



# Massachusetts Boating & Yacht Clubs Association, Inc.

## MBYCA GENERAL MEETING MINUTES September 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2023 Newton Yacht Club

The September 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2023 general meeting of the Massachusetts Boating and Yacht Clubs Association, Inc. was held at Newton Yacht Club, 12 Nonantum Road, Newton, MA 02495.

Commodore Neal Caten, P.C. opened the meeting at 8:00pm. He introduced our Newton Yacht Club host, Commodore Nathan Thorner, who welcomed us all and wished us a good meeting and to enjoy his club's reciprocities.

**PREVIOUS MINUTES:** A motion was made to accept the minutes of MBYCA's June 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2023 general meeting. It was seconded and passed.

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

- Minutes of the June 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2023
- 2023 Annual Yearbook Report
- General Edward Bridge Proposed Fixed Bridge Replacement
- Seaplane Awareness flier
- Buoy Outline of Proposed Paul Dudley White Path between BU Bridge and River Street Bridge, the so-called THROAT.
- CRWA (Watershed) Flagging Program

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

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** In P.C. Ted Chisholm's place, Commodore Neal Caten reported a balance of \$7,521.83.

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

**ATTENDANCE:** Social Chair Carol Gilson reported 21 Clubs, 28 delegates and 7 alternates were in attendance.

"BOATERS ARE VOTERS"

"THE VOICE OF OVER FIFTY THOUSAND BOATING FAMILIES"

**A MOTION WAS MADE TO SUSPEND THE MEETING FOR OUR GUEST SPEAKER:  
The motion was seconded and passed.**

**Paul Melanson**  
**Boatwise**  
**P.O. Box 135**  
**Kingston, NH 03848**  
**603-394-0412**  
**Boatwise.org**



***Boatwise has been teaching license classes to the boating community for over 30 years. Whether you are looking to advance your career with a 100 gross Ton Captains License, or are simply looking for a Boaters Safety Course to enjoy time on the water, Boatwise has you covered. All certification classes are held with our highly experienced team of Captains totaling over 150 years of teaching experience and all testing is done right in our classrooms.***

***Check out their website for further information on classes and locations.***

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

**SAFE BOATING:** P.C. Peter Caten spoke on the following:

- The importance of using the "If Found" Orange or Yellow stickers for kayaks, paddleboards, canoes, etc. When filling out the stickers, please use an indelible laundry marker. If more are needed, please email Peter at: [petercaten@comcast.net](mailto:petercaten@comcast.net).
- David Hanson Bill: initially began in 2017 and currently in the house as S536: An Act Relative to Boater Safety to be known as the David Hanson Act,
- The importance of Safe Boating education courses.

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

### USCG:

- The Captain reported on several items as follows:
  - \*Readiness planning and communication for hurricane Lee went through very well.
  - \*The Sumner Tunnel closure and planning for its impact on vessel traffic in Chelsea Creek was handled "brilliantly".
  - \*Work continues on the installation and debugging of the 360-degree coverage cameras on Boston Light. Originally proposed to monitor operational discrepancies of the light itself, the design was expanded to provide 360-degree weather coverage of the area. Public access will be arriving soon through a public URL. This will allow boaters, etc. to see live coverage of the wind, sea state, vessel traffic, etc. prior to leaving the inner harbor, marinas, etc.
- During the Sumner tunnel closure, which forced additional traffic on the Chelsea Street bridge, which must be opened to allow ships to deliver fuel, etc., there were 260 transits! Thus, the "brilliantly" comment from above.
- The Chelsea Street bridge roller replacement will commence on the 20<sup>th</sup> of September and take 42 days, the last 3 of which will involve practice and partial openings/closures, etc.
- Dredging of Green Harbor will commence on October 1<sup>st</sup> and take about 60 days.
- Be aware that Aids to Navigation, ATON, changeout will begin around the end of October.
- The USS Constitution will turnaround on September 22<sup>nd</sup> and October 21<sup>st</sup>.
- Mr. Catudal will be conducting a shooter exercise on October 25<sup>th</sup>.

