service is offering to establish a wave height (and direction) sensor buoy off critical waterways. He then asked if there is a need for such a buoy at the entrance to Delaware Bay. Captain Cuff reported that he'd move up on determining such a spot and report back.

Mr. Waters said that the National Weather Service would fund it.

V. NOAA

David Enabnit reported on a new higher budget, with most of that geared toward ocean and climate science for global warming and sea level rise. Mr. Enabnit also reported on a new hydrographic survey vessel, the first one in 4 years. He predicted that this year, the Print On Demand charts will outsell the graphically printed charts.

VI. Marine Safety Office USCG- Captain of the Port

USCG rep Kyle McAvoy (spelling) reported that the TWIC enrollment project is being delayed until the fall.

Chief Waterways Officer, Jason Aleksak reported the following. The CTOP signed, on May 8th, MSIB 1107 regarding dead ship tows and includes a check list to adhere to.

He added that the following items:

May 30th is the beginning of the Hurricane Season and to consult www.homeport.uscg.mil for the latest news.

The USCG is keeping an eye on the reports of the timeliness of bridge openings.

June 30th is the date for the fireworks display in the area of Penn's Landing and that a Safety Zone will be in place from about 2030 to 2200 hours.

Captain Cuff reported the following. Regarding the Delair Railroad Bridge, we are going through two dispatchers. The dispatcher we contact is a Conrail employee and that person can not physically open the bridge until a South Jersey Transit dispatcher initiates the opening. Everyone once in a while, the South Jersey Transit dispatcher delays the opening process. We have a call in to South Jersey Transit to resolve this.

VII. Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE)

ACOE – On behalf of the Corps, Captain Cuff commented and distributed a report on the following projects:

Delaware River – Philadelphia to Sea
Chesapeake and Delaware Canal
Wilmington Harbor
Delaware River – Philadelphia to Trenton
Salem River
Schuylkill River

Captain Cuff added that Charles Myers, who has been working very hard with the Burlington Bristol Bridge Commission, has helped resolved the issue for making 70 acres available for maintenance dredge spoils.

Captain Linton reported that Governor Rendell has moved the 45 foot Dredging project forward and the funding will be switched from the DRPA to the PRPA. The bidding and project could start as early as 14 to 16 months and will take about 4 years to complete.

VIII. Old Business

ANCHORAGE MANAGEMENT PLAN COMMITTEE

Captain Cuff reported that we are starting to make progress.

Also reported was the upcoming 2 separate 3-day closures of the Tacony Palmyra Bridge and that a notice was distributed. The scheduled dates are: July 9th- 11th, and July 16th-18th for repair and replacement of power equipment and lines.

IX. New Business

Guest and new MAC member Mike Palmer made a presentation on his Mariner's Eye Point Waterside Security System. His company is OBSTEK and the system involves intelligent radar and video.

Captain Cuff reported that the wind turbine subject has been tabled for another time.

X. Adjournment

Steve Nutter moved that the meeting be adjourned. Dave Walters seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 1155.

Captain Cuff announced that the next MAC meeting is scheduled for September 13th, 2007 at the Restaurant La Veranda, Philadelphia.