

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF
DIRECTORS OF
THE MARITIME LAW ASSOCIATION OF
THE UNITED STATES**

Held at the Association of the Bar of the City of New York
Thursday, April 30, 2015 9:30 a.m.

The April 30, 2015 meeting was called to order by
President Robert G. Clyne at 9:30 a.m. In addition to President
Clyne, the following Officers were present:

Harold K. Watson, First Vice President
Francis X. Nolan, III, Second Vice President
David J. Farrell, Jr., Secretary
William Robert Connor, III, Treasurer
Barbara L. Holland, Membership Secretary

The following Directors were present:

Robert B. Parrish, Immediate Past President

Michael K. Bell	Lynn L. Krieger
Joseph A. Walsh, II	Daniel G. McDermott
Christopher E. Carey	Donald C. Radcliff (by phone)
John S. Farmer	Kevin J. Thornton
Boriana Farrar	David N. Ventker

At President Clyne's invitation, Past Presidents Howard
M. McCormack, Lizabeth L. Burrell, and Warren J. Marwedel
attended the meeting.

Also at President Clyne's invitation, Vincent J. Foley and
James F. Mosely, Jr. attended portions of the meeting to address
the Board.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

On motion duly made and seconded, the Board unanimously approved the minutes from the March 10, 2015 meeting of the Board of Directors held in New Orleans.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Mr. Connor discussed his Quarterly Report for the three months ending March 31, 2015. He summarized that the MLA's finances are generally in good shape, with a little less money than a year ago, largely due to expenditures on our new website approximating \$50,000.

Noting a shortfall in 2015 dues collected from dues invoiced, Mr. Connor raised several possibilities for reminding delinquent Members, including making use of our website.

Mr. Connor addressed the Annual Spring Dinner, with expected attendance at roughly 758 down somewhat and a \$275 price (now including wine with dinner) up somewhat, yielding a small MLA profit. He noted that other New York City maritime industry dinners had recently experienced attendance declines.

A Board discussion ensued with some concern that the Annual Spring Dinner price had become too expensive and inquiries as to whether the drop in attendees was attributable to Member and/or Guest declines. There were also comments that perhaps the dinner should be held on Thursday night instead of Friday to increase attendance but concern that this would diminish attendance at the General Meeting of the Association on Friday morning. With the Spring 2016 dinner to be held Midtown jointly with the *Comité Maritime International* ("CMI"), Cipriani Wall Street has been reserved for Spring 2017 but the Board concluded another look at Pier 60 and the Marriot Marquis and pricing options there may well be merited.

On motion duly made and seconded, the Board unanimously approved Mr. Connor's report.

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY'S REPORT

Ms. Holland reported there were fifteen applicants recommended for Proctor membership:

Todd M. Baiad
Savannah, GA

Samuel P. Blatchley
Boston, MA

Dane Bruun
Corpus Christi, TX

Seth Buskirk
Wilmington, NC

K. Blythe Daly
New York, NY

Robert L. Gardana
Miami, FL

Patrick Michael Leahy
Jacksonville, FL

Bradley R. Mozée
San Ramon, CA

Pamela Palmer
Los Angeles, CA

18839

Ryan A. Puttick
New York, NY

Ivan M. Rodriguez
Houston, TX

Robert J. Stefani
New Orleans, LA

Timothy E. Steigelman
Portland, ME

Christopher C. Storm
Boston, MA

Rahul Wanchoo
Upper Saddle River, NJ

There were nineteen applicants for Associate Lawyer
membership:

Robert Bamdas
Boca Raton, FL

Nathan Beard
Seattle, WA

Jonathan Benner
Washington, DC

Peter F. Black
New York, NY

Michelle T. Castle
New York, NY

Arturo Castro
Mineola, NY

18840

Raul J. Chacon, Jr.
Miami, FL

Hyunah Kristen Chung
Paramus, NJ

William E. Donohue
New York, NY

Joseph Federici
New York, NY

Matthew Kaiser
Washington, D.C.

