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THE MARITIME LAW ASSOCIATION
OF THE UNITED STATES

MLA PROCEEDINGS

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PREFACE

Members of the Maritime Law Association will note that this edition of the *MLA Proceedings* lacks a transcript of our Fall 2017 General Meeting. This is because the Fall Meeting of the Association was cancelled due to destructive wildfires in Napa, California where the meeting was scheduled to take place. The people and businesses in Napa who suffered losses and dislocation remain in our thoughts and prayers.

Despite this interruption, the work of the MLA has continued through the activities of our Standing Committees and Board of Directors. As an example, the minutes which follow reflect the Board's ongoing management of the Association since our Spring 2017 General Meeting.

Barbara L. Holland
Secretary

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

Held at Terranea Resort, Rancho Palos Verdes, CA

August 5, 2017
9:00 a.m.

The August 5, 2017 meeting was called to order by President Harold K. Watson at 9:05 a.m. In addition to President Watson, the following Officers were present:

Francis X. Nolan, III, First Vice President
David J. Farrell, Jr., Second Vice President
Barbara L. Holland, Secretary
William Robert Connor, III, Treasurer
Grady S. Hurley, Membership Secretary

The following Directors were present:

Robert G. Clyne, Immediate Past President

Mark Coberly	Jonathan S. Spencer
Norman Stockman	R. Michael Underhill
Andrew Wilson	Jason R. Harris*
Joseph G. Grasso	Pamela L. Schultz
LeRoy Lambert	Phillip A. Buhler
Vincent Foley	Deborah C. Waters

* by telephone

At President Watson's invitation, Past President Liz Burrell also attended the meeting by telephone.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

On motion duly made and seconded, the Board unanimously approved the minutes as amended from the May 4, 2017 meeting of the Board of Directors held in New York, NY.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Mr. Connor presented his Quarterly Report for the three months ending June 30, 2017. He reported that the Association is in sound financial shape and that necessary deposits have been made for the 2018 spring meeting.

Mr. Connor reported that 444 members had yet to pay their 2017 dues, and that approximately 96 members are two years in arrears and 95 members are three years in arrears. The Board discussed potential methods for incentivizing those on the delinquent list to pay their dues. President Watson then went through the list of two and three year delinquent members and asked Board members to contact them.

On motion duly made and seconded, the Board voted to institute a \$50.00 surcharge on members who do not pay their annual dues by July 1st of the year in question.

In addition, the Board recommended consideration at the 2017 fall meeting of a By-Law change that would terminate membership once a member had failed to pay dues for two years.

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

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY'S REPORT

Mr. Hurley reported that 20 applications had been received and were recommended for Associate Lawyer membership. The

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following applicants for Associate Lawyer membership were
unanimously approved by the Board:

Joy Bily
San Rafael, CA 94901

Jonathan Cipriani
Chicago, IL 60654

Alice de Juvigny
New York, NY 10012

Kimberly Greer
New York, NY

Justin Guthrie
Norfolk, VA

Jacobson, Molly
San Rafael, CA

Masoud Jahani
Los Angeles, CA

Barney Long
Fort Smith, AR

Carra Miller
Corpus Christi, TX

Nina Mitchell
Seattle, WA

Cristin Morneau
San Francisco, CA

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Callie Murphy
Houston, TX

Jessica Nance
Bainbridge Island, WA

Jeffrey Odom
Seattle, WA

Edward Petkevis
Roebing, NJ

Andrew Richards
Seattle, WA

Marcus Spagnoletti
Houston, TX 77002

Michael Spain
Tampa, FL

Valentine, Sarah
Jersey City, NJ

Luke Zadkovich
New York

In addition, three Associate members were approved for reinstatement upon payment of a reinstatement fee and 2017 dues. There was one Proctor member approved for reinstatement with the Board waiving the reinstatement fee and 2017 dues. The reinstated members are:

Donald Ensenat
New Orleans, LA

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Charles Ray, Jr.
Anchorage, AK

Howard Roth
Seattle, WA

Lanning Trueb
Anchorage, AK

Mr. Hurley reported that Associate member Bryan Meals requested to change his membership to a Judicial membership. Finally, Mr. Hurley reported that one law student had applied for Law Student membership since the May 2017 meeting. The new law student member is Stephen Shapiro of Bethesda, Maryland.

