

**NORWALK HARBOR MANAGEMENT COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
JULY 26, 2017**

**ATTENDANCE:** Tony Mobilia, Chair; Dennis Santella; Joseph Perella; John Pinto; John Romano

**ABSENT:** Tony Aitoro; Jose Cebrain; Bill Gardella; Jan Schaefer

**STAFF:** Geoff Steadman, Consultant; Gregg Scully, Harbor Master

**OTHERS:** Steven Bartush, Shellfish Commission

**1. CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE**

Mr. Mobilia called the meeting to order at 7:38 p. m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**2. ROLL CALL**

Mr. Mobilia read the roll, and a quorum was present.

**3. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

Mr. Mobilia stated that seven letters went out in response to the applications that were submitted to the commission. He stated that Mr. Steadman, Dr. Pinto and himself attended a meeting with the Planning and Zoning Department to discuss the commission being notified of applications which would come under the commission's purview. He stated that it was a positive meeting, and representatives from the Planning and Zoning Department agreed to send the commission all applications that are subject to Coastal Site Plan Review.

Mr. Mobilia stated that Mr. Jack Karalius will soon be retiring from the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, New England District after many years of dedicated service.

**\*\* MR. SANTELLA MOVED THAT "THE NORWALK HARBOR MANAGEMENT COMMISSION GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGES THE VITAL ASSISTANCE PROVIDED TO THE COMMISSION AND CITY OF NORWALK BY MR. JACK KARALIUS, PROJECT MANAGER, U. S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, New England DISTRICT. OVER THE COURSE OF MANY YEARS, MR. KARALIUS HAS BEEN A CONSTANT SOURCE OF WISE COUNSEL AND VITAL SUPPORT ON ALL MATTERS CONCERNING THE NORWALK HARBOR FEDERAL NAVIGATION PROJECT. WORKING CLOSELY WITH THE COMMISSION, HE PLANNED THE THREE PHASE NORWALK HARBOR DREDGING PROJECT AND MANAGED THAT PROJECT TO SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION IN THE PERIOD 2005 TO 2014. HIS KNOWLEDGE, PROFESSIONALISM, AND DEDICATION TO THE CORPS OF ENGINEERS' MISSION WERE APPARENT TO ALL AND ESSENTIAL FOR CONDUCTING THIS MAJOR DREDGING PROJECT NEEDED TO MAINTAIN THE VIABILITY OF NORWALK HARBOR. UPON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT, WE THANK MR. KARALIUS FOR A JOB WELL DONE, RECOGNIZE HIS SIGNIFICANT ACCOMPLISHMENTS, AND WISH HIM WELL.**

**\*\* MR. ROMANO SECONDED THE MOTION.**

**\*\* THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

#### **4. STAFF REPORTS**

##### **a. Harbor Master**

Harbor Master Scully stated that he has received multiple calls from a customer regarding the placement of his mooring. The customer stated that a new mooring put in close to his, interferes with his mooring. Harbor Master Scully stated that we are working to relocate the customer's mooring. He stated that the customer's boat hits the mud in low tide.

Harbor Master Scully stated that the East Norwalk Blue Oyster Bar Fundraiser, hosted by Norman Bloom, will be held on Saturday July 29 from 5:30 to 7:30 p. m.

Harbor Master Scully stated that Mr. Aitoro sent him pictures of two sailboats that have been anchored in the East Channel for weeks. One of the boats is registered in Connecticut. The other is from New York. He will be investigating.

Harbor Master Scully stated that permit work has been done for the In-Water Boat Show. He stated that he is working on organizing the placements of moorings. Discussion followed on possible methods of putting the stickers on the mooring and what information to have on the stickers.

Harbor Master Scully stated that he has been responding to customer calls and assisting the Mooring Committee in any way that he can.

The commission accepted the Harbor Master Report.

Harbor Master Scully proposed the following inventory for the Harbor Master Boat: portable ladder, flashlight, four (4) spreader lights on the roof, throw rope, flare kit, medical bag w/ O2, Dock Lines (2) @ 25' each, life vest, and binoculars.

**\*\* MR. ROMANO MOVED TO GRANT HARBOR MASTER SCULLY THE AUTHORITY TO MAKE THE BOAT SUPPLY PURCHASES IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$750.**

**\*\* DR. PINTO SECONDED THE MOTION.**

**\*\* THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

##### **b. Consultant Report**

No report was given.

#### **5. SHELLFISH COMMISSION**

Mr. Bartush stated that at the last WPCA meeting, a consultant recommended the regionalization of the WPCA. He stated that the recommendation did not specify towns that would be included in the regionalization. He stated that the WPCA heard the recommendation, but did not take any action on the item.

## 6. COMMITTEE REPORTS

### Application Review

1. 43 Yarmouth Road, Rowayton. Application. The applicant, Stephen Hafner proposes to construct a 4' by 4' by 2' tall concrete landing, a 3' by 36' aluminum ramp, a 4' by 6' timber ramp landing float, a 6.25' by 16' timber floating dock, and a two-piling timber tieoff dolphin. The floating dock will be anchored by two timber pilings and will include a swim ladder. The ramp, floating docks and pilings will be brought to the site by barge and assembled. Pilings will be driven by a derrick using vibratory or impact hammer. Deteriorated timbers will be placed on the barge and disposed of at the contractor's yard upon demobilization. Total area of structures beyond the mean high water line is approximately 213 square feet. Total waterward encroachment of structures beyond the mean high water line is approximately 38'.

