

NMTA BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

March 18, 2026

Hybrid: Microsoft Teams & NMTA Office

Present:

Mike Kirshenbaum, Chair
Scott Anderson
Elizabeth Bohling
Nick Buck-Niehaus
Tony Bulpin
John Dumas
Nick Graf
Bryce Hansen
Kelly Hawley
Katie Malik
Jeff Messmer
Paul Sorensen

George Harris, President
Katie Groseclose, Executive & Programs Manager
Katie McPhail, VP Boat Show Director
Jay Jennings, VP Director of Government Affairs
Wyatt Asbury, Membership Coordinator
Joan Collins, Boat Show Assistant
Karsten McIntosh, Director of Communications
Chris Larsen, NMTA Legal Council

Absent:

Paul Zimmer

MINUTES

The Board members received access to copies of the following documents electronically on the Board's website in advance of the meeting, and these documents were referred to during the teleconference meeting:

- Board of Trustee Minutes for January 21 & February 3
- Consolidated Financial Report for February 2026
- NMTA Dashboard
- Election Timeline
- New Members for March
- Government Affairs Committee Minutes for March 12, 2026
- Boat Show Committee Minutes for March 11, 2026
- GMA Research Boat Show Exit Survey
- NMTA Strategic SWOT Analysis

- Pat Pattillo WDFW Advisors Proposal

Welcome

Chair Mike Kirshenbaum called the meeting to order at 12:00 PM. George Harris introduced Chris Larsen from Cairncross & Hempelmann as the NMTA legal counsel for this meeting.

Approval of Minutes

It was moved, seconded, and carried to approve the January 21, 2026, and the February 3, 2026 Board of Trustees meeting minutes without changes.

Additional Items

There were no additional items to add to the meeting agenda.

Financial Report

Jen Higgins presented the year-to-date financials for the period ending on February 2026

The Board reviewed the February financial reports.

George Harris reported the Finance Committee met earlier today. Mike Kirshenbaum, Bryce Hansen and Paul Sorensen attended the meeting. Amyna Karmali from Wells Fargo Advisors presented an update on NMTA's current investments. The committee discussed the 2025-26 audit.

Membership

Wyatt Asbury presented six new member applications for March. **It was moved, seconded, and carried to approve the following six applications assigned to the category of membership listed:**

- Horizon Yachts Inc – Active
- HuntfishPNW – Active
- Makan Yacht Group – Active
- Sideshift – Active
- Fujimi Corporation – Affiliate
- TOC Seattle Terminal 1 LLC– Affiliate

Wyatt reported we are still 18 away from the goal of new members for the year and will continue to work on the goal before the end of the fiscal year in June.

George Harris reported that traditionally NMTA renewals have been sent out at the end of April. George would like to send the renewals until after the May meeting, when we have more information on how we will end our fiscal year.

2026 Board Elections, Officer Nominating Committee & Trustee Nominating Committee Report

Paul Sorensen reported to the Board on the recommendations from the Officer Nominating Committee. The committee included Paul Sorensen, Nick Buck-Niehaus and John Dumas. They nominated the following officers: Chair, Mike Kirshenbaum; Vice-Chair, Tony Bulpin; Secretary-Treasurer, Kelly Hawley, and Elizabeth Bohling at the member-at-large. The officers will serve from July 1, 2026 – June 30, 2027.

It was moved, seconded and the Board unanimously elected the officers nominated by the Officer Nominating Committee.

Katie Groseclose reported that forms for self-nominations for Board member positions were sent to all the voting members on March 4. Self-nominations must be returned by April 3, and then the Trustee Nominating Committee will choose six nominees for placement on the ballot. The three Board members whose terms are expiring this June are Nick Graf, Katie Malik, and Jeff Messmer.

Mike Kirshenbaum nominated the following to serve on the 2026 Trustee Nominating Committee: Tim Klontz (3 Rivers Marine) and Jay Quam (Connolly Skis) and board members Nick Buck-Niehaus and Kelly Hawley. Per the by-laws, as chair of the Board, Mike will head the Trustee Nominating Committee. The committee will meet in April to nominate candidates to appear on the Trustee election ballot.

It was moved, seconded, and carried to approve the nominations made by Mike Kirshenbaum.

