

**MARINERS' ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR THE  
BAY AND RIVER DELAWARE  
MEETING – March 11, 2010 MINUTES**

The Regular Quarterly Meeting of the Mariners' Advisory Committee for the Bay and River Delaware was held March 11, 2010 at Ristorante LaVeranda Philadelphia. Captain Steven Roberts called the meeting to order at 1100 hours. The meeting was attended by 38 Members, Associate Members, and interested parties.

**I. Welcome**

MAC Chairman, Captain Steven Roberts welcomed all members and guests.

**II. Reading of the Minutes**

Bill Moran moved that the reading of the minutes from the previous meeting be approved. Captain Greg Adams seconded. All approved

**III. Report of the Treasurer**

In absence of the MAC Treasurer; Scott Anderson read the report and reported a balance of \$15,426.51

**IV. Aids to Navigation USCG**

John Walters, Waterways Mtg., reported on the following lights and projects and distributed a detailed report on the following:

**Maintenance and Improvements projects**

Horseshoe Range Rear and Range Front Lights

Baker Range

Elbow of Cross Ledge Light

Miah Maul Shoal Light

Cape May Inlet Range Rear Light

Delaware Bay East Icebreaker Light

Kinkora Lower RF Lt.

Lighted Ice Buoys

Future AtoN Improvements

Delaware River and Bay Deepening Project

Design work to replace Liston Range, Reedy Island Range and New Castle Range

Navigation Items of Interest

Offshore Renewable Energy Installations

GPS interference tests

Contact info:

Captain Roach requested that the Tower be notified along with Captain Roberts regarding any activity at New Castle.

Mr. Walters continued to report that there was a 100% success on the power systems for the lighting systems on the ice buoys and that now is the time to advertise for additional upper river ice buoys using existing inventory.

He added and reported on the following items:

Offshore renewable energy installations, in the form of windmills, is coming. And a request is out there to determine existing and traditional traffic "lines" are. Nicole deSibour (AWO) volunteered as a guide to help move the process forward.

GPS interference testing continues in May.

Contact info is on the hand out.

Local Notice to Mariners and the Light lists are on line; light lists are updated quarterly and may change to weekly.

There was discussion about a discrepancy regarding the waypoint, the center line, and the electronic charting of Fisher Point Range involving Howard Danley, John Waters and Captain Roberts.

## **V. NOAA**

Howard Danley reported on the following:

Regarding the center lines on the EMC charts, all of the ACOE frameworks are being validated. Regarding the EMC charts, it is recommended that users use the full sounding display mode to see the isolated depths.

## **VI. Marine Safety Office USCG- Captain of the Port**

COTP Meredith Austin reported on the following:

The Elephant Trunk is a big area for scallop fishing and open March 1<sup>st</sup> so be aware of increased traffic there.

Anchorage Usage remains an issue due to tugs over-staying their 48-hour limit without calling the USCG to request an extension.

## **VII. Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE)**

Tim Rooney reported the following:

1. Delaware River, Philadelphia to Trenton
2. Delaware River, Philadelphia to Sea & Main Channel Deepening

Dredging is being funded with federal and sponsored money. Due to lack of federal money, the PRPA fronted the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania much of the money for the first contract. The 2<sup>nd</sup> phase of the contract is being designed now for the area from the Ben Franklin Bridge to the Walt Whitman Bridge. The area from the Walt Whitman Bridge down to the Commodore Barry Bridge will begin in September (2010). Some of the legal issues with the State of Delaware have been resolved. As for New Jersey, legal issues continue. A 2014 project completion date remains in effect with Marcus Hook being the last piece due to the high shoaling.

Captain Roberts requested that the dredge Caroline be outfitted with AIS if it does not have it already.

3. Dredge McFarland
- 4 Schuylkill River : scheduled for the fall of 2011; 33 feet plus 1 foot in the lower section.
5. Wilmington Harbor
6. Chesapeake and Delaware Canal
7. Mispillion River
8. New Jersey Intracoastal Waterway, Cape May Harbor and Oyster Creek
8. Indian River Inlet and Bay, Delaware
9. District WebSite information

### **VIII. Old Business**

#### **Anchorage Usage:**

Captain Roberts reported that our efforts seem to be working and have identified some that require more cooperation. He added the idea and opportunities of determining new anchorages and noted that the ACOE would take one of the new anchorages within the design of their new channel. The other proposed anchorages are in Delaware and we'd have to go through DNREC to move forward there.

John Walters added that the "individual states" have the authority to "create" anchorages.

### **IX. New Business**

No new business to report.

### **X OPEN DISCUSSION**

Nothing to report.

### **XI. Adjournment**

Captain Roberts announced the next meeting of the MAC is scheduled for June 17, 2010 at 1100 hours.

With no further agenda items or discussion, Captain Roach moved that the meeting be adjourned. Jean Cureton seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 1203 hours.