USCG CDR Jason M. Krajewski
Pine Beach, NJ

Daniel Maland
Newark, NJ

Leo R. McAloon III
New Orleans, LA

Juliette McCullough
San Francisco, CA

Kelly Mulrane
Columbus, OH

Christopher Murray
Mineola, NY

Angelique So
Los Angeles, CA

18841

Michael W. Thomas
San Francisco, CA

Two applications for membership reinstatement were received:

Matthew Marion (Proctor)
Rowayton, CT

Joseph Tabrisky (Associate Lawyer)
Pasadena, CA

Ms. Holland reported there were five applicants recommended for Non-Lawyer membership:

Thomas R. Hill
Gloucester, MA

Cynthia A. Hudson
Camden, NJ

Carole Martrou
Norfolk, VA

Sanjive Nanda
New York, NY

Eric W. Sorensen
Morrisonville, NY

And one law student had become a Law Student member since our March meeting:

Walter Morris, Jr.
New Orleans, LA

With the above membership additions, the MLA's total membership is now

VOTING MEMBERS

Proctors	1285
Associates	1146
Non-Lawyers	179
Academic	24
Subtotal	2634

NON-VOTING MEMBERS

Ex-Officio	13
Honorary	4
Judicial	120
Law Students	26
Subtotal	163
TOTAL	2797

On motion duly made and seconded, the Board unanimously adopted Ms. Holland's report.

SECOND VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Second Vice President Nolan reported on the Committee Chairs' lunch meeting held April 29, 2015. He emphasized to the Chairs their need to start planning for the next three MLA meetings.

First, for the Bermuda Fall 2015 resort meeting, the Chairs were urged to develop joint programs providing CLE credits during committee meetings.

Second, for the New York Spring 2016 meeting with CMI, the Chairs were urged to cooperate and integrate their meetings with CMI International Working Groups with parallel interests. As an example, he has asked the MLA Committees on Marine Financing, Marine Insurance and General Average, Marine Torts and Casualties, and Offshore Industries to each appoint a liaison to him as Chair of the new CMI International Working Group on Vessel Nomenclature.

Third, for the New Orleans Fall 2016 meeting with the Tulane Admiralty Law Institute (“ALI”), the Chairs were requested to consider timely topics, presentations, and articles appropriate for the 50th anniversary of the ALI. The Chairs were also asked to consider who might be suggested as speakers at this event.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Website

With our new website now up and running, Ms. Krieger demonstrated how to set several preferences on Member dashboards, including how to upload a photograph. A blast email to the membership containing simple directions on similarly personalizing dashboards and general usage instructions was discussed.

Ms. Krieger also reported on the delayed availability of the MLA document library on the new website. The prior cataloguing of library documents requires new organization for more coherent electronic storage and searchability, which was taking longer than expected.

Other topics discussed were the continued role of the First Vice President as webmaster and approver of appropriate legal and industry events for posting on the website calendar and a decision to approach *American Maritime Cases* to most efficiently publicize new cases. There was also a question raised as to MLA

Administrator Robin Becker's role with the new website and contingency arrangements were she to retire, for example. It was decided that this would be addressed at the next Board meeting in August 2015.

Linkedin

A discussion begun at the March 10, 2015 Board meeting continued regarding the MLA's use of LinkedIn, particularly in the context of our new website. Since that meeting, input from the Young Lawyers Committee had been received, which was split, as were Board comments.

Some expressed a lack of enthusiasm for an MLA presence on LinkedIn, believing that would detract from our new website, while others advocated that exposure on LinkedIn and other social media was essential for optimal networking.

The Board was asked to reach out to other Members for their thoughts and be prepared to vote on a LinkedIn decision at the next Board meeting in August 2015.

Amendment of By-Law 204, Eligibility for Non-Lawyer Membership

As addressed at several recent Board meetings, possible amendments to Non-Lawyer Membership By-Law 204 were considered. It was decided that a draft amendment would be prepared for a vote at the next Board meeting in August 2015.

Comité Maritime International ("CMI")

President Clyne reported on the results of the CMI election for Executive Counselor.

On motion duly made and seconded, the Board unanimously approved the MLA's response to a CMI

Questionnaire on Maritime Arbitration which had been prepared by the Committee on Arbitration and ADR.