With regret, Mr. Hurley reported the deaths of three members:

Charles Davis
Bow, WA
Proctor Member Elected 1988

Michael Farrell
Chatsworth, CA
Judicial Member, Elected 1980

A.J. McNamara
New Orleans, LA
Life Member, Elected 1973

Mr. Hurley reported that as of August 5, 2017, the MLA's total membership was 2816, which is broken down as follows:

VOTING MEMBERS

PROCTORS	1271
ASSOCIATES	1189
ADJUNCT	164
ACADEMIC	<u>22</u>
Subtotal	<u>2646</u>

NON-VOTING MEMBERS

EX-OFFICIO	13
HONORARY	4
JUDICIAL	117
LAW STUDENTS	<u>36</u>
Subtotal	<u>170</u>

TOTAL	2816
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On motion duly made and seconded, the Board unanimously approved Mr. Hurley's Membership Report. President Watson recommended that the Association begin tracking Life Member numbers separately in the membership reports.

President Watson then called upon Mr. Hurley to discuss Mike Ryan's memorandum regarding requirements for Proctor admission. Following discussion by the Board, President Watson appointed a Board committee to review the Proctor qualifications and application form, and provide recommendations for rationalizing the procedure. The committee will be chaired by Norman Stockman.

SECOND VICE-PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Second Vice President Farrell reported that eight committee meetings will be held at the fall meeting in Napa, including four that expect to offer CLE programs.

Mr. Farrell then led a discussion on potential options for an amendment to the By-Law on Life Membership. The Board discussed the importance of continuing involvement by long-time members, as well as the fact that many are happy to continue paying dues. It was the consensus of the Board that a By-Law amendment should be drafted allowing Life Members to opt out of paying dues. President Watson asked Mr. Farrell to draft the By-Law for consideration at the next Board meeting.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Use of MLA Logo by Members

President Watson led a discussion regarding an inquiry from a member pertaining to use of the MLA Logo. Ms. Waters volunteered to report back at the next meeting regarding what other organizations require in terms of disclaimers, etc. for use of their logos.

Website Status

First Vice President Nolan reported regarding the status of the website and the work performed by MLA consultant POP to fix the numerous problems that had been identified. Mr. Nolan reported that the process is well underway and that he expects the Committee pages to be repaired by late August. At present, he anticipates much of the document library to be complete by the end of the year.

Joint Meeting with BIMCO May 2018

President Watson then called upon Past President Burrell to report regarding her discussions with Soren Larsen on plans for BIMCO to hold its 2018 spring meeting in New York in conjunction with the MLA spring meeting. Ms. Burrell noted that the joint meeting would present a good opportunity for raising the visibility of the U.S. maritime bar and the services our members can provide to the rest of the world. Initial plans call for BIMCO to hold an opening reception on Tuesday evening, and to attend the MLA dinner on Friday evening. MLA Committee meetings will also be open to BIMCO members.

Special Committee on Membership

Pamela Schultz reported regarding the meetings of the Committee on Membership to date. She noted that the Committee had reached out to members of the local maritime bar who are not current MLA members and invited them to the event in Long Beach prior to the Board meeting, resulting in a large turnout at the reception. Committee members will follow up with these attendees regarding MLA membership. The Committee intends to take a similar approach for the Board meeting in Miami.

First Vice President Nolan pointed out the need for the Committee on Membership to coordinate with the Committee on the Future of the MLA in order to avoid unnecessary overlap. The Board discussed the respective focus of each of these Committees.

