

MBYCA
GENERAL MEETING MINUTES
May 21st, 2021
(Zoom Meeting)

The May 21st, 2021 general meeting of the Massachusetts Boating and Yacht Clubs Association, Inc. was held as a Zoom meeting. Commodore Carolyn Bargoot welcomed all and turned the meeting over to V.C. Neal Caten, P.C. Vice Commodore Neal thanked all who attended and looked forward to an informative meeting.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: P.C. Cheryl Chisholm listed the following correspondence which was emailed during the month:

- *Fort Point Channel Replacement Bridge*
- *Salem Harbor Offshore Wing REI*
- *NOAA Update on Electronic Navigation*
- *Minutes of the April 23rd, 2021 General Meeting*
- *Networking Old and New*
- *SBYC Opening Day Ceremony will be moved to Labor Day.*
- *NOAA to host webinar on using the NOAA Custom Chart Application*
- *City of Quincy requests an additional public comment on the City of Boston's application for a Chapter 91 license for the Long Island Bridge*
- *Mailing and emailing of the Long Island ridge Survey*
- *Maine Boatbuilders Show – July 23, 24, and 25th, 2021*
- *North Washington Street Replacement Bridge Update – 05-14-21*

TREASURER'S REPORT: P.C. Ted Chisholm reported a balance of \$12,674.39 as of April 30th, 2021.

ATTENDANCE OF OFFICERS AND DELEGATES:

- *All officers and Board members were in attendance with the exception of P.C. Russell Hoy.*
- *11 clubs and 16 delegates were in attendance.*

PREVIOUS MINUTES: A motion was made to accept the minutes of the April 23rd, 2021 general meeting. It was seconded and passed.

A MOTION WAS MADE TO SUSPEND THE MEETING TO WELCOME AND INTRODUCE TWO OF OUR THREE 2021 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS. It was seconded and passed.

John "Jack" Iversen – American Yacht Club and Emma Foley – Winthrop Yacht Club

COMMITTEE REPORTS

PORT OPERATOR'S GROUP: P.C. Peter Gilson reported on the following:

USCG:

- See the local Notice to Mariners for the latest information on the North Washington Street Bridge and the Annisquam RR Bridge.
(see website under 5/21/21 Minutes – No. Washington Bridge Update)
- The City of Boston has distributed requests for information on “tall – over 46 feet” vessels which transit Western Way. Note: MBYCA has forwarded this request to all Yacht Clubs. **Responses are now due June 26th, 2021.**
(Please use one survey for each vessel)
(see website under 5/23/21 Minutes – Vessel Survey)
- Vibration sensors have been placed near the Ted Williams Tunnel and the Castle Island fish pier to monitor blasting activity during the ledge removal activity. Yellow illuminated buoys (flashing 2.5 sec) mark each area.
- The **APACHE** is the blasting vessel. **STAY CLEAR !!!**

MASSPORT:

- The conditional sail order is still in effect and no cruise ships are expected to visit Boston before July at the earliest and are unlikely this year.
- The new cranes are off the coast of Madagascar and are expected to arrive in Boston mid-June. They should be operational in September.

MASS BAY HARBOR SAFETY COMMITTEE: (MBHSC):

- Captain Cox reported on planning activities restarting for the National Harbor Safety Committee scheduled for Boston in June of 2022.
- Peter Gilson reported on the status of recreational boating responses to the Boston/CG request for “Tall” vessel information.
- \$350 million has been invested in the harbor deepening project and new cranes to handle the “panamax” vessels which will transit President Roads.
- Western Way is the safest, most direct route between Boston and the South Shore. Alternate routes through Nubble Channel or the Narrows are 33% longer and riskier requiring transit through President Roads.
- Projected rising tide levels (6 ½ feet) over the new bridge life (75 to 100 years) and 2-4 foot wakes and increasingly taller vessels render the proposed 51- foot MHW air draft totally inadequate.