**MASSPORT:**

- *There were 24 ships calls in August, a record!*
- *The seawall adjacent to the lobster fleet slips in the reserve channel area is being repaired.*
- *There are 85 ship calls expected between now and the 31<sup>st</sup> of October!!!*

**SPEAKERS:**

- *Richard Jabba (Fort Point Associates, Inc.) briefed on the Mystic River Pedestrian Bridge. The mean high tide water (MHW) clearance will be 30 feet, similar to the existing bridge clearances and will be 81 feet wide. It is expected to be completed in about 2 years. Note: this design was reviewed by the MBYCA Board and appears consistent with other bridges in the area.*
- *The proposed General Edwards bridge design will be a fixed bridge, not draw, and have a 33-foot clearance at MHW, which is similar to the existing bridge. Comments are requested in the NEXT WEEK. The lobster fleet will not be affected.*

**ACOE: (Army Corps of Engineers)**

- *Boston Harbor main channel maintenance dredging has not been scheduled as yet. One issue is the remaining capacity of the offshore CAD cell and possible alternative sites.*
- *High resolution electronic chart files of Boston channel are being tested and will be available soon.*

**MBHSC: (Mass Bay Harbor Safety Committee)**

- *The general meeting will be held on October 27<sup>th</sup>.*

**RIGHT WHALE:**

- *A virtual meeting will be held on February 15<sup>th</sup> through the 17<sup>th</sup>, 2024 to brief the latest recommendations for the protection of this endangered species.*

**PILOTS:**

- *August saw 86 ships requiring pilots, which is up 13 from 2022.*
- *YTD there have been 588, which is up 140 or about 81% over 2022!!*

**GENERAL:**

- *Large Vessel awareness fliers should be posted.*
- *The next POG meeting will be held on October 17<sup>th</sup>, location TBD.*

**RENDEZVOUS: P.C. Russell spoke on the following:**

- *The 2023 Summer Rendezvous went well, considering weather issues.*
- *Next year's plans are in the works with two destinations being made available.*

- *Plans are being made to have our 2024 Summer Rendezvous held during the 2<sup>nd</sup> weekend of August. Mark your calendars.*

**COAST GUARD:** *P.C. Russel Hoys also mentioned:*

- *The Coast Guard is closing shop for the season, regarding the auxiliary.*
- *Be aware, the temperature of the water is getting much colder.*

**SCHOLARSHIPS:** *R.C. Phil Greenstein stated:*

- *We are looking forward to the applications for 2024.*
- *Students are eligible if they are a son, daughter, grandson or granddaughter of a member of MBYCA either as an incoming freshman or an upper classman who has never received our scholarship before.*
- *Scholarship raffle items will be decided at a later date.*

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

- *100% Booster plaques are available for pick up.*
- *She thanked all clubs that were in the yearbook 100% with all their members.*
- *We are looking forward to next year's annual yearbook and thanked all for their participation.*

**OLD BUSINESS:**

- *We are looking for a Rear Commodore for 2024. He or she does not have to be a past commodore to sign on. We would love to have you with us!*

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- *The 2024 Slate of Officers are as follows:*

*Commodore: R.C. Phil Greenstein*

*Vice Commodore: P.C. Carolyn Bargoot (interim)*

*Rear Commodore: Open*

*Secretary: P.C. Cheryl Chisholm*

*Treasurer: P.C. Ted Chisholm*

*Directors:*

*Ex-Officio: P.C. Neal Caten*

*P.C. Peter Caten*

*P.C. Peter Gilson*

*P.C. Russell Hoy*

- **OUR NEXT GENERAL MEETING**

- \* **Friday, October 27<sup>th</sup>, 2023** - Fox Hill Yacht Club  
114 Ballard Street, Saugus MA  
**COME HUNGRY.... A FULL DINNER WILL BE SERVED**

- \***Election of 2024 Officers**

- \***Guest Speakers: Friends of the Boston Harbor Islands**  
Walter Hope, Chairman FBHI, and Paul Federico Vice Chair FBHI

**Speaking on:** *In 1891, four intrepid women from Lowell, Massachusetts, sailed to a remote island in Boston Harbor for a 17-day escape from New England's prim and proper society. Calling themselves the SCRIBE, the ARISTOCRAT, the ACROBAT and the AUTOCRAT, the women stayed in a cottage on Great Brewster Island, reveling in the chance to shed their identities of wife, mother and daughter. Relive their sojourn through their remarkable journal, which is in the collection of Harvard University, filled with observations, illustrations, photography and poetry, reproduced by the Friends of the Boston Harbor Islands.*

**50/50:** was won by Delegate Ruth Sargeant from Charlesgate Yacht Club

**MOTION TO ADJOURN:** was made at 9:10 pm. It was seconded and passed.

Respectfully submitted by,



**P.C. Cheryl Pote Chisholm**  
**Secretary/MBYCA**