Fall 2017 Napa Valley Resort Meeting

Marker Lovell provided a report on the status of registration for the MLA fall meeting in Napa. He reported that all 230 rooms (1,000 room nights) had been reserved by MLA members at the Silverado, and that 35% of the rooms in the Marriott room block had

been filled. Plans for all of the events are well under way. President Watson reported that Past President Graydon Staring has accepted his invitation to attend the closing dinner at the meeting.

Fall 2018 Meeting in Miami

First Vice President Nolan and Planning Committee Chair Phil Buhler reported on the status of arrangements for the fall 2018 General Meeting of the Association at the Biltmore Hotel in Miami. The meeting is scheduled to take place from October 17 until October 20, 2018. Committee meetings will be held at the University of Miami Law School, which is providing meeting space at reduced rates. The Planning Committee is considering holding recreational activities on Saturday after the meeting in order to entice attendees to stay over the weekend. The MLA dinner will be Friday night at the Biltmore. The timing of the CLE has yet to be determined. Mr. Nolan stated that the Board meeting would likely take place on October 16, 2018.

Fall 2019 Resort Meeting

First Vice President Nolan also reported on current planning for the fall 2019 resort meeting at the Grand Hyatt in Scottsdale, Arizona. The meeting is scheduled for October 29 through November 2, 2019. Alex Giles is Chair of the Planning Committee.

Tulane Admiralty Law Institute - 2018

Mr. Hurley reported that the theme of the 2018 Tulane Admiralty Law Institute (“ALI”) will be Admiralty Jurisdiction and Procedure. All sessions will take place at the Board of Trade. The Board will meet on Tuesday, February 27 prior to the commencement of the ALI.

NVDC Rulemaking

First Vice President Nolan reported on the continuing work of the Committee on Marine Finance to rationalize 46 CFR Part 67. The Committee is considering the efficacy of such a proposal given the present climate in Washington, D.C.

Improving Admiralty Judges Relations with Admiralty

On behalf of the MLA, Judge DeGravelle approached the Federal Judicial Center (“FJC”) to determine if there was interest in the MLA’s offer to present seminars for the federal judges on admiralty law and practice. President Watson advised the Board that Judge DeGravelle reported that the FJC was interested in the proposal and that they are considering how best to proceed.

PRESIDENT’S ACTIVITIES

President Watson reported that he will be attending the CMI meeting in Genoa, Italy in September along with Past President Clyne. In October, President Watson will attend the meetings of the Association Mondiale de Dispatcheurs, the Association of Average Adjusters of the United States and Canada, and MICA.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business, President Watson adjourned the meeting at 11:47 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara L. Holland

Secretary

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

Held by telephone

October 10, 2017
5:00 p.m. CDT

The October 10, 2017 emergency meeting was called to order by President Harold K. Watson at 5:00 p.m. CDT and a roll call was taken. In addition to President Watson, the following Officers were present:

Francis X. Nolan, III, First Vice President
David J. Farrell, Jr., Second Vice President
Barbara L. Holland, Secretary
William Robert Connor, III, Treasurer
Grady S. Hurley, Membership Secretary

The following Directors were present:

Robert G. Clyne, Immediate Past President

Mark Coberly	Vincent Foley
Norman Stockman	Deborah C. Waters
Andrew Wilson	Jason R. Harris
Joseph G. Grasso	Pamela L. Schultz
LeRoy Lambert	Phillip A. Buhler

At President Watson's invitation, Marker Lovell and Charlie Schmidt also attended the meeting by telephone.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Effect of Wildfires on the October 2017 Resort Meeting in Napa, California

President Watson explained that the emergency board meeting had been called because of the need to decide whether the fall meeting of the Association scheduled to take place next week at the Silverado Resort in Napa, California could proceed in the face of the dangerous wildfires burning in the area. Early yesterday morning, October 9, 2017, MLA leadership learned that the Silverado Resort had been evacuated because of the fires. At President Watson's request, the Officers, Board members, Planning and Arrangements Committee members, and other MLA members immediately investigated the situation, communicated with the resort, and explored all potential options.

