

**MARINERS' ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR THE
BAY AND RIVER DELAWARE
MEETING –March 10th 2011 MINUTES**

The Regular Quarterly Meeting of the Mariners' Advisory Committee for the Bay and River Delaware was held March 10, 2011 at Ristorante LaVeranda Philadelphia. Captain Stephen Roberts, presided over the meeting. Captain Roberts called the meeting to order at 1030 hours. The meeting was attended by 62 Members, Associate Members and interested parties.

I. Welcome

Captain Roberts welcomed members, new members and guests.

II. Reading of the Minutes

Captain Jim Roche moved that the reading of the minutes from the previous meeting be approved, Captain Rowland seconded. All approved.

III. Report of the Treasurer

MAC Treasurer Rick Iuliucci read the report and reported a balance of \$15,846.92.

IV. Aids to Navigation USCG

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

Maintenance and Improvements projects

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1. Baker Range
2. Miah Maull Shoal Light
3. Delaware Bay East Icebreaker Light

Future AtoN Improvements

1. Delaware River and Bay Deepening Project
2. Liston Range, Reedy Is. Range, New Castle Range

Navigation Items of Interest

1. Offshore Renewable Energy Installations (OREIs)
2. BOEMRE (RFI)
3. Offshore Anchorages
3. GPS interference tests

Contact info (as shown on the report) and personnel changes.

Captain Roche inquired about Fisher's Point. Mr. Walters replied that a team is going to determine where the range light is with construction slated for May-September.

Discussion followed between Captain Broadley and John Walter about the following required course of events: The Port Access Route Study is governed by the Administrators Procedures Act. The Notice of the Study will be published in the Federal Register. The Coast Guard starts the study and invites your participation. The study is then conducted. Once the study is signed off, The Notice of

the Study will be published in the Federal Register. Those results are then carried to IMO for adoption. The next Marine Safety Committee Meeting at IMO is in April 2012. After IMO adopts it, there's about 6 to 18 months before its implemented. We'll need to the Port Access Route Study finished by August of this year. Mr. Walters added that he'd bring the Study to the next meeting for review by the MAC.

V. NOAA

Howard Danley distributed his report to the MAC members and announced that he'd be retiring in May. Mr. Danley thanked the MAC for a very long and successful relationship.

Darren Wright distributed a report on NOAA's FORECAST SYSTEM and discussed the hand out.

Captain Roberts reported on highlights of the systems including a review of high tides well in advance to see if weather conditions will support bringing up a ship at 40 feet or not.

A report of charts was also distributed.

VI. Marine Safety Office USCG- Captain of the Port

Captain of the Port Meredith Austin reported on a number of topics including a successful Ice Season and thanked all parties involved, a respond and rescue involving the *Delta Kanaris*, and recognized the tanker *Triathlon* for its efforts in the rescue of a demasted sailboat.

VII. Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE)

Tim Rooney reported the following:

See distribution.

1. Delaware River, Philadelphia to Sea maintenance (Aug/Sept 2011)
2. Dredge McFarland (in drydock until May/June this year).
3. Schuylkill River (postponed)
4. Wilmington Harbor (June 2011, 35 foot channel)
5. C&D Canal
6. Fairless Turning Basin Deepening (to award a contract Aug 2011; 7 days dredging - 35 down to 40 feet).

Steve Farrell and Bill Miller led a presentation on the updates to the ACOE website including real time updates.

IX. Old Business

Wind Meeting

Captain Roberts and Captain Broadley reported on first meeting of the MAC's Wind Energy Working Group to be attended by appropriate wind-related public agencies. The meeting is scheduled for April 19th. A color chart of the wind farm, potential offshore anchorages, traffic schemes, precautionary area, was distributed for review and discussion.

HoverCraft

John Anderson conducted a presentation on his hovercraft progress and maritime opportunities. (see distribution).

Anchorage

Captain Roberts reported on the responsible use of our anchorages as it relates to the needs of tugs and ships.

X. New Business

none

XI OPEN DISCUSSION

Captain Roberts reported that there is dredging going on at Sun Oil and dredging was completed at Conoco. He added that there will be some closures this summer as reported by the Burlington Bristol Bridge Commission for cable replacement.

Captain Roberts also reported that there is a lost 6-foot tugboat propeller in the area of Landerth Channel. Captain Roche wanted to openly thank the ACOE especially Tony DePasquale and his staff for their immediate weekend response in searching for that lost propeller.

XII. Adjournment

Captain Roberts announced the next meeting of the MAC is scheduled for June 16th at 1100 hours

With no further agenda items or discussion, Captain Roche moved that the meeting be adjourned. Captain Guilday seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 1140 hours.