



Massachusetts Boating & Yacht Clubs Association, Inc.

MBYCA GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

January 27th, 2023

Mystic Wellington Yacht Club

The January 27th, 2023 general meeting of the Massachusetts Boating and Yacht Clubs Association, Inc. was held at Mystic Wellington Yacht Club, 100 Constitution Way, Medford, MA 02155. Commodore Joe DiGirolamo welcomed us all and on behalf of Mystic Wellington Yacht Club and its officers and board members thanked MBYCA for all the great work it has done on behalf of all our member yacht clubs. Commodore DiGirolamo was also presented MWYCS's 100% Participation plaque for 100% yearbook submission for 2022.

PREVIOUS MONTH'S MINUTES: A motion was made to approve the minutes of MBYCA's November 19th, 2022 general meeting. It was seconded and passed.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: P.C. Cheryl Chisholm listed the following information included in this month's packet:

- Minutes of the November 19th, 2022 general meeting.
- 2023 MBYCA Scholarship application
- 2023 MBYCA Delegate/Alternate form
- MBYCA Yacht Club Offerings form for 2023
- MBYCA response to the Coast Guard Preliminary Public Notice 1-196, Boston Harbor regarding the Long Island Bridge Clearance
- NOAA Announces Atlantic Herring Management Area 1B Possession Limit Adjustment Effective January 11th, 2023
- Educational Passages – mini boat program – our February guest speaker
- NOAA – Fisheries is extending public comment period on the proposed regulations for the taking of marine mammals incidental to the "Revolution Wind Offshore Wind Farm Project"
- Article regarding regulation changes to prevent boats from hitting endangered right whales

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

"BOATERS ARE VOTERS"

"THE VOICE OF OVER FIFTY THOUSAND BOATING FAMILIES"

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

- *MBYCA has a balance of \$9,107.07*
- *2023 dues invoices will be mailed to all clubs this week.*

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

COMMITTEE REPORTS

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

USCG:

- *The Beldon Bly drawbridge channel will be closed to navigation from January 16th through the 23rd, 2023. Exceptions require approval of the Captain of the Port (COTP). A 100-yard safety zone will be in effect. Call Peter Tramontozzi (DOT) at 617-274-9022 for any questions.*
- *The Coast Guard expects to publish their preliminary decision on the replacement Long Island bridge design by the end of March.*
- *A dredge will be working at the Merrimac River entrance next week.*
- *A Port and Waterways Safety Assessment (PAWSA) for the Boston area will be held next week (January 25th and 26th) at the Black Falcon Terminal. The long-term goals of the PAWSA process are:*
 1. *Provide input during planning for projects that intend to improve the safety of navigation*
 2. *Further the Marine Transportation System (MTS) goals of improved coordination and cooperation between government and the private sector, involving stakeholders in decisions affecting them*
 3. *Foster development and/or strengthen the roles of Harbor Safety Committees within each port and...*
 4. *Support and reinforce the role of the USCG Sector Commanders and Captains of the Port (COTP) in promoting waterway and Vessel Traffic Management (VTM) activities within their geographic areas of responsibility.*

Fifteen two-person teams will discuss and score sixteen risk factors that are the basis for the PAWSA decision tool.

Observers are welcome to attend but do not participate in the actual team discussions, etc.

(Ed note: MBYCA was represented at the first Boston PAWSA in 2011 and is represented at this PAWSA event.

- The annual Small Passenger Day meeting will be held on March 7th, 2023.

MASSPORT:

- Business is on the upswing and are looking at a good 2023 season.

MBHSC:

- Will be represented at the PAWSA.

SECURITY:

- Bomb threat training is available to organizations.

(Visit: [cisa.gov\advisories](https://www.cisa.gov/advisories) and look for "NTAS")

RIGHT WHALE:

- The 2023 season slow zones will begin on April 1st, 2023 and extend through May.
- Vessels 65 feet and up are required to transit these zones at a maximum speed of 10 knots.
- The proposal to reduce vessel size to 35 feet versus 65 feet remains under consideration.

NOAA:

- Print on demand charts will be available for the next six months, **ONLY**.
- It was suggested that the MBHSC review "carriage requirements" since only electronic charts will be readily available.
- NOAA will schedule a presentation at a POG meeting in the near future to discuss options to supplement electronic charts on small vessels.
- There is concern about the reliability of electronic charts which depend upon GPS signals, which can be intentionally distorted or degraded.

PILOTS:

- December 2022 had 74 ships requiring pilots versus 51 in 2021.
- The 2022 total was 776 ships, which was an increase of 22% over 2021....a positive sign!!!!

GENERAL:

- The next POG meeting will be held on February 21st, 2023 at the Massport Marine offices.

LEGISLATION: P. C. Ted Chisholm announced the following:

- The lease package for the 17 clubs on DCR land has gone to the Inspector General for his approval and it should be forth coming hopefully this year.

YEARBOOK: P.C. Cheryl Chisholm announced:

- The 2023 Yearbook packets are available at the sign in desk and will also be available at our February 24th general meeting at Chelsea Yacht Club.
- The deadline to be in the running for Club of the Year is April 28th, 2023, at our general meeting to be held at Orient heights Yacht Club.
- The deadline for all other material submissions, either club, business or personal ads, is May 15th, 2023.

SCHOLARSHIPS: R. C. Phil Greenstein stated:

- The 2023 Scholarship applications are in your packets and have been mailed to your Commodores and Delegates. It is also on the website under Links of Interest, to be downloaded if necessary.
- The deadline for submissions is April 11th, 2023.
- The selected recipients will be announced at our April 28th, 2023, general meeting, held at Orient Heights Yacht Club.

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

- Disposal of Safety Flares to your local fire departments but call them first.
- Old Fire extinguishers – there is no general method in place in dealing with old fire extinguishers. The local fire departments say just to clear it. Be sure all propulsion is out of it and trash it. Check to see if it is a recycling matter in your town.
- Department of Fisheries promotional material is all late this year. New material should be available March or April.
- Boating Education – Hanson Bill

ATTENDANCE OF CLUBS: Carol Gilson reported 19 clubs and 32 delegates were in attendance.

OLD BUSINESS: NONE

NEW BUSINESS:

- 2023 Audit Committee has been selected.
Frank Pisano – Watertown Yacht Club
Peter Rancourt – Fox Hill Yacht Club
Tom Pappa – Chelsea Yacht Club

50:50: was won by Commodore Joe DiGirolamo from Mystic Wellington Yacht Club.

NEXT GENERAL MEETING: Friday, February 24th, 2023

Chelsea Yacht Club

One Broadway


Chelsea, MA

Guest Speaker: Ms. Cassie Stymiest, Director
Educational Passages

Educational Passages is dedicated to spreading ocean and environmental educational literacy. It offers a program allowing students, teachers and people of all ages to learn about STEAM skills, discover maritime/ocean science careers and build lifelong connections. Students and teachers build, launch and track a 5-foot unmanned mini boat. The impact of the program is enormous and varied. It's truly a one-of-a-kind life shaping experience.

MOTION TO ADJOURN: was made at 8:45 pm. It was seconded and passed.

Respectfully submitted by,



P.C. Cheryl Pote Chisholm
Secretary/MBYCA