On April 24, 2012 the AAHPA Board of Directors met via teleconference with board members President Steve Corporon (Ketchikan); Vice President Carl Uchytil (Juneau); Treasurer Marty Owen (Kodiak); Director Bryan Hawkins (Homer); Director Stan Eliason (Sitka); Director Joy Baker (Nome); Director Arlen Skaflestad (Hoonah); and Executive Secretary Kim Elliot (Sitka) were all present. A summary of the meeting follows.

Resolution 2011-3: Matching Harbor Grant Program Update – Steve Corporon reported that it looks like all the funding requests are funded. There was some discussion about those that don’t have matching funds and other items that are in the Governor’s budget. Steve encourages those that need it to continue putting in applications for this program. It may be another year before there is a downturn of this funding. Steve will write letters to those involved in getting this funded (Governor, Senators, Representatives).

Resolution 2011-2: House Bill 184 Update – Steve Corporon reported that he and Carl Uchytil both testified to the Economic Development Committee. The Bill went to Financed Committee where it sat – doesn’t believe it went anywhere from there. There were comments that it was a good bill with funding specified for harbors. Peggy Wilson had submitted this bill. She may not get elected with her area changing and a lot of people running against her.

Resolution 2011-1: COE funding Update – Steve Corporon reported he has heard nothing on it. There has been a COE advance team visiting different locations to look at projects include Sitka and Hoonah. Carl Uchytil needs dredging at Douglas Harbor and he was sent to the Low Use Navigation Pilot Program which allows COE to get funding for small dredging projects and they are assisting him in getting funding. Marty commented he has been trying to get COE to help with dredging of Entrance Channel in Kodiak and it looks like it might happen this next year.

Seattle Boat Show Report – Carl reported he was there with some others and they had lots of interest in coming to Alaska. He felt it was successful effort and worthwhile. Steve reported that he received information that indicated attendance was down by 11% however there were record sales and the attendance decline was possibly because of the elimination of free parking possibly due to some construction going on.
Conference Grant/Scholarship – 2011 given to Pelican. The Board decided to continue to offer it to try to draw in new folks to attend and any community can only receive it once.

Clean Harbors Certification – Bryan Hawkins reported that Seward recently received their certification and Haines is working towards it. There is some information and handouts available for harbors to hand out across the counter – a little card with a useful conversion table on the back side and clean harbor information on the other. Stan reported Sitka is starting work on this. They will probably do Sitka’s harbors one at a time.

Homer 2011 Conference Report – Bryan Hawkins. Steve noted that they had received Bryan’s conference reports and complemented Bryan on the results. Bryan said they enjoyed the experience of doing it. Arlen complemented them on putting on the best conference he had ever attended. Marty commented that he was sorry he missed it and said he representative thought it was a great experience. He asked about the Harbor Jeopardy as he saw it was suggested to have it every year. Bryan said Matt dreamed it up for their conference.

IRS/AK Dept. Labor issues affecting AAHPA – Steve Corporon reported that he feels we are getting issues resolved. He said that we do not have tax exempt status with the IRS and reviewing publication 557 and talking to IRS personnel our category would be 501(c) (6) non-profit status which is a business league. We can’t file our taxes without getting that status. Dapcevich Accounting in Sitka filed 2010 Efile and for 2011 a longer form had to be completed by Dapcevich because we don’t yet have that status. To do this our By-Laws have to reflect this so at October Conference we will update our By-Laws and Steve will take care of that. Then we will send in a copy of the updated By-Laws with the application. Because our gross receipts are more than $10,000 the filing fee is $850.00. Marty commented that these filings are a nightmare and it is important to have someone do it that understands the issues and we should be willing to pay for it. Kim is to contact Dapcevich Accounting about this.

