



# Massachusetts Boating & Yacht Clubs Association, Inc.

**MBYCA  
GENERAL MEETING  
February 26<sup>th</sup>, 2021  
(Zoom Meeting)**

**The February 26<sup>th</sup>, 2021 general meeting of the Massachusetts Boating and Yacht Clubs Association, Inc. was held as a Zoom meeting. Commodore Carolyn Bargoot called the meeting to order at 7:35 pm. She welcomed everyone to the meeting and hoped all were safe and healthy.**

**Commodore Bargoot stated that MBYCA 's board received and accepted the resignation of V.C. Jack Swanson, due to his increased workload and commitments. The board thanked Jack for all his time and efforts during his stay and wished him well.**

**SECRETARY'S REPORT:** P.C. Cheryl Chisholm mentioned the 5 attachments that were emailed to each club and delegate, as follows:

- 2021 Delegate/Alternate form - (**see attachment #1**)
- 2021 Scholarship application - (**see attachment #2**)
- North Washington bridge – year in review and update - (**see attachment #3**)
- From C.R.A.B. (Charles River Alliance of Boaters) – DCR Riverbank Vegetation Management Plan - (**see attachment #4**)
- Design & Use Guidelines for the Downtown Waterfront Public Meeting (**see attachment #5**)

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

**ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS:** All officers and board members were present with the exception of P.C. Paul Dubiel and P.C. Russell Hoy, who were excused.

**ROLL CALL OF CLUBS:** 21 delegates were present, representing 16 clubs.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** P.C. Ted Chisholm reported a balance of \$12,481.19. 38 clubs have paid for 2021. Three outstanding clubs came in for 2020. The financial reports have been mailed out to the Audit Committee.

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

**"BOATERS ARE VOTERS"  
"THE VOICE OF OVER FIFTY THOUSAND BOATING FAMILIES"**



## COMMITTEE REPORTS

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

**USCG:** Chief Ramirez, assistant to Tim Chase, presented the Coast Guard comments as follows:

- The North Washington Street channels are open.
- The Granite Street bridge is open with restrictions.
- The Annisquam bridge remains closed. Check the Notice to Mariners for updates
- The **TAILWIND** seaplane approval is in process and test flights are being planned. They plan to compete with Cape Air for the Boston-New York flight service. Cape Air already has approval.

**MASSPORT:**

- The new cranes are on order from China. (taller and with greater reach) They will handle the **panamax** class ships and are expected to ship from China in April, to arrive in June. If that happens, they will begin operation in the fall. As previously reported, MassPort has received interest from several shipping operations coming here with that kind of equipment once they are online with new cranes.
- Port Workers are now included in Phase II COVID vaccinations, which will start in early March. This involves between 30,000 and 40,000 people.
- The cruise business is on hold and Canada has placed a ban on **all** cruise activity as of February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2021. As mentioned last month, no test runs are scheduled, which is a requirement prior to resumption of service for the cruise lines.

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

- Discussions are underway with the National Safety Committee on rescheduling the National Meeting in Boston in 2022.
- We had a meeting at 1:00 pm that afternoon to discuss the design of a possible replacement Long Island bridge.

**CYBER SECURITY:**

- The National Terrorism Alert will continue through the spring.

**ACOE:** (Army Corps of Engineers) Mark Cutter reported:

- Great Lakes was a low bidder for the "blasting" ledge removal phase of the harbor deepening project.
- A May 1<sup>st</sup> start is anticipated, with about a 12-to-13-month duration. As reported earlier, Mark reported, as promised, will hold some outreach discussions with interested parties, in terms of safety considerations. It's the Safety Committee that came up with the vessel awareness flier series and it could be an update to one of those or it could be just fliers, or it could be just a notice to mariners. That remains to be seen. It is a very big traffic area between #4 (four) and #6 (six), in-bound on President Roads and we are going to be doing some blasting on occasion and breaking up material etc.
- Recently, some right whales have been reported near the offshore disposal site, which will require monitoring.



#### **GENERAL:**

- Peter inquired as to the schedule for issuing the Chelsea Creek study and Harlon indicated that the study is still being reviewed by the Coast Guard and the Army Corps of Engineers.
- The Coast Guard, as of February 24<sup>th</sup>, went to the new electronic Notice to Mariners. We sent out a report about a month ago. It stated that the Coast Guard mentioned they were going to do away with the channel 22? or 26? reports and they are going to electronic emails. You basically sign up via email and a notice is attached from Tim Chase on how to sign up for that. It is straight forward. You just go to **CG NAVCEN web site** and sign up – go to the subscription services and you will see **D1 Sector Boston BNM**. **(See attachment #6)**

#### **BACK TO THE HARBOR SAFETY COMMITTEE:**

- **Craig Spear – V.C. Winthrop Yacht Club – with regards to the Long Island Bridge**  
Previously, Craig inquired if MBYCA would support the building of a taller bridge with more air draft and more clearance. MBYCA decided to do that. In December we had a meeting with the Harbor Safety Committee and the Coast Guard to introduce them to the concern and the project. Peter drafted a letter, plagiarizing Craig's letter, and read that letter at the meeting. **(See attachment #7 – Craig's letter)**

There were representatives from the City of Boston, Coast Guard, Harbor Safety Committee, which includes the harbormasters from the area and the City of Quincy attending this meeting.

The baseline for a replacement bridge is essentially identical to the 1951 vintage. As a result, they are projecting 51.3 feet clearance. The structure will be more modern. The reason for the same clearance is so they can use the existing piers. Keep in mind they have been down for 70 plus years!

