



# Massachusetts Boating & Yacht Clubs Association, Inc.

## MBYCA GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

February 24<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Chelsea Yacht Club

The February 24<sup>th</sup>, 2023, general meeting of the Massachusetts Boating and Yacht Clubs Association, Inc. was held at Chelsea Yacht Club, One Broadway, Chelsea, MA 02150.

Commodore Neal Caten opened the meeting at 8:10 pm. He introduced Director Tom Pappas and Tom welcomed us all, thanked MBYCA for all their hard work on behalf of the recreational boater and wished us a good meeting. He invited all to enjoy a beverage at the bar.

**PREVIOUS MONTH'S MINUTES:** A motion was made to accept the minutes of MBYCA's January 27<sup>th</sup>, 2023 meeting. It was seconded and passed.

**SECRETARY'S REPORT:** P.C. Cheryl Chisholm listed the following information included in your packets:

- Minutes of the January 27<sup>th</sup>, 2023 general meeting ([Website: Minutes](#))
- Organizational structure and explanation of the Mass Bay Harbor Safety Committee
- Responsibilities and description of PAWSA (Port and Waterways Safety Assessment)
- 2023 Delegate & Alternate form ([Website: Links of Interest](#))
- 2023 Scholarship Application ([Website: Links of Interest](#))
- Explanation and description of Educational Passages and the story of Rye Riptides miniboat travels. ([Website: Links of Interest](#))
- NOAA:
  - \*Final Rule to Adopt the Omega Electronic Mesh Measurement Gauge
  - \*Final Rule to Implement the Revised Mackerel Rebuilding Plan and Specifications
  - \*Emergency Closure for Trap/Pot Fisheries
  - \*2023 Sea Turtle Annual Determination
- Marine Technician Program – Bunker Hill Class (March 20<sup>th</sup>-25<sup>th</sup>, 2023) ([Website: Links of Interest](#))

"BOATERS ARE VOTERS"

"THE VOICE OF OVER FIFTY THOUSAND BOATING FAMILIES"



- *Plymouth to Salisbury, Massachusetts – Area Committee 2023 PREP Functional Exercise – March 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2023 – Observers are invited with sign up.*
- *DCR Better Beach program - \$300,000 public grant information( [Website: Links of Interest](#))*

*A motion was made to accept the Secretary's report. It was seconded and passed.*

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** *P.C. Ted Chisholm announced the following:*

- *MBYCA has a balance of \$15,547.72 as of February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2023.*
- *31 clubs have paid their 2023 dues.*
- *3 clubs are outstanding for 2022 dues.*

*A motion was made to accept the Treasurer's report. It was seconded and passed.*

***A MOTION WAS MADE TO SUSPEND THE MEETING FOR OUR GUEST SPEAKER:***

*The motion was seconded and passed.*

***Ms. Cassie Stymiest – Director  
Educational Passages Miniboat Program  
P.O. Box 521  
Northwood, NH 03201  
[www.educationalpassages.org](http://www.educationalpassages.org)***

***COMMITTEE REPORTS***

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

***USCG:***

- *A proposal to build a fixed bridge over the Saugus River will be released in the near future.*
- *The Coast Guard thanked all participants in the Port and Waterways Safety Assessment (PAWSA) which went very well. The Coast Guard report will be issued in a few weeks. Ed note: The Massachusetts Bay Harbor Safety Committee (MBHSC) was formed as a recommendation of the 2011 PAWSA.*



- The basic process involves establishing a prioritized listing of safety issues in the area and subsequently recommendations for corrective action by specific agencies, groups, etc. The initial top five issues identified were: *Recreational vessel quality, Volume of recreational traffic, Congestion, Deep draft commercial vessels and traffic mix.*
- Several new vessel classes were reviewed including autonomous vessels and hybrid surface/air vessels capable of 170 MPH and operating between 1 foot and 20 feet above the water surface.
- Suggested improvements included large vessel “escorts” on all large ships transiting the harbor, formally establishing a “small boat channel” North East of lower middle (the usual route of the Pilot vessels), carriage of VHF radios monitoring CH 13 on sailing club boats, marking seaplane operation areas with buoys and adding ferry routes between Boston and Salem, Provincetown, etc. to the charts.
- The small Passenger Vessel Day will be held on March 7<sup>th</sup> between 9:00 am and 2:00 pm. Details to follow.
- The Panamax Long Island grounding exercise will be held on March 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2023.

