



Connecticut Pilot Commission Public Meeting

Tuesday, January 9, 2024
9:00am

Location:

CT Port Authority Office
455 Boston Post Road
Suite 204
Old Saybrook, CT 06457

MINUTES

1. Call to Order

The public meeting was called to order by Chair Bill Gash at 9:00am

CPC Members in Attendance: Chair Bill Gash, Wynne Bohannon, Chris Clark, Mike Eisele, Captain Joseph Maco, CPA Executive Director Ulysses Hammond

CPC Members Absent: Dave Pohorylo and Captain Michael Peszke

CPA Staff: Jill Dowling-Moreno

Public: Scott Howell, Captain Chris Murray, Captain Donald Toby, Captain Sean Meade, Captain Adam Richardson, Arnold Skretta, Captain Kyle Butler, Captain Richard Astles, Commander Eric Hanson

2. Approval of the November 7, 2023 meeting minutes

Motion by Bill Gash, seconded by Mike Eisele. So, VOTED with NO opposed and NO abstentions.

3. Public Comment – Public participation related to Agenda topics (limit to 5 minutes per person/topic)

None

4. U.S. Coast Guard Update

Scott Howell, Port Security Specialist in New Haven from the U.S. Coast Guard introduced himself and provided an update on the communications and programs he has worked on with the Pilots. Commander Eric Hanson joined the meeting and introduced himself and noted they plan to have a Coast Guard presence at the meetings going forward. They will plan to have a presentation prepared for the next meeting in February.

5. Connecticut Pilot Commission 2024 Public Meeting Schedule

Chair Bill Gash noted that the meeting schedule for 2024 will continue as in prior years with meetings being held on the first Tuesday of each month (except for those that fall near a holiday, and with no meeting in August) and will be held at 9am at the CT Port Authority office. The schedule will be sent to the Commissioners and posted on the CT Port Authority website.

6. Continuing Business

(a) CT Pilot License Renewals

- Chair Bill Gash and Ulysses Hammond recapped the CT Pilot License renewal process. Ulysses Hammond noted that the 2024 licenses have been issued. For next year's renewals, he requested that the Pilots return their materials to the CT Port Authority by December 1, 2024 to allow time for processing before the expiration of the current licenses at the end of the year.

(b) Marine Safety Information Bulletin on Reduced Visibility from the Navigation Bridge and Regulation 22- Navigational bridge visibility

- Captain Richard Astles provided an update and gave some examples of recent issues.

(c) CT Pilot Apprentice Training Discussion and Progress (Interport)

- Captain Adam Richardson provided an update and there was discussion regarding looking for an additional apprentice in the near future. Chair Bill Gash provided a reminder that the process takes six months to a year. The report from the Rotation Administrator was referenced and it was noted that it can help to determine the need for additional pilots. Chair Bill Gash will send out more information regarding this.

(d) Soundings and Dredging at the New London State Pier

- CPA Executive Director Ulysses Hammond provided an update regarding dredging at the State Pier and noted that it is scheduled to be completed by early February.
- Subsequent discussion regarding the request by the Pilots for soundings at the New Haven Harbor. Bill Gash and Ulysses Hammond to follow-up with Gateway regarding the request.

(e) Maritime Business Development Manager position

- CPA Executive Director Ulysses Hammond to provide an update -Tabled

7. New Business

(a) Extension-of-Route for the waters of Western Long Island Sound for Captain Donald Toby

- Mike Eisele introduced the item and referenced the application with supporting forms and trip logs for an Extension-of-Route for Captain Donald Toby for the waters of Western Long Island Sound East of City Island-Stepping Stones. He stated that upon review the package was found to be sufficient for making a recommendation to the Executive Director Ulysses Hammond that Captain Toby be granted an Extension-of-Route.
- Motion by Mike Eisele, seconded by Wynne Bohannon. So, VOTED with NO opposed and an abstention by Ulysses Hammond.

(b) Electronics Use Policy

- Ulysses Hammond noted that the Notice of Intent to adopt the Electronics Use Policy has been posted to the Connecticut Law Journal and that written comments are due by January 11, 2024. This item will be included on the next Board meeting Agenda.

(c) Additional items before concluding the meeting

- Captain Richard Astles- out of town agents, rotation issue
- Captain Chris Murray- are there rates for laying cables in the LI Sound?

8. Adjourn

Motion by Wynne Bohannon, seconded by Mike Eisele. So, VOTED with NO opposed and NO abstentions. Meeting adjourned at 10:09am.

Next Meeting: February 6, 2024