

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of The
New Jersey Maritime Pilot and Docking Commission**

September 17, 2019

The regular meeting of the New Jersey Maritime Pilot and Docking Pilot Commission was held on Tuesday, September 17, 2019 at One Penn Plaza East, 9th Floor Board Room, Newark, NJ 07105.

Commissioner Dacey called the meeting to order at 10:07 AM.

Open Public Meeting Statement

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

Commissioner Timothy J. Dacey (present); Commissioner Brian McEwing (absent); Commissioner Jacob Shisha (present);

Board meeting date change

Commissioner Dacey advised that due to scheduling conflicts, the October 15th board meeting has been rescheduled to October 16, 2019.

Approval of the August 20, 2019 regular meeting minutes

A motion was made by Commissioner Shisha and seconded by Commissioner Dacey to approve the August 20, 2019 meeting minutes.

All voted in favor.

Resolution #19-30 to approve the September, 2019 Treasurers Report

A motion was made by Commissioner Shisha and seconded by Commissioner Dacey to pass Resolution #19-30 to approve the September, 2019 Treasurers Report.

the lease and the process is taking much longer than was expected.

- D. Harbor Ops - The first Harbor Ops meeting after the summer break will be on Wednesday, September 18th. Ms. Stuckey provided the Commission with a copy of the agenda and will attend the meeting. Afterwards, Ms. Stuckey will visit VTS where she will meet Stephanie Brown, Brian Wilton and Gregory Hitchens the civilian head of VTS. He will give them a tour and summary on how VTS works and interacts with the pilot community.

On September 20th, Captain Foley and Ms. Stuckey will take Brian Wilton out for a harbor tour.

- E. Borough of Carteret - Ms. Stuckey provided the Commission with a public notice from the borough of Carteret. They are holding a public meeting on Wednesday, September 25th on a proposed ferry service from Carteret to Manhattan. Ms. Stuckey distributed the notice to all the association presidents and plans to attend the meeting.

- F. New York has rescheduled the retirement dinner for Commissioner Carmine Ragucci. The new date is Thursday, September 26, 2019 at the New York Athletic Club. Ms. Stuckey provided a copy of the invitation to the Commission and advised if any of the Commissioners planned to attend, please let her know and by the end of the day.

- G. Merchant Mariner - Ms. Stuckey received a copy of the Merchant Mariner Medical Manual that was updated and distributed in August. Ms. Stuckey reported that the manual is 287 pages and advised the Commission if anyone is interested in receiving a copy, please let her know and she will get it to them.

- H. Meeting with the Port Authority - Ms. Stuckey reported last month that she had been contacted by Jason Grove a Senior Political Analyst from the Port Authority to discuss the Commission's statute, regulations and core mission. Ms. Stuckey advised the Commission that the meeting did not

take place however, if he reschedules she will keep the Commission updated.

- I. Marine Society & International Seafarers House annual Cruise - Captain Richard Schoenlank retired maritime pilot has been appointed to the Board of the International Seafarers House. Despite the rainy weather, the cruise was well attended. Ms. Stuckey learned an interesting fact that evening about Seafarers and International House. She assumed that they did work similar to what she did when at Seamen's Church. In addition to providing subsidized rooms for current and retired pilots, they also do a lot of outreach work for seafarers who are having issues with green cards and deportation. They provided assistance to 19 individuals who were facing deportation this past year.
- J. Ms. Stuckey attended the Harbor Inspection Tour for the Port Industry hosted by Sandy Hook on Friday, September 13th. The tour was very well attended this year and allowed the opportunity to interact with many of the stakeholders within the port, the Captain of the port, the New York Commission and the like. Ms. Stuckey believes there were well over 100 persons in attendance. The tour was very well done.
- K. Port Industry Day - Ms. Stuckey attended Port Industry Day on Monday, September 15th. She provided the Commission with a list of the speakers and what topic they covered. The theme for this year was (1) how do we improve on a port infrastructure using modern technology and updating current regulations and (2) attendees were challenged to come up with creative ideas to be able to address these improvements financially as well as politically. The keynote address was given by Senator Robert Menendez. He spoke about the many improvements he has been a part of in this port which includes the 50ft channel, funding for the Bayonne Bridge and other such projects. He also spoke on future projects that need to be addressed and his commitment to continue to fight for this port in Washington. What was interesting is that for the third year in a row the port has been able to report an increase in

container traffic however, one of the biggest issues that continues to be a challenge is the shortage of truck drivers to help move the goods to the distribution centers.