President Watson reported that according to Silverado representatives, the authorities are not allowing anyone onto the property to determine the extent of damage that may have been sustained, and resort representatives did not expect to be allowed on the property for at least five days. Numerous homes directly adjacent to the property have been destroyed, and the grounds will require a great deal of clean-up. The fires are still uncontained, and there is concern that the main fire could return to the area. At the very least, air quality in the area will be very poor for some period of time, and could pose a hazard, particularly for people with respiratory issues. In view of its inability to accommodate the MLA meeting attendees, the Silverado resort recommended that the MLA tender a declaration of force majeure, and thus obtain a release of all obligations the Association has under its contract with the resort.

President Watson reported that immediate attempts were made to identify an alternative facility that might be able to accommodate the conference attendees. Because of the airline

cancellation penalties that many members would incur if the meeting was relocated outside the Bay Area, the planners concentrated on the area within reasonable distance of the airports into which most people would fly to go to Napa. The resort planner contacted 82 different properties in the area, and none had any availability for the MLA conference. In addition, organizing a meeting of the MLA membership typically takes over a year, and the Board recognized that the problems of organizing a meeting at a different facility in a week's time were simply insurmountable. The MLA Board also considered the possibility of changing the date of the meeting. However, given the limited window of time available and the size of the group, the Board concluded that this was not a realistic option.

Accordingly, after much discussion, and on motion duly made and seconded, the Board unanimously voted to cancel the meeting. President Watson asked Mr. Schmidt to prepare force majeure notices for the hotels and event venues. President Watson will prepare a notice to the membership.

The next Board Meeting has been scheduled in New York City on November 17, 2017.

2. Request for MLA Amicus Brief in *Tabingo v. F/V American Triumph*

President Watson next advised the Board members of the request received for MLA amicus support in connection with the Petition for Writ of Certiorari to the U.S. Supreme Court in the case of *Tabingo v. F/V American Triumph et. al.* The Board agreed with the recommendation of the President that the amicus request be granted. President Watson advised that he would contact the Chair of the Young Lawyers Committee for assistance in drafting the MLA's amicus brief for submission to the U.S. Supreme Court in November.

ADJOURNMENT

President Watson thanked the Board members for their attendance and support, and adjourned the meeting at 6:00 p.m. CDT.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara L. Holland

Secretary

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

Held at Clyde & Co., New York, NY

November 17, 2017
9:00 a.m.

The November 17, 2017 meeting was called to order by President Harold K. Watson at 9:05 a.m. In addition to President Watson, the following Officers were present:

Francis X. Nolan, III, First Vice President
David J. Farrell, Jr., Second Vice President
Barbara L. Holland, Secretary
William Robert Connor, III, Treasurer
Grady S. Hurley, Membership Secretary

The following Directors were present:

Robert G. Clyne, Immediate Past President

Mark Coberly	Deborah C. Waters
Norman Stockman	R. Michael Underhill*
Andrew Wilson	Jason R. Harris
Joseph G. Grasso	Pamela L. Schultz
Jonathan S. Spencer	Phillip A. Buhler*
Vincent Foley	

*by telephone

At President Watson's invitation, Past Presidents Howard McCormack and Ray Hayden also attended the meeting. Past President Liz Burrell attended the meeting by telephone.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

On motion duly made and seconded, the Board unanimously approved the minutes of the August 5, 2017 meeting of the Board of Directors held at Terranea Resort, Rancho Palos Verdes, CA, and the minutes of the emergency meeting of the Board of Directors held by telephone on October 10, 2017.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Mr. Connor presented his Quarterly Report for the three months ending September 30, 2017, and he reported that the Association remains in sound financial condition.

Mr. Connor reported that the cancellation of the fall meeting in Napa, California due to the wildfires caused a loss of approximately \$20,000, a large part of which were costs incurred by the planning committee in visiting the site in 2016. He reported that most of the vendors refunded the MLA's deposits, with the exception of the caterers for the Artessa winery dinner.