Local MLA Luncheons

Mr. Farrell reported on an April 2, 2015 gathering in Boston which included a full day educational seminar and reception at the Federal Courthouse, well attended by the local maritime bar and industry members. An entertaining highlight was an animated presentation by Judge William G. Young, sponsored by the MLA, who spoke about two 1800s District of Massachusetts admiralty cases and their precedent on judicial review and the president's Article II war power. Judge Young then gave a tour of his maritime art collection displayed in his courtroom and chambers.

MLA Archives

Mr. Farrell also reported that all of the known hard copies of documents dating back to the MLA's founding in 1899, which had been dispersed among various law offices, have been collected and deposited for safe keeping in William E. Bell's Manhattan office. He will now begin the arduous task of sifting through 70+ cardboard boxes and organizing their contents to identify historically significant documents, determining which should be copied and stored electronically and which should also be preserved as originals due to their importance.

BIMCO Dispute Resolution Clause

Past President Burrell noted she continues to monitor proposals regarding BIMCO's dispute resolution clause and its limitation of arbitrators to "commercial people" as well as choice of law issues.

FUTURE MLA MEETING PLANS

Summer 2015 Board Meeting in San Francisco

President Clyne reminded the Board to make early flight and Parc 55 hotel reservations for the August 7-8, 2015 Board meeting. A Friday evening reception with the local maritime bar is planned for the St. Francis Yacht Club.

Fall 2015 Bermuda Meeting

James F. Moseley, Jr., Chair of the Bermuda Arrangements Committee, reported on meeting plans. He described the Fairmont Southampton as a spectacular facility. He anticipates Member registration fees will be in the \$800 to \$900 range, which will include food and alcohol charges for dinner events each night. He also anticipates that sponsorships will help defray costs.

Regarding the schedule of events, registration will open Tuesday October 20 with the Officers' meeting that morning and the Board meeting that afternoon. On Wednesday there will be golf and tennis and the traditional President's Reception for first time attendees that evening. On Thursday there will be early morning charter fishing, committee meetings and CLE programs, and a casual beach party that evening. On Friday there will be more committee meetings and CLE programs and a dinner dance. On Saturday there will be an early morning fun run, the General Meeting of the Association, midday sailing, and an evening ice cream social. Sunday October 25 will be departure day for most attendees.

Mr. Moseley noted that the Bermuda Arrangements Committee is benefitting from the active involvement of Directors Farrar, Krieger, McDermott, and Farmer. Mr. Farmer is again in charge of CLE and anticipates providing 12 CLE hours, including panels on insurance and P&I issues, with London participants; on arbitration; and with in-house counsel participants.

The Board was pleased to conclude that the Bermuda meeting promises to be an excellent success.

Spring 2016 New York Meeting with CMI

Mr. Foley provided an update on the joint MLA/CMI meeting next spring which will be held Tuesday May 3 through Friday May 6, 2016. He reported that registration fees would allow a cafeteria-style choice for social events with an open door policy to attend joint MLA Committee/CMI International Working Group meetings. As well, he noted the MLA Young Lawyers Committee will coordinate its activities that week with CMI's Standing Committee for Young Lawyers.

Fall 2016 New Orleans Meeting with Tulane Admiralty Law Institute ("ALI")

First Vice President Watson reported on continued plans for the joint meeting with ALI Tuesday October 25 through Friday October 28, 2016. He noted that dinners were planned Thursday night at Galatoire's Restaurant and Friday night at the Audubon Tea Room.

Fall 2017 Napa Valley Resort Meeting

First Vice President Watson reported that he had appointed Mr. Farmer to Chair the Napa Valley Resort Meeting Arrangements Committee.

RECENT ACTIVITIES

President Clyne reported he judged the Judge John R. Brown Admiralty Moot Court Competition semi-finals in Charleston on March 20, 2015 and attended the IMO Legal Committee meeting in London, April 14-16, 2015.

ADJOURNMENT

Before adjourning, President Clyne offered his sincere thanks, as did the rest of the Board, to the four retiring Directors, Ms. Newman and Messrs. Anderson, Bell, and Walsh, for their fine service to the MLA.

There being no other business, President Clyne adjourned the meeting at 12:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ David J. Farrell, Jr.

David J. Farrell, Jr.

Secretary