L. Upcoming Events - The National Maritime Historical Society Annual Dinner is scheduled for Thursday, October 24th and the Annual CONNIE Awards luncheon is scheduled for Monday, December 9th. Ms. Stuckey plans to attend both events and advised if any Commissioners are available to attend please let her know.

M. Vacation Schedules - As in the past, Ms. Stuckey plans to take her vacation the last two weeks of the year, which is the slow period in the port. Mr. Hawkins has put in a request to take sporadic days off, but does not have any long-term vacation plans.

N. Articles of Interest - Ms. Stuckey provided the Commission with several articles of interest and advised them to read them at their leisure.

Public Comment (s)

Comments from Captain Brendan Foley, President, Sandy Hook Pilots Association:

Captain Foley reported that Sandy Hook held Harbor Cruises for Seamens Church Institute, Marine Society, Seamens International House and a Harbor Inspection Tour for stakeholders within the port.

Captain Foley reported that in the last two weeks, Sandy Hook has held the first round of their PPU training. They had two classes, which put twenty units out in the field with four classes left to go between now and October.

Captain Foley reported that there will be cleaning and painting operations performed on the Narrows Bridge. Construction has started on the platform and that platform will hang 4ft below the whole length of the bridge while remaining there for the duration of the project. The project is due to be completed by November, 2021. He advised the Commission that

there is slag in this platform just in case it needs to be raised at any time because of a vessel or anything else. Captain Foley advised the Commission that it will take a week to raise the platform to a max height of 1ft 3in below the lowest rail. Captain Foley reported that there have been talks with the incoming passenger vessels. It is something they will keep an eye on and adjust their schedules to take advantage of the tide.

Comments from Captain Robert Flannery, President, Metro Pilots Association:

Captain Flannery reported that the Harbor Inspection Tour was wonderful and it was good to interact with people you don't often get to see.

Captain Flannery reported that he participated with Sandy Hook's Captain Murray on simulations interacting with the Staten Island Ferry looking to berth south of the Ferry terminal, right where the ball field is located. He advised the Commission that the problem is not the passengers, it will be the displacement of water. He noted that with two big ships at the berth and what it would do to the water by the ball field, could be a big problem. He reported that you can't judge displacement and it is a concern, the Metro Pilot Association relayed their worries and he will keep the Commission updated on the progress.

Comments from Captain Adam Richardson, Vice President, Interport Pilots Association:

Captain Richardson reported that there are some problems with Nava Con PPU's. He advised the Commission that Interport purchased a few of them after testing and he is currently using one with the CIQ program. Captain Richardson reported that Apprentice Donald Occhipinti is acting as the go between Rose Point Navigation and Nava Con.

Captain Richardson reported that Interport's bridge resource management course has been put on hold because they ran into a few scheduling conflicts with summer and vacation times, but they plan to start the course within the next few months.

Captain Richardson reported that apprentice Craig Tamalo will be the first apprentice ready to test in the first quarter of 2020 and apprentices Donald Occhipinti and Sean Meade are on schedule and doing well.

Ms. Stuckey advised Captain Richardson that when Interport starts the bridge resource management course, she will need copies of all certificates of completion.

Ms. Stuckey advised Captain Richardson that apprentice Tamalo will need to contact the Commission at least a month before he is ready to test, so he can receive all of the study materials and have ample time to prepare for his test.

Comments from Ed Kelly, Executive Director, Maritime Association:

Mr. Kelly reported that the port of New York/New Jersey is getting bigger container operations and they are exceeding expectations. The port is now the second largest container terminal in the United States. Mr. Kelly reported that once the New York/New Jersey ports get more truckers, the industry will be able to handle more domestic containers on the receiving end of distribution. He advised that the gate of the terminals in this port is open less than 40% of available hours. There are a lot of ways with gate operations to mitigate any impact of additional volume into the port.

