

# PORT WELFARE COMMITTEE

**Minutes of the Port Welfare Committee Meeting  
Held on 25 September 2014 at 3:00 p.m. in Conference Room A,  
24<sup>th</sup> Floor, Harbour Building, 38 Pier Road, Central, Hong Kong**

## **Present**

Mr. Timothy Scott Huxley	Chairman	Hong Kong Shipowners Association
Captain Umesh Lulla	Member	Hong Kong General Chamber of Commerce
Mr. Michael Marques	Member	Merchant Navy Officers' Guild-Hong Kong
Ms. Emma Chiu	Member	Hong Kong Seamen's Union
Ms. Esther Chan	Member	Labour Department (ex-officio)
Dr. Lau Ming-ho <i>(on behalf of Dr. Edwin Tsui)</i>	Member	Department of Health (ex-officio)
Dr. Stephen Li	Member	Marine Department (ex-officio)
Mr. Jack MF Chan	Secretary	Marine Department (ex-officio)

## **In attendance**

Ms. Selena Bin	Marine Department
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## **Absent with apologies**

Mr. Simon Buhelt Frank	Member	Hong Kong General Chamber of Commerce
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The Secretary welcomed all to the meeting and introduced the new members: –

- (a) Ms. Chiu Sui-hang, Emma who had replaced Mr. Yang Kaiqiang as representative of the Hong Kong Seamen's Union;
- (b) Mr. Michael Marques who had replaced Capt. Tang Wai-tong as representative of the Merchant Navy Officers' Guild - Hong Kong;
- (c) Dr. Li Yiu-kwong, Stephen who had replaced Mr. Wong Sai-fat as an ex-officio member from the Marine Department, and
- (d) Dr. Lau Ming-ho who attended the meeting on behalf of Dr. Edwin Tsui as representative of the Department of Health.

## **AGENDA ITEMS**

### **I. Election of the Committee Chairman**

2. The Secretary informed the meeting that the Chairmanship of Mr. Timothy Huxley had ended on 30 June 2014. He invited members to nominate and elect among themselves the new Chairman of the Committee before the meeting proceeded further. Mr. Huxley nominated himself to continue the chairmanship and Capt. Lulla seconded the proposal. With the unanimous consent of members, Mr. Huxley was re-elected Chairman of the Committee.

3. Mr. Huxley welcomed members to the first meeting of the new term of the Committee from 1 July 2014 to 30 June 2017. He noted the importance of the Committee in catering for the social and recreational welfare of the seafarers visiting Hong Kong and temporarily residing here. He expressed his commitment to the work of the Committee and hoped that the Committee would continue the good work in serving the shipping community.

### **II. Confirmation of the Minutes of the Last Meeting held on 26 March 2014**

4. The minutes of the last meeting were confirmed without amendment. The Chairman took the opportunity to thank the Secretary for his solid support provided to the Committee.

**III. Matters Arising from the Minutes of the Last Meeting Held on 26 March 2014**

**(a) Redevelopment of the Mariners' Club**

5. The Chairman said that various issues of the redevelopment project such as usage, space allocation, etc. had been looked into and proceeded well. It was expected that some positive news might be available by the end of the year or early next year. Dr. Li mentioned that he had attended the District Lands Conference on 25 September 2014 and the redevelopment project was under good progress.

**(b) Role of Seafarer Organisations in Hong Kong**

6. The Chairman informed the meeting that the building contract for the new Mariners' Club launch had been signed. The Sailors' Home and Missions to Seamen (The Missions) would hold its Annual Maritime Charity Dinner on 13 November 2014 to raise fund for the cost of the new launch. The dinner would be attended by the shipping and maritime communities. With more awareness on seafarers' welfare, it was anticipated that more work would be thrust upon the chaplains to arrange more ship visits providing welfare support to the ships' crew.

**(c) Kai Tak Cruise Terminal**

7. The Chairman said that it was expected that there would be more ship calls in 2015. In view of the inadequate recreational facility and ancillary transport at the terminal, the Missions was exploring the possibility of having a means of access from the cruise terminal to the Mariners' Club at Tsim Sha Tsui but there was not much progress. The Missions would continue its effort to liaise with the cruise liners and the terminal operator.

**(d) Hong Kong Maritime Museum**

8. Regarding the request for the Hong Kong Maritime Museum to offer free admission to the volunteered student workers of the International Maritime Organization's Day of the Seafarer, the Chairman said that he had discussed the matter with the Managing Director of the Hong Kong Maritime Museum and his response was positive.

#### **IV. Discussion Items**

##### **(a) Accounts for the Year ended 31 March 2014 (Appendix B)**

9. The meeting noted the following financial position of the Committee for the year ended 31 March 2014 as set out on page 2 of the financial statement which had been circulated to members before the meeting -

	HK\$
Income	402,348
Expenditure	440,280
Deficit	(37,932)
Surplus at the beginning of the year	183,802
Surplus at the end of the year	145,870

Members unanimously endorsed the Committee's account.

##### **(b) Re-appointment of Auditor for the Committee's Account 2014-15**

10. The Chairman informed the meeting that the Marine Department's Treasury Accountant/Internal Audit had served as the Honorary Auditor for the Committee. He proposed and members agreed to the re-appointment of the Marine Department's Treasury Accountant/Internal Auditor as the Honorary Auditor of the Committee for 2014-15. On behalf of the Committee, the Chairman expressed appreciation of the Treasury Accountant/Internal Audit's professional assistance given to the Committee.

##### **(c) Potential Donors for 2014-15 (Appendices C & D)**

11. The Chairman requested members to take a close look at the Recommended Donors' List (Appendix C) and the Recommended Potential Donors' List (Appendix D) consolidated by the Secretary, both of which had been circulated to members together with the agenda of the meeting. The Recommended Donors' List at Appendix C included 38 donors/companies which had made donations to the Committee in 2013-14. The Recommended Potential Donors' List (Appendix D) included other 209 potential donors to whom the Committee would appeal for support this year.

12. The Chairman invited members to propose amendments or additional entries to the Donors' Lists. As the appeal letters for donations in 2014-15 would be issued within November/December 2014, members' comments, if any, should reach the Secretary by mid-October.

(d) **Draft Annual Report for 2013-14 (Appendix E)**

13. The Chairman said that a copy of the draft Annual Report for 2013-14 had been sent to members before the meeting. The Annual Report would be sent to the potential donors to appeal for their donations which would mainly be used for supporting the two voluntary agencies, namely the Missions and the Danish Seamen's Church, Hong Kong. If members have any comments on the draft annual report, they should let the Secretary have their comments by mid-October.

V. **Date of Next Meeting**

14. The Chairman advised that the next meeting of the Committee would be held in March 2015. The Secretary would inform members of the details in due course.

15. There being no other business, the meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

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(Mr. Timothy Scott Huxley)

Chairman

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(Mr. Jack MF Chan)

Secretary

25 March 2015