Mr. Connor reported that 415 members were delinquent in the payment of their dues, and that approximately 91 members were two years in arrears and 92 members were three years in arrears. He encouraged the Board members to contact the delinquent members that they know to remind them to pay their dues.

With respect to the spring 2018 dinner in New York City, Mr. Connor reported that Cipriani Wall Street had raised its rates. He recommended that the ticket price for the dinner be increased to \$280.00. On motion duly made and seconded, the Board

unanimously approved his recommendation regarding the ticket price for the spring 2018 dinner.

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

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY'S REPORT

Mr. Hurley reported that the following members had satisfied the requirements and were recommended for election to Proctor status:

Jorge Blasini
San Juan, PR

John Bowen
Hilton Head Island, SC

Manolo Rodriguez-Bird
San Juan, PR

Christopher Tribolet
Larkspur, CA

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the Board of Directors approved the election to Proctor status of Mr. Blasini, Mr. Bowen, Mr. Rodriguez-Bird, and Mr. Tribolet.

Mr. Hurley reported that the following 19 applicants had applied for Associate Lawyer Membership and were recommended for approval:

Jeanne Amy
New Orleans, LA

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Thomas Bethune IV
Harahan, LA

Scott Bird
Olympia, WA

William Brewer
Nashville, TN

Nathan Dooley
Los Angeles, CA

Thomas Fedeli
Los Angeles, CA

Timothy Heisterhagen
Mobile, AL

Ashley Impellitteri
Long Beach, CA

Stefan Jouret
Boston, MA

Rebecca Lazarus
Oakland, CA

Brian Maloney
New York, NY

David McNeal
Houston, TX

Duane Miyashiro
Honolulu, HI

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Arsima Muller
Honolulu, HI

Joshua Norton
Long Beach, CA

Karim Shehadeh
Houston, TX

Jared Speier
Long Beach, CA

Donald Walsh
Baltimore, MD

Craig Wolfe
New York, NY

Mr. Hurley further reported that one applicant had applied for Academic Membership and was recommended for approval:

Jack Williams
Georgia State University
Atlanta, GA

In addition, Mr. Hurley reported that one former Proctor member, George Hassapis of Long Island City, NY, had applied for reinstatement and had paid the required reinstatement fees. Finally, Mr. Hurley reported that five law students had applied for Law Student Membership since the previous Board meeting. These students are:

Andrew Anastor
Wilmington, DE

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John Burns
Washington, D.C.

Jason Drouyor
Atlanta, GA

Austen Hughes
Jackson, MS

Elizabeth Strunk
Baltimore, MD

With regret, Mr. Hurley reported the deaths of five members:

Arie Ludwig Bleicher
Mill Valley, CA
Adjunct Member Elected 1981

Constantine Georgiopoulos
Tuckahoe, NY
Proctor Member, Elected 1978

Norman B. Richards
San Francisco, CA
Proctor/Life Member, Elected 1956

Donald King
New Orleans, LA
Proctor/Life Member, Elected 1964

John Ryan
New York, NY
Proctor/Life Member, Elected 1965

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the Board of Directors unanimously approved the new members recommended by Mr.

Hurley. Mr. Hurley reported that as of November 17, 2017, following approval of the above new members, the MLA's total membership was 2,834, which is broken down as follows:

VOTING MEMBERS

PROCTOR	1,272
ASSOCIATE	1,202
ADJUNCT	163
ACADEMIC	23
Subtotal	<u>2,660</u>

NON-VOTING MEMBERS

EX-OFFICIO	13
HONORARY	4
JUDICIAL	116
LAW	41
STUDENTS	
Subtotal	<u>174</u>
TOTAL	<u>2834</u>
LIFE MEMBERS	488

On motion duly made and seconded, the Board unanimously approved Mr. Hurley's Membership Report. President Watson recommended that the Association begin tracking the number of non-dues paying members in the membership reports.