Editor's Note: The Massachusetts Boating and Yacht Clubs Association (MBYCA), the Massachusetts Marine Trades Association (MMTA) and the Massachusetts Bay Harbor Safety Committee (MBHSC) all support 1. A detailed extensive survey of vessel traffic (historic and projected) in the area and 2. Increased “air draft” over the proposed 51 feet.

(see website under Minutes 05/21/21 – LI Replacement Bridge – 3 responses)

CISA:

- Recent ransomware attacks were discussed.

NOAA:

- Electronic charting work is underway between New York and Boston.
(see website under Minutes 05/21/21 – NOAA – Electronic Nav Charts info)

ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS (ACOE):

- Ledge Removal work is expected to get underway in early June.
- The City of Boston proposes to remove the existing Northern Avenue Swing bridge structure and install a stationary replacement bridge over the Fort Point Channel.
- Why this is of interest to the recreational boater is because the vertical clearance of the new stationary bridge will match the clearance of the Evelyn F. Moakley bridge (Seaport Boulevard Bridge) of 16-feet above Mean High Water. The proposed horizontal clearance will match the existing 75-foot clearance offered by the existing structure.
There is a Public Notice period from May 10th to June 10th, 2021.
- Next meeting will be held on June 15th, 2021.

LEGISLATION: P.C. Bill Scanlon mentioned the following:

- **HB 2457** – An Act relative to hoisting machinery licensure requirements for recreational boating organizations, municipalities and commercial fishing vessels.
Bill will be looking further into this bill.
(see website under Minutes 05/21/21 – HB2457)

YEARBOOK: P.C. Cheryl Chisholm spoke on the following:

- Yearbooks will be ready for pick up on June 25th, 2021 at Port Norfolk Yacht Club, 179 Walnut Street, Dorchester from 4 to 7:00 pm in the foyer. The same as last year.
There will be a sign in sheet to fill out before taking your books. There will be no in-person or Zoom meeting for June. However, material will be ready for each club on June 25th. PICK UP TIME: 4:00 to 7:00 pm

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

- Wind Power - a permit has been advanced for Vineyard Wind.
Vineyard Wind is a company that brought online the first installation of turbines off Block Island. They were small and there only were five of them and they were well received.
There were no significant problems between the residence of Block Island and the stake holders in the water. Vineyard Wind did a lot of preplanning with all involved. They have been producing electricity for a long time without a single negative event. The new windfarm is a lot bigger than what is operating off Block Island. The new farm is industrial size and will have 100 much larger turbines than earlier proposed. It is much better located, 15 miles south of the coast. More to come....
- Peter will have material available from the Environmental Police along with the Mass Fishing Guidebooks to be picked up with the yearbooks.

OLD BUSINESS:

- *We are in search of a Rear Commodore for the remaining 2021 year. Anyone interested please contact P.C. Cheryl Chisholm - mbyca.cpc46@gmail.com*

NEW BUSINESS:

- *We will be looking for volunteers for the Nominating Committee for officers for 2022. Anyone interested please contact: P.C. Cheryl Chisholm - mbyca.cpc46@gmail.com*

QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS:

- *Seaplanes – any progress?
Cape Air has backed out due to docking and fueling issues. Tailwinds another seaplane company is waiting for approval for the Boston harbor area.*
- *Reciprocal agreements with Winthrop Yacht Club?
Not at this time, due to Covid restrictions and reasons before Covid, Winthrop has no reciprocal agreements in place. This may change after Covid restrictions are lifted, but this has to be decided by WYC's board at a later date.*

SOCIAL:

- *Lipton Cup Regatta -August 7th-8th, 2021
(see website under Minutes 05/21/21 – Lipton Cup Regatta)*
- *Quincy Bay Race Week – July 22nd – July 25th
(see website under Minutes 05/21/21 – Quincy Bay Race Week)*
- *MAINE BOAT BUILDERS SHOW – July 23, 24,25th 2021
(see website under Minutes 05/21/21 – Maine Boatbuilders Show)*

MOTION TO ADJOURN: *Was made at 8:17 pm. It was seconded and passed.*

Respectfully submitted by,

*P.C. Cheryl Chisholm
Secretary/MBYCA*