#### **Peter's comments: MBYCA COMMENTS ON NEW LONG ISLAND BRIDGE MHW CLEARANCE:**

Vessels traveling between inner Boston Harbor, Winthrop and Dorchester Bay frequently transit Western Way on their way to the Quincy Bay, Hingham, Hull and Weymouth areas.

Western Way is the shortest, safest and most direct route between these areas which is especially important during extreme weather conditions when vessels are seeking safe harbors. **Safety should be of the utmost priority.**

The critical portion of the transit between these areas is the run between "G3" north of Spectacle Island and "G11" west of Sheep Island in Hingham Bay via Western Way and West Gut. The distance between these markers is approximately 4.5 nautical miles and passes through the former Long Island bridge center span area.



Should a new bridge be built with the old 51-foot MHW clearance, vessels with an "air draft" in excess of that (primarily sailboats) would be forced to find an alternate route as follows:

1. Transit Nubble Channel just east of Long Island or 2. Transit the Narrows and then around Peddocks Island in both cases. Unfortunately, both of these alternate routes are approximately 6.0 nautical miles versus the original 4.5 nautical miles Western Way route. A 33% increase!

Tides in these areas can run in excess of 1.5 knots, which is significant given that the typical hull speed of these vessels is approximately 8 knots. More importantly, both alternate routes involve exposure to President Roads and Nantasket Roads in concert with easterly winds and ever higher extreme tidal currents

Peter's point, as a Safety Committee member, is the lower bridge presents a safety issue for a fair percentage of sailors in the area.

MBYCA also solicited 29 clubs in an effort to see how many sailboats required a higher bridge.

The Coast Guard has given us until the 19<sup>th</sup> of March for a written response. Peter asked for a written criteria from them. In summary, they want the vessel name/hull Id, the frequency of daily, monthly transit, the origin/destination, mast height, nature of voyage (recreation, commercial, government, etc) and the reason that you are unable to transit prior to 2015 deck removal. For the future: Future transit date or future date range and frequency, types of vessels (recreational, commercial, government etc), origin/destination, mast height, anticipated bridge clearance required based on \ expected conditions. (**See attachment #8**)

**PLEASE EMAIL : P.C. Bill Scanlon: [BostonCaptBill@yahoo.com](mailto:BostonCaptBill@yahoo.com) or P.C. Peter Gilson ([petegilson@aol.com](mailto:petegilson@aol.com)) by March 12<sup>th</sup>, 2021 with the forms requested.....see attachment #8**

- South Boston Yacht Club's St. Patrick's Day parade is cancelled. There will be no lines allowed outside any establishment for customers waiting to enter.

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

- Nothing pressing that is new. However, we talked at our last meeting about E-15. A reminder, in Massachusetts we have E-10 and let's keep it at that.
- Bill will be assisting on helping with the collecting the Long Island bridge data.
- Brian McMahan, a Jubilee Yacht Club delegate, had an article regarding what ethanol does and how to avoid its bad effects. (**see attachment #9**)



**MEMBERSHIP:** V.C. Neal Caten reported:

- *There is an initiative to rewrite a letter to clubs who are not currently members of MBYCA. This letter will include MBYCA's most recent accomplishments and benefits of belonging to MBYCA. The draft letter should be ready for our March board meeting. We are looking forward to having new clubs join our membership. Once we have a club interested, we shall do a presentation to their board with members from our board.*

**SCHOLARSHIP:** V.C. Neal Caten, P.C. stated the following:

- *We have one applicant thus far a 2021 scholarship. We are prepared to give out two, so if anyone knows of anyone, please contact me ([kten1010@gmail.com](mailto:kten1010@gmail.com)) or P.C. Cheryl Chisholm ([mbyca.cpc46@gmail.com](mailto:mbyca.cpc46@gmail.com))*
- *The deadline for filing the application is April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2021.*
- *The application has been mailed monthly to delegates and yacht clubs, plus it is on our website.*

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

- *Deadline for a club to be Club of the Year is April 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2021.*
- *2021 yearbook packets have been mailed.*
- *The final deadline for submissions is May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2021.*
- *Clubs that would like Boosters Raffle tickets, please contact me and I will mail them to you.*

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

- *3<sup>rd</sup> week of May is the Annual Boating Safety Week in Gloucester. This may not be happening due to the COVID-19 virus.*
- *PFD safety is of supreme necessity. 84% of the fatalities are due to not wearing a pfd.*
- *Top ten states with the most fatalities, Florida was number one. The coasts, large rivers and large lakes are where there are the highest numbers of fatalities.*
- *Open motorboats made up 45 % of the deaths involved.*
- *Watercraft 19%*
- *Cabin Motorboats 16%*
- *23% of deaths involved where alcohol related.*



**OLD BUSINESS:**

- 2021 Audit Committee is in receipt of the 2020 financial report from Treasurer Ted Chisholm.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- **WE ARE LOOKING FOR A REAR COMMODORE FOR 2021!!!**

*If interested, please contact Commodore Carolyn Bargoot (bargoot@yahoo.com) or P.C. Cheryl Chisholm (mbyca.cpc46@gmail.com)*

**THERE WERE NO ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS**

**NEXT GENERAL MEETING: Friday, March 26<sup>th</sup>, 2021 – 7:30 pm – Zoom Meeting**

**MOTION TO ADJOURN: Was made at 8:38 pm. It was seconded and passed.**

**Respectfully submitted by,**



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