

**Notes of the Port Welfare Committee Meeting**  
**held on 21 April 1999 at 2:30 p.m.**  
**in Conference Room A, Marine Department HQs**  
**24<sup>th</sup> Floor, Harbour Building, 38 Pier Road, Central, Hong Kong**

**Present**

Mr. Bill CHANG	Chairman(Stand-in)	Hong Kong General Chamber of Commerce
Mr. WONG Woon-yin	Member	Hong Kong General Chamber of Commerce
Mr. TING Kam-yuen	Member	Hong Kong Seamen's Union
Mrs. SIU HO Kar-yuk	Member	Labour Department (ex-officio)
Dr. P. L. MA	Member	Department of Health (ex-officio)
Mr. M.J. Wareham	Member	Marine Department (ex-officio)
Mrs. Sophia WONG	Secretary	Marine Department (ex-officio)

**Absent with apologies**

Mr. George CHAO	Chairman	Hong Kong Shipowners' Association
Capt. TSAI Chuck-kin	Member	Merchant Navy Officers' Guild

**In attendance**

Capt. IP Ting-on	Merchant Navy Officers' Guild
Mr. Victor CHAN	Marine Department

The Secretary informed members that the Chairman Mr. George CHAO, was unable to attend the meeting due to some unforeseen urgent commitment. The meeting agreed to elect a temporary Chairman among members to chair the meeting. Mr. Bill CHANG was nominated and members unanimously agreed that he would stand in for Mr. CHAO as the Chairman of the meeting.

2. Mr. Bill CHANG took the chair and welcomed all present to the meeting. He introduced Capt. IP Ting-on who represented the Merchant Navy Officers' Guild vice Capt. TSAI Chuck-kin.

**II. Confirmation of the minutes of the last meeting**

3. The minutes of the last meeting held on 12 August 1999 were confirmed without amendment through circulation in September 1998.

**III. Matters Arising**

**Financial Position of the Committee**

4. The Secretary reported the financial position of the Committee as at 31 March 1999 provided by Messrs. Price Waterhouse Coopers as follows :-

	\$
Savings Account	99,923.34
Current Account	3,449.13
Fixed Deposit Account	<u>155,444.21</u>
Balance :	<u>258,816.68</u>

**IV. Donations received by the Committee in 1998/99**

5. The Secretary reported that, in response to the Committee's appeal for donations, a total of \$111,295.00 was received from 55 donors in 1998/99. The list of donors and their donations was circulated to members before the meeting.

**V. Allocation of grants to agencies**

6. Taking into account the donations received in 1998/99 and the annual expenditure of the Committee of about \$24,000, Mr. Bill CHANG proposed and the meeting agreed to the following grants this year :-

The Sailor's Home and Missions to Seamen & Apostleship of the Sea	\$ 80,000
Danish Seamen's Church	<u>8,000</u>
Total :	<u>88,000</u>

**VI. Any Other Business**

Functions of the Committee

7. Capt. IP Ting-on said that the Committee should try to explore ways to widen the potential donors' network with a view to securing more donations for the Committee. At the same time, he requested members to consider offering support to other organizations such as the Merchant Navy Officers' Guild which was also providing services to 'visiting seamen'. He said that even a small grant from the Committee would be a token of support to the agency. To enable the Committee to consider his request, the meeting asked Capt. IP to prepare a formal application on behalf of the Merchant Navy Officers' Guild with information on the organisation's activities and proposed usage of the grant under request.

8. With the very limited financial resources in hand, Mr. TING Kam-yuen indicated that it would be very difficult for the Committee to extend its subsidies to other agencies. In fact, the Hong Kong Seamen's Union also served the 'visiting seamen' but he had no intention to seek financial support from the Committee. He added that the Mercantile Marine Assistance Fund Committee chaired by the Director of Marine was also considering ways to help the 'visiting seamen' stranded in Hong Kong.

9. Members proposed to widen the network of potential donors to include charitable organisations like the Hong Kong Jockey Club and the Community Chest. Mr. Bill CHANG invited members to consider other possibilities which would help to augment the existing list of potential donors. Suggestions made should be forwarded to the Secretary. As in the previous years, the Secretary would circulate the list of potential donors to members for comments before the appeal letters were issued.

**VII. Date of Next Meeting**

10. The next meeting would be held in August 1999. Members would be advised separately.