



**ALASKA ASSOCIATION OF HARBORMASTERS
AND PORT ADMINISTRATORS**

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NEWS LETTER

On April 14, 2010 the AAHPA Board of Directors met via teleconference with board members Steve Corporon - President; John Stone - Past President; Phil Benner - Vice President; Marty Owen - Treasurer; Colleen Newman of Kodiak; David Bash - Director; Kari Anderson - Director; Bryan Hawkins - Director; Stan Eliason - Alternate Director; Kim Elliot - Executive Secretary, Greg Meissner and LaDonna Botsford of Wrangell were all present.

Treasurer Marty Owen reported an audit of the Association books was completed and was found to be in good order. The Board approved the financial report Kim had submitted.

Matching Harbor Grant Program Update - John Stone reported on legislative activities noting projects using cruise ship passenger fees is in the funding bill as well as the Matching Harbor Grants. Only 5 million was in the bill which had been approved by the Senate and was sent to the House. 34 million worth of projects have been submitted. 17.3 million is needed to meet the requests. Those with projects were encouraged to contact House members (another 5 million was added and is now pending Governor's approval) as originally intended for the Matching Harbor Grant Program. He reminded everyone that **Mike Lukshin is accepting applications until July 15, 2010.**

Develop dredging standards for the State of Alaska - John Stone reported there was a statewide teleconference that John missed but Mike Lukshin participated on John's behalf and he said nothing was happening. Eventually the COE will work on the project. Meanwhile Alaska projects are subject to the most stringent requirements in the US. John feels right now the project is dead in the water. If anything starts happening John will bring it to our attention.

Seattle Boat Show - Marty Owen reported he and one of his board members participated along with help from Haines. John from Juneau also was there. Ketchikan had someone there as well although Steve wasn't able to participate. It appeared there was more activity than last year - about 8% and folks were more upbeat. Canadian show was cancelled due to Olympics and more Canadians attended. John estimated 20% of his summer traffic is Canadians. Marty feels they can do it again next year. John brought up Trawler Fest held in the spring and said people that go to that are all potential Alaska cruisers. Marty agreed and said he feels it should be explored. It is a long weekend thing and Phil volunteered to find out more about it. It is through Passage Maker magazine which is a National organization. Kim asked if they would still want to do the Seattle Boat Show as dues for Northwest Marine Trade Association will be due in the next few months. Kodiak, Juneau and Ketchikan indicated they would. Steve asked where the display is at and if it would be available for the Wrangell Conference. Marty reported that it is in Kodiak and he is using it for Kodiak Com Fish Trade Show. Greg said he would have room for it. From Wrangell it will go to Seattle for the Fish Expo.

2010 Conference Planning Update - Greg Meissner of Wrangell reported he has a beautiful conference

center and has talked to Chamber and Hotels/B&B's and all are on board with discount rates. There is only one rental car outfit in Wrangell with about 6 vehicles but majority of housing is within walking distance of the conference center. He will have some vans available to take folks where they want to go. He has also contacted Alaska Airlines for discounts. **Greg is working on agenda and is asking for suggestions from the membership.** Greg will get conference info out as soon as he can and when available it will be posted on the AAHPA website as well.

Harbormaster/Port Director & Employee of the Year Awards – President Steve Corporon appointed Vice President Phil Benner to research an appropriate member for the Harbormaster/Port Director of the Year. Any suggestions/nominations can be sent to him at Phil_Benner@ci.juneau.ak.us. During discussion Phil reported Haines is looking for a new Harbormaster and Kim reported Jim Stromdahl of Petersburg retiring and Glo DeBoer Wollen will be replacing him. Steve wants the Employee of the Year recognition to continue. It has been helpful in getting wage increases for his personnel. It was confirmed that all harbors can have an employee of the year recognized at the annual conference and be provided with a certificate.

Clean Harbors Certification – Update from Bryan that he has met with Rachel Lord to go over the revised list and was having his harbor officers look it over for input. Board members have some concerns and it was agreed that AAHPA should keep up with this and want Rachel to attend and present an update at this year's conference.

2010 ANNUAL CONFERENCE AND MEETING

The Wrangell Port and Harbor Department, City of Wrangell, will host the 2010 Alaska Association of Harbormasters and Port Administrators (AAHPA) annual conference during the week of October 25-29, 2010. 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 chose 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 15th, 2010.**

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, 2010.** 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 Wrangell in October!