#### **MASSPORT:**

- Business continues to expand with 20 ships visiting Conley terminal in January.
- The first cruise ship is scheduled to visit Boston on March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2023.

#### **MBHSC:**

- Captain Bob Blair is the new chair of the MBHSC, replacing Captain Angel Montanez. Captain Lauren Beagen and Captain Bill McHugh are vice chairs, Scott White (CDR USCG retired) is secretary and Pete Gilson is clerk. Captain Mike McDonough and Captain Bob Evals are chairing the North Shore/Boston and South Shore areas respectively. Captain Blair will be the POG representative.
- The MBHSC became a 401 (C) (3) organization last year and will be raising funds in support of various projects.

#### **SECURITY:**

- An active shooter webinar will be held on March 16<sup>th</sup>, 2023. *Go to the CISA website for more information.*

#### **RIGHT WHALES:**

- All vessels transiting Cape Cod Bay during March through early May are requested to not exceed 10 knots.



- *Five of the twenty-one whales killed last year were the result of ship strikes.*
- *Captain Chris Nolan inquired about the possibility of offshore wind farm sonar signals confusing the whales. Not likely according to NOAA.*
- *NOAA will be reviewing the 100,000++ comments received on their proposal to limit vessels above 35 feet LOA to 10 knots on an area by area basis.*

**PILOTS:**

- *January saw 57 ship arrivals requiring pilots versus 44 for the same period last year.*

**GENERAL:**

- *It was suggested that new offshore disposal sites will be required in the future and that approval efforts should be initiated soon.*
- *The next POG meeting will be held on the 21<sup>st</sup> of March, 2023.*

**LEGISLATIVE:** *P.C. Ted Chisholm mentioned the following:*

- *DCR is close to issuing their first lease within the next few weeks.*

**SCHOLARSHIPS:** *R.C. Phil Greenstein announced the following:*

- *Scholarship applications are in your packet as well as you can download one from our website.*
- *We will be awarding at least 2(two) \$500 scholarships this year.*
- *The deadline for submissions is April 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023.*
- *The 2023 recipients will be announced at our April 28<sup>th</sup> general meeting. There will be raffle tickets ready to purchase and sell at our March 24<sup>th</sup> general meeting. The raffle prize will be announced then.*

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

- *The deadline for "Club of the Year" is April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2023. To be the club of the year, which has your club on the cover of the yearbook, the club must have all their member included in the yearbook and dues paid.*
- *The deadline for all other submissions is May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2023.*
- *The remaining yearbook packets are ready for pick up at the sign-up table. After the meeting, the remainder will be mailed to each club.*

**ATTENDANCE OF CLUBS:** *Social Chair Carol Gilson reported 17 clubs, 22 delegates and 3 alternates were in attendance.*



**OLD BUSINESS:**

- *The 2023 Audit Committee will be receiving the 2022 financial report in one week for review. They will be mailed. The committee consists of: Frank Pisano – Past Commodore of Watertown Yacht Club, Tom Pappa, Director of Chelsea Yacht Club and Peter Rancourt, Treasurer of Fox Hill Yacht Club. Thank you to all for offering.*

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- *Commodore Rick LeBlanc of Crescent Yacht had a question to all other clubs: Do any yacht clubs withhold a certain percentage of monies raised for a charity fund raiser to offset the cost of expenses for that event? If so, is there a general percentage held back?*

*Rick's email: [xlr8nboat@yahoo.com](mailto:xlr8nboat@yahoo.com)*

- **NEXT GENERAL MEETING: Friday, March 24<sup>th</sup>, 2023 – TBD**  
*Hopefully, Lynn Yacht Club, Lynn, MA*

**50/50:** was won by Social Chair Carol Gilson.

**MOTION TO ADJOURN:** was made at 9:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted by,



P.C. Cheryl Chisholm  
Secretary/MBYCA