

**Five Mile River Commission
June 16, 2016 Meeting Minutes
The Boardroom, Rowayton Community Center
33 Highland Ave., Rowayton, CT 06853**

Commission members in attendance:

Matthew Marion, Chairman
Wim Jessup, Commissioner
John deRegt, Commissioner

Ray Meurer, Harbor Superintendent
David Snyder, Assistant Harbor Superintendent

Matthew Marion took the chair at 7:36 p.m.

Chairman Marion reported the Commissioners had reviewed and unanimously approved the May 19, 2016 meeting minutes electronically, subject to confirmation of approval at the Commission's next meeting, and that the minutes have been filed electronically with Darien and Norwalk within the statutory period. By vote, the Commissioners unanimously re-confirmed their approval of the May 19th meeting minutes. Public notice of the scheduled June 16, 2016 meeting was timely provided and the agenda timely filed with the Town of Darien and the City of Norwalk.

Chairman Marion thanked David Snyder for his assistance and input on the latest issue of *Currents* newsletter, which was emailed to boat owners last week. He discussed the upcoming June 26th meeting between the Connecticut Port Authority and representatives of the various harbours in Darien, and asked Commissioners Jessup and Leasure to attend on behalf of the Commission.

Next on the agenda, the Commission discussed the practicality of consolidating the two existing mooring strings into one string to provide more room for boats transiting the river. The Chairman asked Ray Meurer and David Snyder to propose recommendations based upon the advantages/disadvantages of a single string mooring system for the boats currently in the river.

The Commission next discussed the fact that several docked boats were recently observed protruding into the federal channel, potentially threatening safe navigation. The Chairman reported he had spoken to a marina regarding one such boat and was assured the boat would be moved from its temporary berth within two days. (It has since been moved from the river.) As regards the other boats, the Harbor Superintendent agreed to inform the marina operator responsible for docking those boats that the Army Corps of Engineers prohibits docked boats from protruding into the channel and to direct the operator to eliminate the problem.

Concerning dock applications, Chairman Marion confirmed the Commission had recently submitted comments regarding the CAM application for 215 Rowayton Ave., and the dock

application for 51 Rowayton Ave., to Norwalk P&Z and DEEP, respectively. He also noted the Commission had just received a proposed dock application covering 9 Cudlipp Street in Rowayton and would review it in due course.

Regarding implementation of the Ground Tackle Inspection program, Chairman Marion commented most of these inspections/certifications should have been completed by now, and directed the Harbor Superintendent to send a second notice on June 21st to boat owners who have not returned signed Inspection Forms. The Commission agreed a third notice, if necessary, should be sent on June 28th with the admonition that delinquent boat owners may be deemed ineligible for 2017 mooring permit renewals if their ground tackle paperwork is not promptly submitted. The Commission requested weekly progress reports from the Harbor Superintendent on this issue, and also discussed issues related to an unused mooring off Five Mile River Rd.

In his report to the Commission, the Harbor Superintendent noted two moored boats in the river appear to be minimally maintained and, potentially, at future risk of sinking. He promised to continue monitoring both boats. He also reported current financials: 2016 YTD income totals \$43,350; YTD expenses total \$7,207.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:39 p.m.

The remaining regularly scheduled meeting dates for 2016 are July 28, October 20 and December 8. The meetings begin at 7:30 p.m. in the Boardroom of the Rowayton Community Center, 33 Highland Avenue, Rowayton, Conn.

Respectively submitted, Ray Meurer, Harbor Superintendent