



**ALASKA ASSOCIATION OF HARBORMASTERS
AND PORT ADMINISTRATORS**

Kim Elliot, Executive Secretary

7 Maksoutoff Street

Sitka, AK 99835

Phone: (907) 747-7677

aahpa@gci.net – www.alaskaharbors.org

April 13, 2011

Spring Newsletter

On April 6, 2011 the AAHPA Board of Directors met via teleconference with board members Steve Corporon (Ketchikan) - President; John Stone (Juneau) - Past President; Phil Benner (Juneau) - Vice President; Marty Owen (Kodiak) - Treasurer; David Bash (King Cove) - Director; Kari Anderson (Seward) – Director; Bryan Hawkins (Homer) – Director and Kim Elliot, Executive Secretary were all present. Alternate Director Stan Eliason did not participate due to the recent loss of his father former Senator Richard Eliason.

Treasurer Marty Owen commented that the financial report looked good and new laptop has been purchased for the Association. The board approved the report.

John Stone reported on the Matching Harbor Grant Program and in an email today reported that the Alaska Senate released its version of the capital budget. The state harbor grant program was funded at \$6.5 million. He believes this amount would do the two highest ranking applications (Port Lions and Sand Point). We need to get to \$21,084,645 to fully fund all of the applications. Fully funding everything is the goal as many of the projects are repeats from previous years that were not fully funded. There are also a lot of port projects funded with the state marine passenger fee and some other local harbor projects scattered throughout the bill. The link is: http://www.legis.state.ak.us/basis/get_documents.asp?session=27&bill=SB46

Seattle Boat Show Report –John Stone felt it was better than the previous 2 years – folks were more upbeat about boating than past years. Marty commented that boats were selling this year. Phil commented that he got a few emails and that it was pretty steady attendance while he was there. Phil noted he is getting married in another month and his fiancé has storage available so he will see about getting some furniture while down for the Trawler Fest. It was decided to spend \$500 for good furniture and carpet for boat show use. Phil Benner will be taking the AAHPA Booth and attending the Trawler Fest in Anacortes, WA May 13-15, 2011 as discussed at the Annual Meeting in Wrangell. The organizers are expecting good attendance.

Clean Harbors Certification – Bryan Hawkins reported he has met with Rachel Lord and she reported The Cookinlet Keepers did get funding to continue the program. They have been working on a questionnaire on tidal grids. Rachel will attend the conference this October with updates. Bryan said he made a small presentation to his city council and they supported the program. He also reported they are working on a signage project for the harbor and incorporating the clean harbors program into that. His goal is to have Homer harbor ready for certification by this fall.

2011 Election of Officers at Annual Meeting – a reminder to all corporate members to let Phil Benner know if they are interested in holding office with the Association as biannual elections will be held this fall at the Annual Meeting in Homer.

There was considerable discussion at the meeting about a possible AAHPA Resolution No. 2011-1 to support funding for the COE projects related to Alaskan Ports and Harbors. Seward's city manager wants to compile all the resolutions that are passed and then pass them along to Seward's lobbyist. Kodiak is in the process of passing resolutions as is Ketchikan, King Cove and Juneau. The board passed the resolution and the corporate membership has been emailed about this issue. Kim requests anyone doing similar resolutions to send them to her so she can pass them along.

2011 Conference Planning Report – Bryan Hawkins of Homer reported the conference will be held at Land's End. A block of rooms has been set aside at Land's End and at another local hotel. He is still working on airline discounts and car rental info. Bryan has been compiling topics as follows: Isostatic Rebound; Alaska Ocean Observation System; Cargo Handling for Small Ports, Marina Billing – to possibly include any length x width billing due to boats being built wider; Tariff – might get Mike Fisher of Northern Economics – there was some discussion on this topic and Kari has a little "Tariff 101" which is about filing with the federal commissions she will share; Crane Maintenance and Operations is another topic Dave Bash suggested. Anyone having any other suggestions for conference training topics please contact Bryan. Homer conference dates are October 10-14, 2011 so please plan to be there!

2012 Conference – Sitka will be hosting the 2012 conference and the dates are October 22-26th which follows the week after Alaska Day. It couldn't be scheduled during the Alaska Day week because the facility needed is completely utilized by those celebrations.

Other comments during the meeting included Kari talking about the Seward boat fire and she had a company purchased 11 of their large 60-100 foot range derelict vessels for the scrap metal.

John Stone reported that he is leaving Juneau on June 17th and will be gone for a couple of years sailing so they will be recruiting for a new port director soon. He has enjoyed working with everyone and expects to be back sometime in the future. He will be in San Diego during our conference this year and he has found out moorage for a month there is as much as he pays for a year here. John said his wife will be maintaining a sailing blog and he will let us know how to link to it. Steve wanted to thank John for all he has done for the Association which was echoed by the others in attendance.

2011 ANNUAL CONFERENCE AND MEETING

The Homer Port and Harbor Department, City of Homer will host the 2011 Alaska Association of Harbormasters and Port Administrators (AAHPA) annual conference during the week of October 10-14, 2011. At the conference, **the Association will be presenting the annual awards for the Port and Harbor Employees of the Year.**

All Corporate members are encouraged to choose an **Employee of the Year for your Port/Harbor** and submit a letter/email to Kim identifying noteworthy achievements of that employee. The AAHPA will then recognize all these employees at the annual conference.

Please submit your letter/email for your Employee of the Year to Kim Elliot, AAHPA Executive Secretary at 7 Maksoutoff Street, Sitka, AK 99835 or to aahpa@gci.net **no later than September 1st, 2011.**

The AAHPA is also offering a grant program to help small communities build their harbor operations. Every year, the Association holds an annual conference in one of our member communities. The conference is a great educational and networking opportunity. We recognize that smaller communities with harbors have financial limitations that make it difficult to send someone to a state conference. In an effort to help these communities, we are offering grants to help defray the costs of attending the conference. This year, we have \$1,000 available. The conference registration fee will also be waived.

If this interests your community, we invite you to send us a **letter of interest by August 15, 2011.** Since we have limited funds and may receive multiple requests, please let us know why your community would be the best candidate for a grant. Your letter should be sent to Kim Elliot, AAHPA Executive Secretary at 7 Maksoutoff Street, Sitka, AK 99835 or email to aahpa@gci.net. If you have any questions email or call Kim at 747-7677.

On a final note, be sure to visit our website at www.alaskaharbors.org. All member info is listed under the MEMBER tab on the home page. All members are encouraged to explore the site and please support our sustaining members whenever possible.

I look forward to seeing you all in Homer in October!

Sincerely,

Kim