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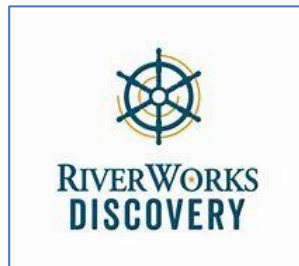
Waterways Association of Pittsburgh

Newsletter
2023 Issue No. 11
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www.wapgh.org

November Meeting Highlights

President David Podurciel welcomed everyone to the Waterways Association of Pittsburgh (WAP) that was hosted at Chartiers Country Club. WAP had 34 members in attendance. He then introduced our virtual guest speaker Errin Howard from RiverWorks Discover.

Errin provided a virtual presentation. RiverWorks discover purpose is to educate communities about the commerce, culture, conservation, and careers (the 4 C's) on the great rivers of America and their watersheds. Their vision is to become a leader in collaborating with organizations to come together in instilling an appreciation for the life, history, culture as well as careers found working on and along the waterways. Errin also provided great feedback from our most recent "Who Work the Rivers" event at the Gateway Clipper Fleet.



Navigation report was provided by David Podurciel. High water events continue to be minimal this year. Please don't get complacent and continue to train and secure your fleets for when the weather (water) does change. Montgomery L&D project has begun, please expect major delays. Current cue has 7 cuts above and 29 cuts below with an estimated average delay of 36 hours, 41 minutes. Closure dates are listed below:

Main Chamber closures

1. Nov 26th – Dec 22nd

Aux Chamber closures

2. Nov 22nd – Nov 25th

Hannibal L&D (mm 126) will be closed July 15 – November 7, 2025. Expect major delays.

John Anderson from Army Corp provided update on current and upcoming closures. Lock 3 Mon contract was awarded to Fay Corporation and breach is scheduled for July 2024. It was

also noted that John Dilla has accepted another position with the ACOE and they are currently looking to backfill his position.

[Click Here to Read ACOE](#)

The legislative report was provided by Scott Harshman from Port of Pittsburgh. Highlights included legislative priorities and another possible government shutdown on November 17. A shut-down or continuing resolution is not ideal for funding L&D projects and will only delay and open them up for additional inflationary cost. Jamie Hoey who is a consultant for Port of Pittsburgh has been asked to be on the Waterways Council Inc. (WCI), capital development strategy. Port of Pittsburgh will be attending WCI annual meeting November 12-15 in New Orleans, LA.

[Click Here to Read Full Legislation Report](#)

USCG Eyobe Mills and CDR Justin Jolly provided the USCG report. Due to low recruiting numbers, the USCG is re-allocating resources to ensure its primary mission of "lifesaving" remains mission ready. MSU Pittsburgh and river buoy tender cutter Osage will remain at current staffing levels and will not be affected. Two 29-foot patrol cutters and crews will be relocated to Louisville, KY. sometime in 2024. Several members were concerned about how traffic will be monitored for safe navigation. USCG is exploring different options in utilizing local police, fish & game, and potentially USCG auxiliary. Any navigation issues were asked to be reported to Sector Ohio Valley.

[Click Here to Read Full USCG Report](#)

Lee Hendricks provided handout for current weather and river conditions. November has been milder than historic trends. El Nino is predicted to intensify, forecasting to have a warmer and dryer January to March. For any significant river rise, it would take 2" of rain consecutive for a 12-hour period.

[Click Here to Read Full NWS Report](#)

Networking/Membership: Annual Christmas party is on December 8. Registration is now open. Contact Robert McCallister for more info. If you have any baskets for raffle, please contact Gretchen Chamberlain.

HAZWOPER Training is on December 5. Registration is open. WAP Member cost of \$750 will remain the same for 2024.

New Business:

WAP will be purchasing projector, banner backdrop, and table runner. No objections from membership in attendance.

Next meeting: Wednesday, December 13, 2023 at Chartiers County Club.

[Click Here to Register for December Meeting](#)