



Message from the Commodore

January 18, 2023

Fellow Members,

Recently, I informed you of a Proposed Amendment to the ByLaws that would allow an increase in the total Membership cap from 200 to 220. I sent this to satisfy the requirement stated in the ByLaws (Article XIII—Amendment of Bylaws) that allows amendment to be changed with a thirty day notice to the Membership.

There have been a number of comments; mostly, the comments were positive to this change, several were questioning the motivation behind the change.

At the Board level the discussion on the positive side pointed out the lengthy Wait List that we have right now (about 17). It was also noted that this would, of course, increase our annual income.

The Club has several major Capital investments in the fairly near future (1-4 yrs), including to wave attenuation problem on B Dock and the rebuild of B Dock. Currently we have cash reserves to cover *most* of this work. This was primarily due insurance settlements from Hurricane Fran, and careful spending of those proceeds.

There is a Long Term Budget Planning Committee meeting right now to figure out the financing and time line of all considered Capital projects and improvements that were brought to everyone's attention as a result of the Survey of the past Summer. It is apparent, at the least, that we don't have quite enough for all of the most pressing possible projects.

There was concern for straining the Club's plant with this increase. It should be noted that the original cap of 200 was established 50 years ago on a piece of property 20% the size of what we have available for use now. As for the limits of the current Clubhouse, I have not seen ever in 15 years of membership a maxed out Clubhouse for a Social event. Workdays sometimes will exceed the indoor limit, but they are held primarily outdoors. The Annual meetings are lightly attended, as are the Board Meetings. The Installation Dinner each January is fully subscribed; it is limited by the number of tables and chairs we can set up. (Just recently, the Installation Dinner was fully booked; however, there was no waiting list to speak of.) The point here is that only a minority of Members use the facility actively.

With the acquisition of the Agar lot and the Annex, we now have room for more Dry Storage and Overflow parking and storage for Regatta and Storm events.

So consider this and feel free to attend the next Board Meeting on February 11, and comment. Feel free to comment to me directly at raleighwoodcab@aol.com. I won't necessarily respond to each email but will certainly consider the thoughts you offer.

The Board will revisit this Motion after the 30 day period has passed and vote on it via email.

Thanks for your attention and support.

Arch Altman
Commodore