Government Affairs Update

Jay Jennings gave the following Government Affairs highlights:

- Derelict Vessel removal fund advocacy: House Bill 2199 passed and redefined certain aspects of derelict vessel removal and streamline the removal process
- State Taxation Changes and Business Impact: Roman detailed the passage of a new state income tax applying to households with adjusted gross income over \$1 million, taxed at 9.9%. He noted the likelihood of future changes, pending court challenges, and possible initiatives to repeal the tax
- He sent an email to 41 NMTA members that operate 46 Department of Ecology permitted boatyards in Washington. There is a total of 66 boatyards in Washington that operate under the Boatyard General Stormwater Permit. Ecology is required to update the permit every five years with a new permit taking effect in October 2027 and Ecology is starting its review of the current permit. Jay will be meeting with Ecology in the next few weeks. To prepare for that meeting Jay will be calling all members with a boatyard permit to make sure their “experiences, challenges, and recommendations are fully represented”

- The 2026 Marina & Boatyard Conference is going to be in LaConner again this year, October 6-8.
- North of Falcon begins today in Olympia. This meeting decides fish allocations for next year, managing numbers between tribes and recreational fishing.

Boat Show Committee

Katie McPhail described these highlights from the March Boat Show Committee meeting:

- The Committee gave their feedback from the 2026 Seattle Boat Show.
- The show had its first year over year attendance increase since 2018 with 33,199 attendees.
- The committee reviewed the traditional Onions & Roses report from the exhibitors and shared examples of exhibitor feedback. Katie noted that the report was based on only 15 responses.
- The final P&L for show will be presented at the April Board meeting since there are still a few invoices staff are waiting to receive and staff still need to schedule settlement with First & Goal.
- The dates for the 2027 Seattle Boat Show will be Friday, February 5 to Saturday, February 13. This means the show will end on Superbowl weekend, President's Day weekend, and Valentine's Day weekend. This also means the show will overlap with the Miami Boat Show, Feb. 10-14.
- For the second half of the meeting Don Morgan, from GMA Research, presented the results of the 2026 Seattle Boat Show Exit Survey measuring guest behavior/experience and satisfaction. (George noted that Don's entire presentation is in the Board Packets.)

It was moved, seconded, and carried to approve the March 11, 2026, Boat Show Committee minutes.

Katie McPhail reported that the 2026 Anacortes Boat & Yacht Show is filling up and applications are not due until March 31. Katie is encouraging exhibitors to sign up as soon as possible to ensure their spot at the show.

Spring Strategic Planning Session – April 29, 9am-3pm

George Harris reported he would like to bring back a Board Strategic Planning Session. It will be held April 29, 9am-3pm, at the Seattle Yacht Club Outstation at Elliott Bay Marina. George would like to discuss the NMTA Strategic SWOT Analysis (Strength, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats). George would like the Strategic Meeting to cover four 90-minute sessions, covering 4 different topics. He wants a few Board members to help select the four topics that will be discussed. George asked the Board to consider what mega issues they would like to discuss including (but not limited to):

- Lumen Field Lease Renewal (3 years remaining on current lease)
- Boat Show Guidelines & Space Allocation
- Health Trust Strategy and Viability
- Membership & Financial Viability

- State & Federal Regulations
- Superyacht Northwest Viability
- Grow Boating Programs

Scott Anderson, Nick Buck-Niehaus, and Katie Malik volunteered to help George come up with the topics. George asked if anyone else was interested to let him know.

Upcoming Board Meetings & Annual Meeting

George Harris reported the following upcoming important meeting dates for the Board:

- April 15 – NMTA Office or Teams, Noon
- April 29 – Strategic Planning Session, Elliott Bay Marina SYC, 9am-3pm
- May 20 - NMTA Office or Teams, Noon
- May 27, June 3, June 10 – Budget Lunch #1, #2, #3
- Annual Meeting – Wednesday, June 17 at Queen City Yacht Club
 - Board meeting, 3-5PM
 - Annual Meeting, 5:30-8PM

There being no further business, it was moved, seconded, and carried to adjourn the meeting at 1:55 PM. The next meeting of the NMTA Board of Trustees will be held on Wednesday, April 15 at 12PM on Microsoft Teams.