Mr. Kelly reported that there is an ongoing anchorage study being done in the port to accommodate 50ft draft vessels. He advised the Commission that there is a 50ft channel review to get the easing of the bends, creating better turning and meeting capabilities. NOAA is looking to install their Precision Navigation package primarily focused on the KVK.

Mr. Kelly reported that the Maritime Association's Shipping 101 Fall edition will take place in early to mid-November and he will distribute the notice to everyone via email when the date is finalized.

Mr. Kelly reported that the Harbor Ops meeting will be held on Wednesday and one of the topics of discussion will be in response to the Equinor Navigational Safety risk assessment. He advised that it was submitted to be looked at by the Harbor OPS

Steering Committee. He advised that it is important that the maritime community get a statement in at its early stages. Mr. Kelly reported that non-compatible traffic can be very dangerous. He advised that they will present their response to the Committee tomorrow and he will keep the Commission updated on the outcome.

Committee Reports

A. Audit Committee - Ms. Stuckey reported that she will be meeting with the Commission's Auditor next week to transfer the financial information to him so he can begin the audit process.

Resolution #19-31 to Appoint Jesse Malmgren into the Docking Pilot apprentice Training Program of Metro Pilots association

A motion was made by Commissioner Shisha and seconded by Commissioner Dacey to Approve the Appointment of Jesse Malmgren into the Metro Pilot's Association Apprentice Training Program. All voted in favor.

Jesse Malmgren was issued a Certificate of Appointment by Commissioner Dacey.

Jesse Malmgren thanked the Commission and the Metro Pilots Association for the opportunity. After a brief summary of his career, Jesse Malmgren was welcomed to the Metro Pilot Association.

FY 2019 Surplus

Ms. Stuckey reported that the FY2020 surplus is currently over \$400,000 and the Commission's budget authority for FY2020 is under \$400,000 this means, that the Commission already has enough money in their accounts to cover the yearly expenses. She recommended that the Commission fund the laptop training for all of the pilots and reimburse the Sandy Hook pilots Association for what they have done thus far. She advised, that this would fall under the association's recurring training program. Ms. Stuckey reported that the approximate value of the training would cost \$24,000.

Ms. Stuckey reported that she had a conversation with Stephanie Brown of the Authorities Unit on her recommendation of a fee adjustment and she made the recommendation that the

discussion get tabled until next month's meeting to give her time to review the request.

After further discussions, the Commission approved the funding for recurring laptop training and tabled the fee change discussion until next month's meeting.

Executive Session

WHEREAS, the open Public Meetings Act provides that a public body such as The New Jersey Maritime Pilot and Docking Pilot Commission may meet in closed session to discuss legal and personnel matters, and

WHEREAS, the Commission desires to meet in closed session to discuss such matters.

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Commission shall at this time meet in closed session to discuss such matters the substance of the closed session would be disclosed publicly only if it would not warrant an invasion of privacy or constitute a breach of the attorney client privilege.

A motion was made by Commissioner Shisha and seconded by Commissioner Dacey that the Commission goes into Executive Session.

All voted in favor.

The Commission went into Executive Session at 10:41 AM.

Return to Public Session

A motion was made by Commissioner Shisha and seconded by Commissioner Dacey that the Commission return to Public Session.

All voted in favor.

The Commission returned to Public Session at 12:10 PM.

Resolution #19-32 to Approve the Upgrade of Captain Ryan Pakalik to a Pilot of the Fifth Grade

A motion was made by Commissioner Shisha and seconded by Commissioner Dacey to Approve the Upgrade of Captain Ryan P. Pakalik to a Pilot of the Fifth Grade.

All voted in favor.

Resolution #19-33 to Approve the Upgrade of Captain Nicholas Pitch to a Pilot of the Fifth Grade A

A motion was made by Commissioner Shisha and seconded by Commissioner Dacey to Approve the Upgrade of Captain Nicholas L. Pitch to a Pilot of the Fifth Grade A.

All voted in favor.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Commissioner Shisha and seconded by Commissioner Dacey that the meeting be adjourned.

All voted in favor.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:12 PM

Executive Session