2012 Conference Planning Report – Stan Eliason of Sitka reported they are moving along getting paperwork ready to send out for sponsors for emails. He is also planning to send out an email to our members looking for speakers. He has had some contact him already about possible presentations. He is hoping to have Stedman make an appearance. The Sitka Convention and Visitors Bureau (SCVB) are assisting as well as his office personnel. Steve asked if someone from the State had contacted him about the Alaska Marine Trade Business survey that was sent out about a month ago and they want to make a presentation on the results. Stan reported he will have the National Marine Fisheries to speak about sea lions. Stan also has someone from the FBI planning to attend.

2013 Conference – There was some discussion of an email from Diane Kinney of Valdez regarding conference dates. The Board decided to recommend the week of October 21st, 2013. Diane Kinney confirmed Valdez Conference dates as October 21 – 25, 2013 with the 21st and 25th primarily as travel days. There will be an evening check-in/reception on the 21st.

BOARD & MEMBER COMMENTS: Joy Baker of Nome said things are going well although she was disappointed in the Legislative funding process as far as benefit to Nome but past years had been good so she can’t complain. Steve asked Joy about the USCG enforcing the gold
dredge regulations this year. She said she will see them only one week in May. She has asked them to expand that to more frequent visits. She will have a DNR man for the whole season to manage it along with some other federal agencies. She figures 2 years with all this attention from the Feds and most of them will go away. She also doesn’t have enough room for everyone in her harbors. Seems most of these agencies treat the dredges as recreation which isn’t making any sense as they operate a business.

Bryan Hawkins of Homer reported 4’ of snow still there although someone said it was spring. Projects going well – deepwater dock, restrooms, etc.

Arlen Skaflestad of Hoonah reported 14.3 feet of snow in Hoonah for January and February which is huge for them. Has 17 million for deep water dock with some issues as to location. Phase 3 of Marine Industrial Center work underway. Applied for Matching Grant for electrical upgrades and is building restrooms.

Marty Owens of reported that Rachel with the Clean Harbors Program was there for Com Fish and is working on him about clean harbor certification which he expects will happen eventually. He reported Kodiak needs about a 46% increase in moorage rates to collect enough for long term sustainable life cycle for his harbors.

Stan Eliason reported similar issues as Kodiak with rates going up quite a bit so Sitka can stay afloat.

Carl asked if Arlen had gotten any good info when he requested rate info from everyone. He said generally it looked like everyone had used rate information initially supplied by the State and then crunched the numbers to try to come up with their rates. Steve has some information on rates he can send out to anyone that wants it. Carl reported he went to the PCC conference recently but thought Homer did a much better job with theirs. Carl was approached by Mike Lukshin wondering about AAHPA support about modifying Alaska Statue as it applies to derelict vessels. The 1975 Statue says his department or peace officers are responsible for removal of derelict vessels. This issue should be taken to the Sitka Conference. Carl is also struggling with electrical costs without any money coming back to him – goes to electric utility. How are tariffs regulated? It was suggested to get someone to come from RCA to speak to this at conference. Marty thinks municipalities have more options on how to deal with these issues then they are aware of. Arlen is having difficulties with electrical costs in Hoonah. It was suggested that someone from the Regulatory Commission of Alaska should be asked to come to Sitka Conference to speak to this.

Phil Benner is back in Haines serving as their Harbormaster again – welcome back Phil!

2012 Award & Grant Announcements

Employee of the Year

The City of Sitka Port and Harbor Department is hosting the 2012 Alaska Association of Harbormasters and Port Administrators (AAHPA) annual conference during the week of October 22 – 26, 2012. All Corporate members are encouraged to choose an Employee of the Year for
your Port and Harbor and submit a letter or email identifying noteworthy achievements of that employee. At the conference, the Association will then recognize all these employees.

Please submit your letter or email **no later than September 1st, 2012** to Kim Elliot, AAHPA Executive Secretary at 7 Maksoutoff Street, Sitka, AK 99835 or to aahpa@gci.net.

**AAHPA Grant Program**

The Association’s annual conference, held in one of our member’s communities, 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 to help build their harbor operations. 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, 2012**. 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 907-747-7677.

On a final note, be sure to visit our website at [www.alaskaharbors.org](http://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 Sitka in October!

Kim