

Connecticut Pilot Commission Regular Public Meeting April 16, 2019
New Haven Regional Fire Training Academy
New Haven, CT

Meeting Minutes - Draft

1. Call to Order – The public meeting was called to order by Chairman Bill Gash at 09:00 am.
CPC members in Attendance: Wynn Bohonon, Mike Eisele, Dave Pohyrola, Ralph Gogliettino, Chris Clark
CPC Members Absent: Captain Beck, Captain Peszke
Port Authority Staff: Joe Salvatore
Public: USCG Commander Maureen Johnson, Captain Jonas
2. Summary Report – Approval of the February 2019 meeting summary.
Motion: Eisele
Second: Bohonon Approved
Abstained:
3. Public Comments – None
4. U.S. Coast Guard
 - A. May 6th at 10:00 am there will be a first meeting of the Long Island Sound Harbor Safety Forum. The forum will cover; navigation safety, dredging projects, construction projects, and marine and water events. The forum is intended to have open discussions by all stakeholders and agency representatives on marine matters.
 - B. The Thames River Pilot Credential has been approved. The USCG has been discussing the details with the CT Pilots and agreed on using a launch (Captain) to get credit for trips, credit for licensure will require 25% of trips after sunset, balance during daylight. The federal license requires daylight transits only. This approval for licensure is for the Thames River North of the Bridges.
5. Continuing Business
 - A. Extension of Route Bridgeport Harbor – Legislation Revisions to CGS Chapter 263, Section 15-13.
Bill Gash provided an update, the CT Maritime Commission met with the Minority Leader of the State Legislature in which the amendment language to the statute can possibly get added to a bill on the floor for passage. No promise made due to the late submission.

Background: The Pilot Commission recommends to the CT Port Authority that the statute be amended to permit a pilot to seek an extension-of-route utilizing experience obtained while piloting under the authority of a federal pilotage endorsement, as is permitted for initial licensure as a Connecticut pilot.
Current CGS Section 15-13 distinguishes between the experience required for initial licensure as a Connecticut pilot and the experience required for an extension-of-route. The applicant complete either , or combination of, (1) twelve round trips as pilot-of-record aboard an Enrolled Vessel under the authority of the applicant’s federal pilotage

endorsement or (2) twenty-four round trips as an observing pilot under the supervision of a Connecticut licensed pilot.

For an extension-of-route by a pilot who is already licensed in Connecticut, the statute requires that an applicant complete six round trips through the geographic area for which an extension is sought as an observing pilot under the supervision of a Connecticut licensed pilot.

The current statute does not permit an applicant for an extension-of-route to utilize experience as the pilot-of-record aboard Enrolled Vessels, although that experience would qualify for initial licensure.

As a reduction of vessel traffic in the Western Long Island Sound and Bridgeport Harbor, Connecticut based pilots seeking an extension-of-route have found it difficult to comply with even the reduced requirement to complete six round trips as an observing pilot under the supervision of a Connecticut licensed pilot within a thirty-six month period.

The Commission finds that it is acceptable to permit a Connecticut licensed pilot to use experience gained as pilot-of-record aboard Enrolled Vessels to qualify for an extension-of-route. This is acceptable to facilitate marine commerce without compromising safety.

6. New Business

A1. Election of a Vice Chair.

Bill Gash nominated Mike Eisele

Motion: Bohonon

Second: Gogliettino Approved

A2. Discuss restructuring monthly meeting schedule.

Keep monthly schedule as-is, cancel meeting if no agenda items or quorum.

The monthly meetings have to be public and therefore can't be possible remotely by phone or other means.

B. Pilot Safety and Training – CPA 6% Earmark Account

The CT Pilots pay a 6% fee on the pilotage jobs (gross) within the harbors and Long Island Sound. The fee only applies to the pilotage. The 6% revenue goes quarterly to the CPA and placed in a general account. The CT Pilots are proposing that CPA establishes a dedicated Safety & Training Fund for the pilots to use for specific needs.

Currently the pilot organization has a \$20.00 per ship fee that goes into a training fund managed by the organization.

Further details and discussion will be presented at the next meeting.

7. Executive Session - No

8. Adjourn – 9:23 AM Motion: Bohonon, Second: Clark

Next Meeting:

9:00 AM Tuesday, March 19, 2019
Fort Trumbull State Park
90 Walbach Street, New London, CT 06320