

Five Mile River Commission
September 14, 2017 Meeting Minutes
The Community Room, Rowayton Community Center
33 Highland Ave., Rowayton, CT 06853

Commission members in attendance:

Matthew Marion - Chairman
Dirk Leasure
John de Regt

David Snyder, Harbor Superintendent
Steve Bartush, Assistant Harbor Superintendent

Absent: Wim Jessup

Guest: None

The Five Mile River Commission meeting started promptly at 7:37 with a unanimous vote to ratify the Commission's prior approval of the July 2017 meeting minutes, which were reviewed, approved, and filed electronically with Darien and Norwalk within the statutory period shortly after the July meeting.

Chairman Marion briefly discussed the Five Mile River (FMR) Newsletter and the effectiveness of communications in reaching the boating public on a wide range of issues. He also mentioned the work of the Rowayton Historical Society, their on-going refurbishment of the boathouse, and their familiarity with the history of the river.

Discussion moved on to the transient mooring program. Harbor Superintendent Snyder is scheduled to add a transient mooring rental form to the website this winter and is going to report back to the Commission about Dockwa, a potential partner in managing the transient boater program.

Commissioner Marion then circulated for review a dock application for 47 Five Mile River Road. The Commissioners agreed to respond electronically with comments by September 21st.

Next, the Commission and Harbor Superintendent discussed how best to simplify and, possibly, reconfigure the mooring strings. Harbor Superintendent Snyder reiterated preliminary findings from his mid-summer review of the mooring field. During the July Commission meeting, he had 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 after each mooring string could be considered. The Harbor Superintendent intends to meet with individual marine service providers this Fall to review/advise on the following issues: (i) reconfiguring mooring strings, including 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.

Discussions then moved to the 2018 ground tackle inspection cycle. The Harbor Superintendent will send out both the river use and ground tackle inspection forms in early January. Individual mooring permits will not be issued until the Ground Tackle Inspection forms are completed and returned by each permittee. Information regarding this process will be distributed to mooring permit holders in the upcoming Fall FMR newsletter.

The Harbor Superintendent then provided his meeting report starting with financials. A major issue remains how best to ensure harbor use fee payments are made by private docks owners and marinas customers. In the case of marina customers, the Harbor Superintendent intends to obtain 2017 customer lists from the marinas and will cross check those lists against dock applications received, among other things.

The likely contents of the Fall 2017 newsletter were then discussed, including the following:

- End of boating season note
- Upcoming 2018 Ground Tackle Inspection
- Pump Out Facility
- Environmental Issues
- Rowayton Historical Society

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 pm. The next meeting is scheduled for October 19th, 2017 at 7:30 pm in the Board Room, Rowayton Community Center, 33 Highland Avenue, Rowayton, Connecticut

Respectively submitted, David Snyder, Harbor Superintendent.