

# The Society of Master Mariners South Africa

## Port Elizabeth Branch

Minutes of the 61<sup>st</sup> Annual General Meeting of the Port Elizabeth branch of the Society of Master Mariners, South Africa, held at The German Club, Lorraine, Port Elizabeth on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> May 2007.

Best wishes for a successful meeting were received from Roy Martin, President

### PRESENT

Irwin de Graaf, Rodney Chalk, Daron Burgess, John White, Bob Brindle, Graham Emberson, Nigel Campbell, Harry Freaker, John Davies, Hans Frahm and Cliff Bragg.

### APPOLOGIES

Neither the President Roy Martin nor any members of the Executive were able to attend, due to work commitments

### MINUTES OF 60<sup>th</sup>

Minutes of the 60<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting were circulated amongst the members.

### HONORARY TREASURERS REPORT

The honourable treasurer gave his report and submitted a statement for the year.

The proposal that the P.E. branch only pay for the members' dinner was unanimously accepted. Drinks and partners dinner were for separate account.

### MASTERS REPORT

Daron Burgess welcomed all those present and reflected briefly on the year's activities. Although most members attend meetings on a regular basis, some members never attend the monthly meetings however, considering the number of members, our turn-outs were considered reasonable.

### MATTERS ARISING

#### Branch autonomy:

Some members felt that the P.E. branch should be run independently from the National society and brought up the following as justification

There was little if any interaction between branches and what interaction there is takes place via e-mail.

In the previous 8 years the president had attended only 2 meetings

The running of the society was left to a few people in Durban and when those people were, for whatever reason, unable to perform the duties, the society slowly ground to a standstill.

Branch autonomy and the above mentioned points were discussed at length however the majority of the members wished to remain part of the National society. It was felt that any splintering of the society would be the beginning of the end.

It was proposed that each branch had representation at EXCO level as was the case prior to the advent of e-mail.

It was proposed that the Port Elizabeth branch be renamed the Eastern Cape branch but after a brief discussion it was decided to leave it as is.

#### Recognition of the Society:

It was unanimously agreed upon that the name and status of the Society was beginning to fall by the wayside.

Those members employed by SAMSA would circulate all draft regulations to the remaining members for comment. In an effort to get recognition by the regulatory authorities, Nigel Campbell has agreed to mention the society when meeting with officials from the Dot.

#### Membership numbers:

This topic will be left over for the next congress meeting.

#### Change of venue:

Due to mainly safety reasons, members wanted to hold meetings at a different venue. It was finally agreed that, for the time being, the venues would alternate between the German club and our current venue.

#### Election of Office Bearers:

Other than Rodney taking over from Siegfried Duwe, office bearers remain unchanged.

#### NEXT MEETING

Next meeting is scheduled for 5<sup>th</sup> June

**Daron Burgess, Master**  
**Siegfried Duwe Dep. Master**  
**Irwin De Graaf, Hon Sec.**

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