SECOND VICE-PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Second Vice President Dave Farrell presented proposed amendments to Section 2 of the By-Laws on Membership that incorporated the following:

(1) a new By-Law 208 addressing eligibility for Life Membership;

(2) a new By-Law 209 addressing eligibility for Ex-Officio Membership;

(3) a revision to By-Law 212 (previously By-Law 210) allowing Life Members to elect to be exempt from the payment of dues; and

(4) a revision to By-Law 215 (previously By-Law 213) providing that members who are in default in payment of dues or other monetary obligations to the Association for a period of two consecutive years shall be automatically terminated from membership.

Following discussion by the Board of Directors, and upon motion duly made and seconded, the By-Law amendments were unanimously approved.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Proctor Admission Process

President Watson then called upon Norman Stockman to report regarding the findings of the Board subcommittee formed to review the Proctor qualifications and admission process. Mr. Stockman reported that in addition to reviewing the website application and By-Laws relating to Proctor admission, the subcommittee reviewed MLA historical documents, relevant Rules of Professional Conduct, and rules regarding attorney specialization.

Mr. Stockman reported that the subcommittee did not support a change in Proctor qualifications. In terms of the application process, the subcommittee concluded that the Proctor application and instructions on the website were good as long as the website was working. They suggested that it would be useful to add a link to a

pdf application form that can be printed out and submitted if a member is having difficulty with the website. President Watson asked Mr. Hurley to work with Lynn Krieger to facilitate such a link.

President Watson then led a discussion of the Board regarding issues relating to the Proctor admission process. One related issue that was identified by the subcommittee and echoed by several members of the Board was the difficulty many new MLA applicants have identifying Proctor members to write supporting letters. Past President Burrell suggested that language be added to the on-line application with suggestions about how an interested applicant can go about finding Proctor members to support his or her application for MLA membership. President Watson asked Mr. Hurley to draft appropriate language to add to the on-line Proctor application.

President Watson thanked the subcommittee and the Board members for their input, and asked the members of the Board to continue thinking about these issues.

Assistant Officers and Information Officer

First Vice President Nolan next presented a proposal for the establishment of a new officer position focused on information technology. He proposed that a new By-Law be drafted and presented at the next Board meeting to create a permanent position for a Website and Technology Secretary. In addition, Mr. Nolan suggested that the Board consider naming an assistant Treasurer or other assistant officers to cover necessary tasks in the event an officer is not available.

Following discussion by the Board, President Watson asked Mr. Nolan to prepare a proposed By-Law to create a new officer position focused on information technology for consideration by the Board at the February 2018 meeting.

Use of MLA Logo by Members

President Watson then called on Deb Waters to report regarding what she had learned regarding how other organizations handle use of their logos by members. The Board discussed the pros and cons of charging a fee for use of the logo and the difficulties of policing its use. President Watson asked Mr. Stockman to look into the potential cost of retaining a trademark enforcement service, and suggested that the discussion continue at the next Board meeting.

Website Status

First Vice President Frank Nolan reported regarding the status of the website and the fine work performed by Lynn Krieger and MLA consultant POP. He noted that the fix of the committee pages was completed in October. Mr. Nolan advised the Board that approximately \$75,000 had been paid to POP to date to fix the numerous problems that had been identified, and that he had asked Ms. Krieger to estimate what the likely cost would be going forward.

BIMCO Meeting in New York, May 2018

President Watson then called upon Past President Burrell to report on plans regarding BIMCO's meeting in New York in May during the MLA spring meeting. Ms. Burrell noted that it was not a joint meeting, as BIMCO's meetings would not be open to our members. However, the MLA committee meetings on Thursday will be open to BIMCO, and we are hoping that their members will stay over for the MLA spring dinner on Friday night. In addition, there will be a welcome reception on Tuesday evening for which the MLA, SMA and ASBA are sponsors. Additional sponsorships and individual tickets will be available for purchase. Ms. Burrell noted that BIMCO is very excited about being in New York for their meeting at the same time as the MLA, and that it is a great opportunity for our members.

