

Five Mile River Commission  
July 20, 2017 Meeting Minutes  
The Community Room, Rowayton Community Center  
33 Highland Ave., Rowayton, CT 06853

*Commission members in attendance:*

Matthew Marion - Chairman  
Dirk Leisure  
Wim Jessup

David Snyder, Harbor Superintendent

*Absent:*

John de Regt

*Guest:*

Steve Bartush  
Will McKenna

The Five Mile River Commission meeting started promptly at 7:30 with a unanimous vote to ratify the Commission's prior approval of the June 2017 meeting minutes, which were reviewed, approved, and filed electronically with Darien and Norwalk within the statutory period shortly after the June meeting.

The Commission briefly discussed the S/Y Lionheart matter, and thanked Harbor Superintendent Snyder for his professional handling of the situation.

Commissioner Marion then circulated draft rules prepared by Harbor Superintendent Snyder covering transient mooring policies. The Commission made the following suggestions/recommendations:

- Designate 3-4 "Transient" moorings and mark them with a large "T"
- Locate the transient mooring locations south of town dock
- Arrange for the moorings to be reset/inspected biannually
- Limit vessel LOA to max 45', draft to max 7' (must enter/exit river on at least ½ tide), and beam to max 13.5'
- Require catamarans to contact the Harbor Superintendent in advance
- Prohibit open fires/barbeques on moored boats
- Use town dock to disembark/embark under certain restrictions
- Provide pump out information on website
- Specify that all transient mooring applicants must be approved in advance and solely in the Harbor Superintendent's discretion

Commissioner Marion agreed to edit/recirculate the draft rules prior to inclusion on the website. A transient mooring application form will be added to the Commission's test server for review prior to publication. The transient mooring program will be finalized

and launched on-line) in the Fall, 2017 for use during the 2018 season. In addition, Commissioner Jessup will identify relevant national and regional marine publications to which the Commission can submit the transient mooring information.

Next, the Commission discussed several dock applications. First, Chairman Marion thanked the Commissioners for their prompt review of, and response to, the Darien P&Z CAM application covering 24 Raymond Street. Second, the Commission discussed the DEEP COP application for 77 Rowayton Avenue, which proposes relocating and replacing certain docks, floats, and pilings within the footprint of the existing marina on site. The Commission determined no action was required, given that most of the work has already been completed and, like the remaining work, is wholly within the marina's footprint. Last, the Commission reviewed a Cam Application for 197 Rowayton Avenue pending before Norwalk P&Z. The Commission noted the proposed work is within the existing site footprint and does not impact navigation. The Commissioners discussed the surface runoff retention system and soil erosion precautions, given the proposed increase in impermeable surfaces associated with the project, and will respond to Norwalk P&Z before August 15<sup>th</sup>.

Harbor Superintendent Snyder reviewed his findings from a visual audit of the mooring field in the river that he conducted recently with Steve Bartush. He noted the existing mooring strings could be reconfigured to use space within the river more efficiently, and recommended making this overall adjustment for the 2018 season. Points of discussion included: (i) creating a letter/number marking system for mooring buoys; (ii) working with each marina to mark and reset its moorings for 2018; and (iii) marking cut-throughs in the mooring strings; and (iv) requiring pick up lines on all moorings. The Commission agreed with the Harbor Superintendent's recommendation that the marinas mark their mooring balls starting in 2018.

Harbor Superintendent Snyder then provided his report on income and expense. Dockage is up and moorings are down compared to last year. His report also included brief discussion about several moorings being serviced by Cavanaugh's Marina, several moorings utilized by Robert Griffith, and the need for maintenance of the kayak trail mooring balls.

Last, the Harbor Superintendent and Commissioners welcomed Steve Bartush, who has agreed to act as Assistant Harbor Superintendent.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 pm. The next meeting is scheduled for September 7<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at 7:30 pm in the Board Room, Rowayton Community Center, 33 Highland Avenue, Rowayton, Connecticut

Respectively submitted, David Snyder, Harbor Superintendent.