

PORT WELFARE COMMITTEE

**Minutes of the Port Welfare Committee Meeting
held on 15 October 2010 at 3:00 p.m. in Conference Room A,
24th Floor, Harbour Building, 38 Pier Road, Central, Hong Kong**

Present

Mr. KOO Chee-kong, Kenneth	Chairman	Hong Kong Shipowners' Association
Captain Gur-Prasad Kohli	Member	Hong Kong General Chamber of Commerce
Mr Simon Frank Doughty	Member	Hong Kong General Chamber of Commerce
Captain YUEN Pong-kit	Member	Merchant Navy Officers' Guild – Hong Kong
Mr TSANG Man-ngai	Member	Hong Kong Seamen's Union
Dr. Alex FU <i>(on behalf of Dr Thomas Chung)</i>	Member	Department of Health (ex-officio)
Mr Charles HUI	Member	Labour Department (ex-officio)
Mr. CHICK King-fai	Member	Marine Department (ex-officio)
Miss Shirley LEUNG	Secretary	Marine Department (ex-officio)

In attendance

Ms Winnie YEUNG	Marine Department
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The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting and introduced the following members who attended the meeting for the first time –

- (a) Mr Charles HUI who had replaced Mr Ernest IP as the representative of the Labour Department; and
- (b) Dr Alex FU who attended the meeting on behalf of Dr Thomas CHUNG as the representative of the Department of Health.

AGENDA ITEMS

I. Confirmation of Minutes of the Last Meeting Held on 22 March 2010

2. The minutes of the last meeting were confirmed without amendment.

II. Discussion Items

(a) Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2010 (Appendix A)

3. The meeting noted the following financial position of the Committee for the year ending 31 March 2010 as set out on page 2 of the financial statement which had been circulated to members before the meeting -

	\$
Income	809,212
Expenditure	880,000
Surplus / (Deficit)	(70,788)
Surplus at the beginning of the year	229,895
Surplus at the end of the year	159,107

Members endorsed the Committee's account unanimously.

4. On behalf of the Committee, the Chairman expressed appreciation of the Marine Department's Internal Auditor's professional assistance given to the Committee.

(b) Potential donors for 2010/2011 (Appendices B & C)

5. The Secretary had compiled a list of recommended donors (donors who had made donations to the Committee in 2009/10) and a list of potential donors for 2010/2011, both of which had been circulated to members together with the agenda for the meeting.

6. The Chairman invited members to comment on the lists. As the appeal letters for donations in the coming year would be issued in November 2010, the Chairman invited members to give their comments to the Secretary within two weeks from the date of the meeting.

(c) Draft Annual Report for 2009/2010 (Appendix D)

7. The Chairman invited members to comment on the Committee's draft Annual Report for 2009/2010 which had been sent to members before the meeting. He further pointed out that a printed version of the draft Annual Report in colour was tabled at the meeting. Regarding the printing arrangement, the Secretary proposed to continue with the printing of the Committee's Annual Report for 2009/2010 in-house in order to save the Committee's Funds for other uses. Members agreed with the Secretary's proposal.

III. Any Other Business

Cheque Presentation Ceremony cum Drinks Reception Held on 16 April 2010 (Fri)

8. The Secretary reported that a cheque presentation ceremony cum drinks reception had been held on 16 April 2010 to express appreciation of and gratitude to the donors for their support to the Committee, to mark the occasion that donations amounting to some \$800,000 in total had been made to the Committee and in commemoration of 2010 which was designated by the International Maritime Organization as the Year of the Seafarer. More than 40 guests who represented a comprehensive cross section of the maritime community had attended the function sponsored by the Chairman. The function had also been covered by the press. The Chairman, through his welcome speech, had underlined the importance of port welfare to the maritime industry and seafarers who had made globalization a reality. The Chairman of the General Committee of the Sailors' Home and Missions to

Seamen, Mr Anthony Nightingale had also made a brief speech, expressing gratitude to the Committee and the donors for their generous support in the past years and the record amount of donations in 2009/2010 to the Sailors' Home and Missions to Seamen.

