



Massachusetts Boating & Yacht Clubs Association, Inc.

MBYCA

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

January 26th, 2024

(Mystic Wellington Yacht Club)

The January 26th, 2024 general meeting of the Massachusetts Boating and Yacht Clubs Association, Inc. was held at Mystic Wellington Yacht Club, 100 Constitution Avenue, Medford, MA 02155.

Commodore Phil Greenstein opened the meeting at 8:10 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance and thanked Commodore Joe DiGirolamo, his officers, board and members for hosting our meeting.

Commodore DiGirolamo welcomed us and invited us to visit anytime during the season and thanked MBYCA for all their hard work on behalf of the recreational boaters.

PREVIOUS MINUTES: A motion was made to accept the minutes of the November 17th, 2023 general meeting, as distributed. It was seconded and passed.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: P.C. Cheryl Chisholm listed the following information, included in each delegate packet:

- General Meeting Minutes of the November 17th, 2023
- Mass DEP Proposed Regulatory Amendments:
Three major regulatory changes proposed for comment. Chapter 91 licensing: "Wetlands" – Build bans along waterfront; Water Quality Standards
- POG (Port Operator's Group) meeting of January 16th, 2024
- Tee Commerce – We make it easy for your club to sell merchandise online
(See flier and use QR Code for more information – Under Links of Interest)
- Cottage Park Yacht Club – free used marina main and finger floats
(See contact information on flier – under Links of Interest)
- Neptune: Decommissioning plan of its offshore facility: Deep Water Port
It consists of two underwater buoys and a subsea pipeline designed for the importation of natural gas – update
- NOAA and BOEM (Bureau of Energy Management) release joint North Atlantic Right Whale and Offshore Wind Strategy
- 2024 Scholarship application

"BOATERS ARE VOTERS"

"THE VOICE OF OVER FIFTY THOUSAND BOATING FAMILIES"

- *2024 Delegate/Alternate form*
- *List of clubs that were “Club of the Year” since its inception*
- *List of scholarship recipients since its inception in 2011*
- *We are looking for clubs that would like to host a general monthly meeting for MBYCA*

A motion to accept the Secretary’s report was made, seconded and passed.

TREASURER’S REPORT: *P.C. Ted Chisholm reported a balance of \$7,812.55, with 5 clubs still owing 2023 dues.*

A motion to accept the Treasurer’s report was made, seconded and passed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

PORT OPERATOR’S GROUP: *P.C. Peter Gilson stated the following:*

USCG:

- *The new North Washington Street bridge is open, and the temporary bridge is being removed. No impact on the Charles River access/navigation is expected.*
- *The Beldon Bly bridge channel in Lynn will be closed to all traffic beginning February 1st through May 1st, 2024 to allow positioning of heavy construction equipment, etc. A 100-yard safety zone is in effect and all requests to transit the bridge site require permission of the COTP Sector Boston.*
- ***Please report all ice areas to Mr. Timothy Chase, Sector Boston@617-447-1620***
- *The annual Port Security Grant program cannot commence until the federal budget is established.*

MASSPORT:

- *ZIM (Israeli) shipping is being impacted by the Red Sea conflict which has resulted in vessel transit times (and thus arrival in Boston) of an additional two and a half weeks.*

MBHSC:

- *The next meeting is scheduled for February 16th, 2024.*

SECURITY:

- *The risk of a lone offender utilizing relatively simple weapons has increased. A flyer on an Active Shooter webinar, scheduled for February 15th, will be released shortly.*
- ***GO to USPS.COM for information on suspicious letters/packages.***
- *TJ Swanson will replace Dennin in February.*

RIGHT WHALE:

- *Two new slow zones have been established: East of Portland and off Nantucket.*

NOAA:

- *It was noted that the January 14th, 2024 storm produced the highest water and thus the highest flood impact on record. The tides are getting higher and the storms more frequent.*

PILOTS:

- *2023 saw 900 ship visits, which is 21 more than 2022.*

GENERAL:

- *New wetland rules, etc are being issued. Captain Benson will distribute them to the POG members. The impression is that these will have a significant impact on waterfront properties and future development.*

The next POG meeting will be held on February 20th, 2024. Location TBD.

PORT MEETING DISCUSSION (in-person attendees only):

Cross training of land and marine firefighters was discussed. There are major differences, for example: attack styles – ventilate on land and smother aboard a vessel, etc.

Delegate Harvey Leibowitz asked if there were any CG members represented at this meeting and Peter said there were two. Harvey stated, the reason being is the Coast Guard runs their own fire departments on land and sea and maybe they could help tie this all together.

LEGISLATION: P.C. Ted Chisholm spoke on the following:

- **BILL H.910:**
An Act establishing a commission to study dredging needs for recreational boating in Commonwealth waterways, sponsored by Representative William M. Straus of Mattapoisett.
- **HB.763:**
An Act relative to DCR yacht Club fees reflecting waterway access, sponsored by State Representative Tackey Chan of Quincy.
- **HB.761:**
An Act expanding pleasure boat access to Boston Harbor, sponsored by State Representative Tackey Chan .

YEARBOOK: P.C. Cheryl Chisholm stated the following information:

- The Deadline for submissions to become a candidate for “Club of the Year” is April 27th, 2024. “Club of the Year” winner will have their club photo on the cover as well as a full page of collage club pictures and history.
- The deadline for all submissions is May 15th, 2024.
- Any club that has only submitted their officers in the yearbook can become 100% boosted and a candidate for “Club of the Year” by submitting all their members into the yearbook as a pdf.

SCHOLARSHIPS: Commodore Greenstein stated:

- The 2024 Scholarship applications are in your packet as well as on the website and will be mailed to each Commodore along with the February minutes.
- The deadline for submissions is April 9th, 2024.
- The selected recipients will be announced at our April 26th general meeting held at Orient Heights Yacht Club.

SAFE BOATING: P.C. Peter Caten mentioned the following:

- The Aquarium is helping to shape up a change in regulations and activities that affect boating.
- Better Lobster Trap – in developmental stage. A team of engineers is designing a low-cost, lineless, self-surfacing lobster trap that would prevent right whale entanglement along with boater’s props. ([See more information under Links of Interest on our website](#))

ATTENDANCE: Social Chair Carol Gilson stated 14 clubs, 22 delegates and 2 alternates were in attendance.

COMMODORE'S REPORT: Commodore Phil Greenstein spoke on the following ideas in the planning stages:

- Eliminate card fees.com
- Updating our website: Club Express

More to details to come in the near future.

OLD BUSINESS: NONE

NEW BUSINESS:

- Audit Committee to be formed for 2023 Audit. They include P.C. Frank Pisano from Watertown Yacht Club, Craig Spear from Winthrop Yacht Club and Tom Pappa, Commodore of Chelsea Yacht Club. Thank you all for volunteering.
- We are continuing to search for a 2024 Rear Commodore.

There were no other questions or concerns.

NEXT GENERAL MEETING:

February 23rd, 2024 – East Boston Yacht Club, 1 Rice Street, East Boston, MA

Guest Speaker: Juliana Mancinelli – MTM Insurance

“With the numerous hazards and exposures marinas and yacht clubs face, understanding their insurance is extremely important to make sure they are properly covered.”


50/50: was won by Mystic Wellington delegate Paul Moran.

MOTION TO ADJOURN: was made at 8:55 pm.

It was seconded and passed.

HAPPY NEW YEAR AND HAVE A SAFE AND MEMORABLE 2024 BOATING SEASON.

Respectfully submitted by,


P.C. Cheryl Pote Chisholm
Secretary/MBYCA