



**ALASKA ASSOCIATION OF HARBORMASTERS
AND PORT ADMINISTRATORS**

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NEWS LETTER

On April 16, 2009 AAHPA Board of Directors met in Juneau with John Stone, Phil Benner and Kim Elliot present and Steve Corporon, Marty Owen, and David Bash present via teleconference. Director Marc Van Dongen and Past President Alan Sorum were not present. AAHPA members Kari Anderson of Seward and Colleen Newman of Kodiak were also both present via teleconference.

Marty Owen commented that the suggestion to make the annual directory downloadable from the website to the members rather than send out hard copies would be a good idea due to the cost of the hard copies (\$813.73). It was decided that Kim would pursue putting it on the website and if not feasible it could be sent out on CD. They will want an update at the conference board meeting.

Treasurer Marty Owen reviewed the financial report Kim had submitted reporting it looked consistent with past years with the exception of the boat show expenses which had been approved previously. Association looked to be okay financially. Kim noted there had been a couple of sustaining memberships lost which appeared to be due to the economic times. Phil updated on the Haines conference that it pretty much broke even but Kodiak may need to up the registration fee.

Kim reported that the web page update is progressing and that she had brought a demo of it that John had looked at and thought would be a good site. Hopefully it will be completed in June or July in conjunction with Conference information which will be posted on the site when it is completed by Kodiak.

Matching Harbor Grant Program Update – John Stone reported that there is no money in the State's budget for the matching grant program this year. He thinks everything will be delayed a year. DOT did rank applications and that has been submitted to the commissioner and legislature.

Seattle Boat Show Display/Participation – Marty said it was long but went well and that Steve and his board member did a great job. John was also there and they had a lot of folks come in. The display was well received. Marty has it in Kodiak and will set it up so everyone can see it in October. Hopefully they can encourage more participation and split the time and cost. Steve felt at least 6 participants could split the time in half with five days for 3 persons instead of 10 days. Steve noted they will be able to give folks a better idea of cost to participate.

Update - dredging standards for the State of Alaska. John Stone reported that he had not done anything on it except try to get a permit for Douglas Harbor. He feels that through that process he will learn what needs to be done.

Election of Officers 2009 Annual Conference Business Meeting – Nomination Committee. Phil Benner was appointed to Chair this committee. Anyone interested in serving on the Board of Directors should

contact Phil at Phil_Benner@ci.juneau.ak.us or call him at (907) 586-5255. Recruitment will also take place at the conference. Current board members who want to continue should also contact him.

2009 Kodiak Conference Planning Update – Marty Owen had Colleen Newman update on this. She reported Vendors want to sponsor a vendor's reception one night so she is working on that. She has most forms pretty much ready to go and will continue finalizing details. Colleen will be sending out Conference Announcements soon with full information packets later. Marty asked for ideas of speakers for the conference and he will have his new lift available and he may have the folks he got it from there to give a presentation/demonstration.

2009 ANNUAL CONFERENCE AND MEETING

The Kodiak Port and Harbor Department, City of Kodiak, will host the 2009 Alaska Association of Harbormasters and Port Administrators (AAHPA) annual conference during the week of October 19-23, 2009. At the conference, the Association will be presenting the annual award for the **Harbormaster/Port Director of the Year.**

The AAHPA Board of Directors is requesting nomination of worthy candidates for this award from within the ranks of our corporate members. Candidates that have demonstrated superior performance in harbor or port management, innovative methods to improve services to harbor users, creative methods of reducing operating costs, service and support to the AAHPA, or other actions that have produced marked benefits for port and harbor users would be ideal candidates for nomination.

Your participation is encouraged and we hope you will submit a letter of recommendation for your candidate. A letter/email of recommendation identifying noteworthy achievements of the nominated candidate sent directly to Kim will suffice. Nominators will be kept anonymous. At the conference a ballot listing the nominees with the information provided by the nominator will be given to all corporate members or their designated delegate to be voted on by closed ballot for the award selection.

In addition, we encourage you to chose an **Employee of the Year for your Port/Harbor** and submit a letter/email identifying noteworthy achievements of that employee. The AAHPA will then recognize all these employees at the annual conference.

Please submit all nominations for Harbormaster/Port Director of the Year and your Employee of the Year to Kim Elliot, AAHPA Executive Secretary at 7 Maksoutoff Street, Sitka, AK 99835 **no later than September 1st, 2009.**

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, 2009.** 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. If you have any questions call Kim at 747-7677.

On a final note, congratulations to Sitka's Harbormaster Ray Majeski on his retirement, and also to Stan Eliason, his replacement. At Ray's well attended retirement party a framed certificate recognizing Ray's commitment and contributions to his profession and to Alaska's harbors was presented from the AAHPA.