Establishment of an Emergency Fund

9. The Chairman reported that he had briefed members of the General Committee of the Sailors' Home and Missions to Seamen and Hong Kong Shipowners' Association of the issue. He would keep Members of the Committee updated of any progress.

10. After discussion, the meeting agreed that the recommended and potential donors would be advised in the appeal letters for donations that should the need arise, their donations would also be used to cater for the relief of distressed seafarers who were unfortunately abandoned or detained in Hong Kong. In making allocations, the Committee would offer a large proportion of the donations to the Sailors' Home and Missions to Seamen and the Danish Seamen's Church, Hong Kong and reserve a certain amount of the donations for the relief of distressed seafarers in case such a need arose.

Charity Dinner with Auction on 28 October 2010 at the Mariners' Club

11. The Secretary reported that the Maritime Awareness Week would be held in Hong Kong from 25 to 31 October 2010 to raise the awareness of the general public on the importance of the maritime industry in Hong Kong and the contributions of seafarers to the society as well as to promote the career opportunities in the maritime industry to the young people. A Steering Committee chaired by the Director of Marine had been formed to oversee the organization of events held during this Week.

12. At the Steering Committee's meeting on 21 September 2010, a proposal to organise a dinner with auction for charity to commemorate the Year of the Seafarer had been discussed. After the meeting, it was considered appropriate for the event to be organized by the Port Welfare Committee.

13. Accordingly, on 5 October 2010, on behalf of the Committee, the Secretary had sent out letters to 12 companies proposed by Captain Kohli,

inviting them to sponsor a table of 10 guests at the dinner at the price of HK\$4,000 and to contribute any maritime and other memorabilia to the auction, the proceeds of which would go to the Committee for donation to the Sailors' Home and Missions to Seamen and the Danish Seamen's Church, Hong Kong. On 8 October 2010, the Secretary had sent out letters to another 2 companies suggested by Captain Kohli. The deadline for response was set for 15 October 2010.

14. The Secretary further reported that responses from 6 of the 14 companies had been received by the deadline. The details of their responses were tabled for Members' information. 5 companies had committed to sponsor a total of 7 tables at the dinner. 2 of these companies had also committed to contribute gifts for the auction. In addition, Mr. Colin Shaftesley of PricewaterhouseCoopers and Captain Kohli had each committed to sponsor a table at the dinner for the Members of the Steering Committee and the Committee. Barring responses beyond the deadline from the other 8 companies for sponsoring tables at the dinner, at this stage there would be altogether 9 tables at the dinner.

15. As for the auction, the Secretary informed the meeting that the Marine Department would contribute a few maritime items to the auction on top of the gifts contributed by the companies listed in the table. The items included 2 navigation lanterns, a compass, a barograph and a barometer. In addition, Ms Doris Cheung, Deputy Secretary for Transport & Housing (Transport)⁵, would donate a crystal HK skyline and a 2009 prestige stamp album for the auction.

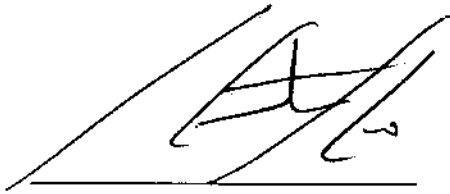
16. The meeting further noted that Dr Stephen Davies would give a brief account of the maritime history of Hong Kong at the dinner and act as the auctioneer.

17. On behalf of the Committee, the Chairman expressed his appreciation of the efforts paid by Captain Kohli and the Secretary in arranging the function.

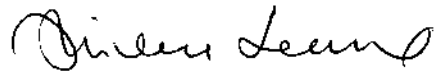
18. The Chairman suggested and members agreed that the cocktail reception to be held in the first half of the year and the charity dinner with auction to be held in the latter half of the year would henceforth become the annual events of the Committee. With more experience gained, the auction might in future be held through internet services.

III Date of Next Meeting

19. The Chairman advised that the Committee's next regular meeting would be held in March 2011. The Secretary would inform members of the details in due course.



(Mr. Kenneth KOO)
Chairman



(Miss Shirley LEUNG)
Secretary

22 March 2011