President Watson advised that the MLA's financial commitment for the Tuesday evening welcome reception is \$12,000. He asked the Board for a voice vote on this expenditure and the Board indicated its unanimous approval.

Special Committee on Membership

Pamela Schultz reported regarding the meetings of the Special Committee on Membership. She asked the Board for feedback on whether a recruitment event would be possible in New Orleans given the busy schedule for the Tulane Admiralty Law Institute. Most members felt that the schedule was too tight.

Fall 2018 Meeting in Miami

First Vice President Nolan and Planning Committee Chair Phil Buhler reported on the status of arrangements for the fall 2018 General Meeting of the Association at the Biltmore Hotel in Miami. The meeting is scheduled to take place from October 17 until October 20, 2018. Committee meetings will be held all day Wednesday and on Thursday morning at the University of Miami Law School. The CLE will be held Thursday and Friday afternoons. The opening reception will be Wednesday night at the Biltmore Hotel, and there will be another evening event on Thursday. The General Meeting will take place on Friday morning. The MLA formal dinner will be Friday night at the Biltmore Hotel. Recreational activities will be scheduled on Saturday, with a "survivors' dinner" on Saturday night.

Fall 2019 Resort Meeting

First Vice President Nolan called on Alex Giles to report regarding the status of plans for the fall 2019 resort meeting in Scottsdale, Arizona. The meeting is scheduled for October 29 through November 2, 2019 at the Hyatt Regency at Gainey Ranch. Mr. Giles is Chair of the Planning Committee. Mr. Giles reported that all of the firms that contributed to the \$28,000 in sponsorship

money that was raised for the Napa Valley resort meeting have requested that the money be used for the 2019 resort meeting.

2018 and 2019 Summer Board Meetings

First Vice President Nolan reported that the 2018 summer Board meeting will take place in Portland, Maine during the first weekend in August. The 2019 summer Board meeting will take place in Hudson, New York. He noted that the Board of the Canadian MLA is considering joining the MLA Board in Hudson in 2019.

Tulane Admiralty Law Institute - 2018

Mr. Hurley reported that the 2018 Tulane Admiralty Law Institute (“ALI”) will post its agenda by the end of November. All sessions will take place at the Board of Trade. President Watson reminded the Board that it will meet in New Orleans on Tuesday, February 27, 2018 prior to the commencement of the ALI.

NVDC Rulemaking

First Vice President Nolan reported that the Coast Guard issued an NPRM relating to 46 CFR Part 67. The MLA Committee on Marine Finance then filed its draft revisions with the Coast Guard, and the Coast Guard issued a revised version a few days later.

Improving Admiralty Judges Relations with Admiralty

President Watson advised the Board that there was nothing further to report regarding the Federal Judicial Center’s response to the MLA’s offer to present seminars for the federal judges on admiralty law and practice.

Designation of Cybersecurity Committee as Standing Committee

President Watson confirmed that the Cybersecurity Committee is now a standing committee of the Association.

Description of Committee Activity on the Website

President Watson led a brief discussion regarding the descriptions of the standing committees on the website. He requested that Second Vice President Farrell work with the committees to update their descriptions.

Amicus Brief in *Tabingo v. F/V American Triumph*

President Watson advised the Board that the MLA filed its amicus brief in support of the Petition for Writ of Certiorari to the U.S. Supreme Court in mid-November.

PRESIDENT'S ACTIVITIES

President Watson reported that he and Immediate Past President Bob Clyne attended the CMI meeting in Genoa, Italy in September, and that it was a very good meeting. In October, he attended the meetings of the Association Mondiale de Dispatcheurs, the Association of Average Adjusters of the United States and Canada, and MICA. In November, just prior to the Board meeting, he attended the AIMU dinner in New York.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business, President Watson adjourned the meeting at 11:53 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara L. Holland
Secretary