DR. PINTO MOVED TO APPROVE THE 43 YARMOUTH ROAD, ROWAYTON APPLICATION WITH THE FOLLOWING COMMENTS:

1. THE APPLICANT'S PLANS SHOW THE PROPOSED DOCK STRUCTURE TO BE 16 FEET FROM THE SWING RADIUS OF A MOORING IDENTIFIED AS A ROWAYTON YACHT CLUB MOORING. THERE IS NO INDICATION OF HOW THIS DIMENSION WAS DETERMINED OR THAT THE APPLICANT'S PLANS HAVE BEEN PREPARED BY A PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER OR LAND SURVEYOR.
2. THE APPLICANT'S PLANS DO NOT SHOW THE BOUNDARY OF THE DULY PERMITTED MOORING FIELD OF THE ROWAYTON YACHT CLUB IN THE VICINITY OF THE APPLICANT'S PROPOSED DOCK.
3. THE APPLICANT'S PLANS DO NOT INDICATE THE SIZE OF THE VESSEL ANTICIPATED TO USE THE PROPOSED DOCK STRUCTURE OR THE MAXIMUM SIZE OF VESSEL THAT MAY USE THE DOCK
4. ANY WORK VESSELS AND WATERBORNE EQUIPMENT THAT MAY BE REQUIRED TO CONSTRUCT THE DOCK SHALL BE LOCATED AT THE DIRECTION OF THE HARBOR MASTER.
5. IT IS A POLICY OF THE HARBOR MANAGEMENT PLAN THAT NO FLOAT OR VESSEL ATTACHED TO THAT FLOAT SHOULD REST ON THE BOTTOM OF THE HARBOR DURING NORMAL TIDE CYCLES.
6. TO DATE, THE NHMC HAS RECEIVED NO COMMENTS FROM THE NORWALK SHELLFISH COMMISSION REGARDING THE APPLICANT'S PROPOSAL.

\*\* MR. PERELLA SECONDED THE MOTION.  
\*\* THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMUOUSLY.

Mr. Romano left the meeting at 8:38 p. m.

**2. Eversource Energy. Discussion of pre-application for need and placement of marker buoys for underwater cables from Manressa to North Shore power station. Eversource staff will review Underwater Cable location and means to prevent and/or avoid further structural damage.**

The NHMC reached a consensus to transmit the following preliminary comments to DEEP and the Applicant:

1. The NHMC has no objection to the Applicant submitting a permit application to the DEEP Boating Division at this time for placement of marker buoys to mark the location of the underwater cables. A copy of that application should be provided to the NHMC at the same time as it may be submitted to DEEP.
2. The NHMC is concerned about the potential effects of the proposed buoys on navigation and other public trust uses of the harbor, including shellfishing, and reserves its right to review the application for consistency with the Harbor Management Plan at such time as the application may be submitted to DEEP.
3. Prior to any action on the Applicant's application, DEEP should provide the NHMC and Norwalk Harbor Master with an opportunity to review and comment on the application.

**3. Discussion of pursuing a feasibility study. The study will involve the Western Connecticut Council of Governments (WestCOG) and surrounding western LIS towns to investigate nontraditional dredging alternatives and use of suitable dredge spoils for coastal erosion control and barrier island nourishment.**

The NHMC agreed to transmit the following comments to WESTCOG and the Applicant.

1. The NHMC supports development of a feasibility study and/or pilot project to evaluate the feasibility of nontraditional use of dredged material to advance the alternatives for beneficial use of dredged material identified in the Long Island Sound Dredged Material Management Plan for western Long Island Sound.
2. The NHMC requests the opportunity to participate in the formulation of an appropriate scope of work for the feasibility study/pilot project and to participate as part of any project management team that may be established to oversee the project.

**Mooring Committee**

Mr. Santella stated that the Committee continues to monitor and address issues and concerns from applicants for the 2017 Season. 60 applications have been approved. 48 applications are under review. Mooring stickers are being installed, as time permits, by tackle inspectors Norm Edwards and Tom Rutherford.

Mr. Santella stated that Harbor Master Scully is continuing to check the mooring areas including looking for violators on a mooring without a permit.

## **Harbor Safety**

Mr. Santella stated that Harbor Master Scully, as discussed earlier in this meeting, has requested that the commission consider outfitting the Harbor Master's boat with safety and rescue equipment.

## **Marine Police Unit**

No report was given.

## **NFD Marine Unit**

No report was given.

## **Finance**

Mr. Mobilia stated that there is \$35,000 left in the account as of July 20, 2017. Mooring fees are at \$13,889.

## **Bridges**

Mr. Mobilia stated that we have not heard back from the DOT on vessel relocation.

## **Plans and Recommendations**

No report was given.

## **Water Quality**

Mr. Mobilia stated that a committee will be put together to review the findings of the water quality report.

## **Newsletter/Web Site**

Mr. Perella stated that copies of the newsletter were made. It was also e-blasted out. He stated he has shared articles and updates on Facebook.

## **7. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

### **June 28, 2017**

Page 1 Change "Monthly Meeting" to "Regular Meeting"

Page 6 Add "He stated that a survey will be sent out. It was agreed that before it was publicly sent out, we would see if it could be divided into smaller separate segments."

There was not a vote on the June 28, 2017 minutes.

## 8. NEW BUSINESS/OLD BUSINESS

No items were brought forward.

## 9. ADJOURNMENT

\*\* MR. SANTELLA MOVED TO ADJOURN.  
\*\* DR. PINTO SECONDED THE MOTION.  
\*\* THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:02 p. m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tom Blaney  
Telesco Secretarial Services