

U.S. Department of
Homeland Security

United States
Coast Guard



Commander
United States Coast Guard
Sector Northern New England

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March 17, 2011

Town of Cape Elizabeth, Maine
Fort Williams Advisory Commission
PO Box 6260
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To whom it may concern:

A Change of Command ceremony for U. S. Coast Guard Sector Northern New England will take place on June 24, 2011 at Fort Williams Park, in the proximity of Portland Head Light. Captain James McPherson, who has been the Commanding Officer of Sector Northern New England since 2008, will be relieved by Captain Christopher Roberge as the next Commanding Officer. The Change of Command ceremony is a formal military event that occurs once every few years. This year's ceremony will be widely attended by the First Coast Guard District Commander, Rear Admiral Daniel Neptun, U. S. Congressional Staffers, maritime industry representatives, and other dignitaries.

Although the planning of the event is in its infancy, Fort Williams Park was chosen as the location for the ceremony as the Coast Guard's history in Maine is directly tied to that of Portland Head Light and the picturesque setting of Fort Williams Park is commensurate with this distinctly prestigious event. The Coast Guard has already been in consultation with Mr. Bob Malley as for approval of Fort Williams Park as the location for the ceremony. The ceremony will likely take place at 1100 and will last for approximately one hour. Captain McPherson would like to hold a reception following the Change of Command ceremony at the same location.

The Coast Guard respectfully requests permission from the Fort Williams Advisory Commission and the Cape Elizabeth Town Council to serve beer and wine in glasses at the reception. The Coast Guard is a professional military organization with a strict alcohol policy. The Coast Guard is also family orientated and appreciates the desires of local citizens to prevent excessive alcohol consumption in public. The reception would be confined to the tents where the ceremony takes place and would be served by Coast Guard food service professionals. The Coast Guard will strictly adhere to age requirements and will not tolerate excessive alcohol consumption. The reception would last approximately two hours and other non-alcoholic beverages would be served. No liquor would be served. The Coast Guard plans on having appropriate security on scene and would comply with other requirements that would help facilitate this request.

I appreciate the Commission's time and consideration on this matter and would welcome feedback and conversation on this request. I am available at 207-741-5424. Please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "K. M. Beck".

K. M. BECK
Lieutenant, U. S. Coast Guard
Change of Command Ceremony
Planning Committee Advisor