

PORT WELFARE COMMITTEE

**Minutes of the Port Welfare Committee Meeting
held on 26 March 2021 at 3:00 p.m.
in Conference Room A, 24th Floor,
Harbour Building, 38 Pier Road, Central, Hong Kong**

Present

Mr CHAO Sih-hing, Francois	Chairman	Hong Kong Shipowners Association
Mr Dickson CHIN <i>(on behalf of Mr CHAN Kam-foo)</i>	Member	Hong Kong General Chamber of Commerce
Mr CHAN Wai-leung	Member	Merchant Navy Officers' Guild – Hong Kong
Mr CHOW Ka-Yin <i>(on behalf of Mr LIAO Bowen)</i>	Member	Hong Kong Seamen's Union
Miss KAM Wing-yin, Gloria	Member	Labour Department (ex-officio)
Dr LAU Ming-ho <i>(on behalf of Dr LEUNG Yiu-hong)</i>	Member	Department of Health (ex-officio)
Mr KUANG Zhi-jian <i>(on behalf of Mr CHAN Ming-yau)</i>	Member	Marine Department (ex-officio)
Ms Lisa CHIU	Secretary	Marine Department (ex-officio)

In attendance

Ms Jessica LAM

Marine Department

Absent with apology

Capt Firoze Minoo
MIRZA

Member

Hong Kong General Chamber of
Commerce

OPENING REMARKS

The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting and introduced the following persons –

- (a) Mr Dickson CHIN, who attended the meeting on behalf of Mr CHAN Kam-foo of the Hong Kong General Chamber of Commerce;
- (b) Mr CHOW Ka-Yin, who attended the meeting on behalf of Mr LIAO Bowen of the Hong Kong Seamen's Union;
- (c) Dr LAU Ming-ho, who attended the meeting on behalf of Dr LEUNG Yiu-hong of the Department of Health; and
- (d) Mr KUANG Zhi-jian, who attended the meeting on behalf of Mr CHAN Ming-yau, General Manager/Seafarers and Examination of the Marine Department.

AGENDA ITEMS

I. Minutes of the Last Meeting held on 29 September 2020

2. The Chairman informed Members that the minutes of the last meeting were circulated to Members in November 2020 and no amendment was received. The minutes were confirmed and the Chairman signed the minutes.

II. Financial Position of the Committee as at 1 March 2021

3. The Chairman briefed Members on the financial position of the Committee as at 1 March 2021. The current account stood at \$185,174.

4. The Chairman proposed and Members endorsed the re-appointment of the Marine Department's Treasury Accountant / Internal Auditor as the Honorary Auditor for the Committee's account in 2021-22.

III. Donations Received by the Committee as at 1 March 2021

5. The Chairman reported that in response to the Committee's appeal for donations for 2020-21, a total amount of \$151,000 had been received from 18 donors as at 1 March 2021. He expressed his thankfulness to the generous donations of the donors.

IV. Allocation of Grants to Agencies

6. Based on the donations received in 2020-21, the Chairman proposed and Members endorsed that the following amount of subsidies be granted to the following two agencies –

The Sailors Home & Mission to Seafarers	\$ 140,000
Danish Seamen’s Church, Hong Kong	<u>\$ 14,000</u>
Total :	<u>\$ 154,000</u>

V. Any Other Business

7. The Chairman took the opportunity to update the meeting that the maritime industry had been making on-going efforts to closely liaise with the Government on possible measures to facilitate crew change and ship services at the port of Hong Kong. He expressed that Hong Kong had all along demonstrated commitment in alleviating the difficulties being faced by seafarers while upholding measures to safeguard public health. The Chairman appreciated that parties concerned had been working hard to strike a balance in tackling the challenges.

8. The Secretary supplemented that pursuant to the discussion at the last meeting, the Secretariat had conveyed the views of the Committee to the Transport and Housing Bureau. The Bureau’s response was at Annex of minutes of the meeting held on 29 September 2020.

9. Mr Dickson CHIN added that they had also been working closely with Dr Lau and his team of the Department of Health on the issue.

VI. Date of Next Meeting

10. The Chairman said that the next meeting would be held in six months' time, i.e. around September 2021. Members would be informed of the date in due course.

11. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 3:30 p.m.

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(Mr CHAO Sih-hing, Francois)
Chairman

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(Ms Lisa CHIU)
Secretary

The minutes of the meeting were confirmed on 29 September 2021.

Port Welfare Committee
May 2021