

NEW ZEALAND COMPANY OF MASTER MARINERS INCORPORATED



MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Held at the Remuera Club, Auckland on Wednesday 7th August 2019

Captain Barradale, Warden Auckland Branch, proposed the Loyal Toast

Lunch was served

The AGM commenced after lunch at 1335

1. **WELCOME:** The Master, Captain Ewbank, welcomed the 15 members and passed the chair to Captain Barradale.
2. **PRESENT:** Captains Barradale, Brown, Camp, Craigie-Lucas, Daish, Ewbank, Frankland, Good, Murphy, Payne, Pigneguy, Swan, Westermeier, and Wright, and Commander Robbins.
3. **APOLOGIES:** Captains Hunn, Johnson, Torgersen, Hawkins, Gilkison, Sweetman, Munro, Goodwin, Larsen, Smith, Swallow and Oliver, and Rev Law. The apologies were **received**
4. **IN MEMORIAM:** A minute's silence was observed for those who had 'crossed the bar' since the last AGM – Captains Deane, Wheeler, Henshaw, Boyes, Kelner, and Anderson.
5. **MINUTES:** The minutes of the AGM held in Wellington on 8 August 2018 were circulated and **taken as read** (Good/Frankland). The following matters arising were discussed:
 - 5.1 **Relationship with NZRSA/MNA.** Captain Good reported on progress relating to obtaining Service membership for MN personnel. He noted that we have been an Affiliate for 2 years. He reported on attendance at the recent RSA Council meeting. He has also held some discussions with Merchant Navy Association though there is no NZ MNA (Auckland Branch has crumbled away and Wellington Branch MNA are slowly moving to become national body). MNA are discussing with their members about affiliating with RSA. Captain Good noted that getting Service member status would allow MN personnel to access RSA welfare systems and programmes. It was felt that acceptance of the MN as the 4th Service was slowly growing and that we should proceed slowly in discussion with MNA.
 - 5.2 **Member Communications.** There is no present intention to revive ON DECK. The Tauranga and Auckland Branch newsletters are widely circulated as are overseas publications including that from the HCMM. General Secretary advised the intention to circulate a bi-monthly Bulletin by email (with branches printing for those without email).
 - 5.3 **Mentoring programmes.** This is in abeyance until the cadet employment situation stabilises. Notes that Silver Fern shipping have a mentoring programme and we will monitor this.
6. **CORRESPONDENCE:** General Secretary reported that he receives almost no postal mail. Most inwards communications are by email which are either copies or circulated to Branch officers as appropriate. Letters have been mailed to those who have joined or resigned.

7. **WARDENS' REPORTS:**

- 7.1 **Auckland.** Membership matters were noted. The Warden and Secretary have represented the MN at the ANZAC Day Civic ceremony. Warden also represented at the US Memorial Day function in July. Finances are sound. Scholarship Student Marissa Judkins was presented with cheque for \$1000. She is working on RV FALKOR. Thanks expressed to Branch Officers.
- 7.2 **Christchurch.** Numbers are down to 23. Dinners are held annually and at Christmas for members (normally about 11 attendees) and spouses. Apart from committee meetings, Branch meetings are not held. Warden attended the Patron's garden party with the Master in February.
- 7.3 **Wellington.** Numbers are slowly recovering and around 15-20 members regularly attend monthly lunch meetings. Good speakers are a drawcard and maritime friends are invited. The Warden attended the RSA Council on behalf of the Company and is taking with the MNA. Fortunate not to lose any members this year.
- 7.4 **Tauranga.** Appreciate the Newsletter editor, Guy, and other branch Officers. Warden has represented at MN Memorial service in September. The service seems to be attracting more politicians (local and central) and representatives of other countries. Good to see that the new war memorial in Papamoa has the MN crest on it. Membership is slowly decreasing with natural wastage.

8. **MASTER'S REPORT:** The Master presented a detailed and colourful report. Pleased to note that we now have a husband and wife membership team and the recruitment of a female senior naval officer, Captain Lisa Hunn RNZN. Congratulated Captain Barradale for recruitment efforts at NZ Maritime School.

Master has represented the company at various events including 101st Anniversary of Paschendale, Waitangi Day Garden Party in Wellington, HMS MONTROSE Cocktail Party, and at NZRSA Annual Conference. Master has attended all 3 funerals of Auckland Branch members this year. Master noted the annual Maritime Associations Dinner in Auckland each December and commented that the Company was well represented at the 2018 dinner. This year's event to be held 13 December.

Congratulations extended to Gavin Dennison and Gerry Wright who produce the Branch newsletters.

Efforts to have MN personnel recognised as Service Personnel continue.

Thanked the Wardens and Committees of our 4 branches for their efforts in keeping the Company afloat.

9. **TREASURER'S REPORT:** Presented by General Secretary. Modest surplus of \$206 for the year though some expenses were a little higher due in part to delayed payments of Honorarium. ON DEK is no longer being published saving around \$3500pa. This allows the capitation levy to be reduced to \$25pp. income for current FY will fall by almost \$2000 as a consequence but anticipating better than break- even budget for present year. Levy to remain at \$25 for coming FY. The Consolidated Financial Report for the Company and Branches will be lodged with registrar of Incorporated Societies shortly.

10. **OFFICERS:** The following appointments were advised/confirmed:

Master – Captain E Ewbank
General Secretary/Treasurer – Commander Larry Robbins
Warden Auckland Branch – Captain Chris Barradale
Warden Christchurch Branch – Captain Darrell Daish
Warden Tauranga Branch – Captain Ken Camp
Warden Wellington Branch – Captain Eric Good

11. **GENERAL BUSINESS:**

- 11.1 **Chartered Master Mariner Scheme.** Captain Daish reported on contact with HCMM over the scheme though noted that there is very little information. The process is complicated and expensive and requires renewal every 5 years. Advised that 2 candidates were sought from each of NZ, Australia and Canada though it is unclear what is the process. Noted that individual applications are also possible. The first 3 Chartered Master Mariners have been appointed in UK with 5 more in the pipeline this year.

The subject was discussed by the members and it was felt that there is probably little benefit in the scheme to NZ members. Captain Daish to keep in touch with the situation.

- 11.2 **LIFE MEMBERSHIP:** It was proposed (Daish/Payne) that Life Membership be awarded to Captain Nic Campbell (Wellington). It was proposed (Barradale/Swan) that Life Membership be awarded to Captain John Frankland (Auckland).

Both nominations noted their significant contribution to the Company in various ways over many years. These proposals **were accepted by acclamation.**

- 11.3 **QUORA:** It was noted that the current quorum for Company General Meetings is 15 which was barely achieved for this meeting. Captain Barradale suggested that the quorum be reduced to 10. This will require a rule change. **ACTION:** General secretary to formulate motion for consideration at next AGM.

- 11.4 **NZ SAILING TRUST:** Captain Pigneguy reported that the Auckland Branch had donated \$120 to allow a student of a low decile school to attend a day sail on LION NZ. This had been a beneficial, life changing experience. Captains Good and Payne commented on the benefits they had seen in young people who had undertaken similar activities. Captain Pigneguy encouraged other branches to consider such support which could be widened to other schools. Details are available from the Trust or Captain Pigneguy.

12. The next AGM will be held in Tauranga on 5 August 2020.

13. The Master closed the meeting at 1445.