

Maryland Port Commission
Open Session Minutes
September 7, 2021

The Three Hundred and Seventy Ninth Session of the Maryland Port Commission was called to order at 9:01 am by Secretary Gregory Slater. The Commission met in Open Session from 9:01 am until 9:19 am in the Stanton Room, 20th floor, World Trade Center, 401 E. Pratt Street, Baltimore, MD 21202.

Present: Secretary Slater and Commissioners Dandy, Dean, Huber, Lunn (by phone), McDonald, and Richardson.

Staff: William Doyle (Executive Director), Bob Munroe (MPA Principal Counsel), Christina Nichols (Chief of Staff), Rick Powers (Director of Marketing), Kristen Fidler (Director of Harbor Development), David Espie (Director of Security), Ryan Barry (Director of Operations), Dominic Scurti (Director of Planning), Steve Johnson (Director of Engineering), Wonza Spann Nicholas (Director of Finance), Brad Smith (General Manager of Strategic Initiatives), Jennifer Guthrie (Legislative Manager), and Jill Lemke (Planning).

Minutes of the Three Hundred and Seventy Eighth Open Session Meeting

Commissioner Dandy moved to approve the Open Session Minutes of the Three Hundred and Seventy Eighth Port Commission. Commissioner McDonald seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously without discussion.

Business Update, William P. Doyle, Executive Director

Mr. Doyle provided an update on the following:

Cruise

The Carnival PRIDE is scheduled to arrive in Baltimore on September 9, 2021. The US Coast Guard inspection is scheduled for September 9, 2021 and dress rehearsal for cruising is scheduled for September 10, 2021 with the following in place:

- Carnival crew members have role-played different scenarios to enact possible situations involving COVID positive passengers.
- Staff will check the passenger flow from entering the building to embark.
- The IT processing operation is ensuring connection to the vessel and synergies are in place with the ticketing/check-in counters.
- 95% of all crew and guest must be vaccinated.
- Masks are required in the terminal and on board the ship.
- All Guests must show proof of a negative test within 72 hours of sailing.
- Carnival will have on site COVID testing inside the terminal for guest without proof of a negative test and the remaining 5% of unvaccinated guests.

US Customs and Border Protection Agency review of operations is scheduled for September 10, 2021, Baltimore City Fire Department vessel tour is scheduled for September 11, 2021, and a ribbon cutting ceremony is scheduled for Sunday morning September 12, 2021, at the terminal. Carnival styles these post-COVID ribbon cutting ceremonies as “Welcome Back to the Fun”. President of Carnival Cruise Line Christine Duffy and President and CEO of Carnival Corporation Arnold Donald are planning to attend the ribbon cutting ceremony. The Carnival Legend is scheduled to replace the Carnival Pride as the regularly scheduled vessel for the Port of Baltimore in November.

The Royal Caribbean Enchantment of the Seas is scheduled to replace the previous ship the Grandeur of the Seas. The first cruise for the Enchantment is scheduled for December 23, 2021. 95% of all crew and guest must be vaccinated, masks are required in the terminal and on board the ship, and all guests must show proof of a negative test within 72 hours of sailing.

Royal is planning on site COVID testing for guests without proof of a negative test and the remaining 5% of unvaccinated guests.

New Container Service Originating in Vietnam/Southeast Asia Container

Today, the first vessel in 13-ship string is set to arrive at Seagirt Marine Terminal – The Maersk XIAMEN. This vessel is part of the new Maersk TP 20 service that originates in Vietnam/Southeast Asia. The Port of Baltimore has never had a Vietnam manufacturing hub originating service.

Seagirt Marine Terminal Cranes:

The new ZPMC Seagirt Marine Terminal (SMT) cranes will arrive at the docks at approximately 1 pm on September 9, 2021. The cranes are currently at anchor, south of the Bay Bridge at the Annapolis anchorage. Calculations and planning will take a few days before the heavy lift ships will transit up the bay into Seagirt. The angle of the cranes is being adjusted aboard ship to allow for air clearances under the bridges.

The MPA was required to comply with Buy America provisions known as purchased “off the shelf” with respect to the fenders. Like the cranes, these types of fenders are not manufactured in the United States. Working with the US Maritime Administration, MPA obtained approval for securing fender panels, rubber appurtenances and cones overseas. The hardware components including chains, bolts and securing mechanisms are American made. Further, the fenders could not be assembled at Seagirt Marine Terminal, but instead would have to be assembled offsite. Offsite includes Dundalk Marine Terminal’s Lot #96. MPA provided this site for laydown and assembly of components. The fenders were assembled and then transported from DMT to SMT for final installation.

Salient Points on Cranes:

- 4 new ZPMC cranes
- Cranes can reach across 23 containers
- 160 ft working height

- Departed China June 28, 2021, on the heavy lift vessel ZHEN HUA 24. The voyage started in Shanghai then across the Indian Ocean, around Africa's Cape of Good Hope, and across the Atlantic Ocean during a particularly active hurricane season. The vessel delayed entering the Chesapeake for about 4 days to allow Hurricane Ida and its remnants clear through the Mid-Atlantic/Northeast.
- 2 Bay Pilots brought the vessel to the Annapolis anchorage on September 4, 2021, a 15-hour transit.
- Company reps and engineers are onboard at Annapolis to adjust boom angle down to 20°.
- There will be roughly 10 feet of clearance on Bay Bridge and 9.5 feet of clearance on Francis Scott Key Bridge.
- It will be a 5-hour transit from Annapolis anchorage to Seagirt Marine Terminal.
- An active and moving security perimeter will be established and maintained by the US Coast Guard.
- 2 Escort tugs will travel along, and 3 tugs will be required to assist berthing the vessel.
- For safe transit the wind must be 20 knots or less and sustained gusts of 25 knots or lower.
- Unloading of the cranes will take approximately 10 days using four (4) landside cranes.

Draft Maryland Port Commission Report to the Legislature, Jill Lemke, Planning

Ms. Lemke presented the First Draft copy of the Maryland Port Commission Report to the Legislature. Ms. Lemke requested that any edits or comments be sent to Christina Nichols by September 20th to be incorporated into the Final report which will be presented for Approval at the October 6 Maryland Port Commission meeting.

Adjournment

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner McDonald and seconded by Commissioner Dean. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 9:19 am.