

**CITY OF NORWALK
HARBOR MANAGEMENT COMMISSION
MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES
OCTOBER 25, 2017**

ATTENDANCE: Tony Mobilia, Chair; John Pinto; Bill Gardella; Jan Schaefer; Tony Aitoro; Joseph Perella

ABSENT: Dennis Santella; John Crespo; John Romano

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

1. CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE

Mr. Mobilia called the meeting to order at 7:42 p. m. Ms. Schaefer led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. ROLL CALL

Mr. Mobilia called the roll. A quorum was present.

3. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

State-of-the Harbor Meeting - Planning discussion

Mr. Mobilia stated that the State of Harbor meeting will be held on November 15, 2017. He stated that we should have a presentation to clarify the dredging project and what it means to the public. The Harbor Master will give a report on what has gone on over the past year. The Police Department and the Fire Department will also give reports. Mr. Mobilia stated that we will have a guest speaker and the Dunavan Award will be awarded.

Mr. Mobilia stated that today's meeting with Eversource was postponed. Eversource was planning on showing us the positioning of the buoys to be placed over the cable to Long Island.

4. STAFF REPORTS

a. Harbor Master

Harbor Master Scully stated that a sailboat that had been abandoned has been signed over to the city. It will be hauled and crushed. He gave a review of where Eversource would like to place buoys over the cable to Long Island. He stated that one of the oystermen has been asking about the cable buoys and restrictions that will take place. Harbor Master Scully requested that the gentleman attend the meeting when that will be a discussion item.

**** DR. PINTO MOVED TO ACCEPT THE HARBOR MASTER REPORT AS SUBMITTED.**

** MR. AITORO SECONDED THE MOTION.
** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

b. Consultant

Mr. Steadman reported that the report on the I-95 Bridge has been completed. He stated that the report has been shared with the CTDOT but has not yet been released to the public. He stated that CTDOT was planning to meet with us on the report. The meeting has been postponed so that they can more fully prepare comments.

Mr. Steadman stated that, based on what we know, the CTDOT has made significant changes to their plans for the I-95 Bridge. Stormwater treatment ponds have been added to either side of the bridge.

Mr. Steadman stated that two months ago, the Commission agreed that we would approach our Legislators on obtaining funding for our review of the WALK Bridge replacement project. We need to decide on approaching our Federal or State legislators first. The amount of the necessary funding will need to be determined, as well. He stated that we are in the process of finding a firm that can help us with our Study.

5. SHELLFISH COMMISSION

No report was given.

6. COMMITTEE REPORTS

a. Application Review

1. Roton Point Association, 15 Pine Point Road; Norwalk, CT 06853 Roton Point Maintenance Dredging COP, The proposed regulated work is for maintenance dredging of an existing sailing basin (Basin A) and an access basin (Basin B). Previous dredging authorization was approved under DEEP Certificate No. SD-TD-90-125. The Applicant proposes to maintenance dredge approximately 900 CY of material from Basin A to elevation of -4.0' with a one foot over-dredge (- 5.0' MLW). Calculated dredge volume including over-dredge is ~2,000 CY. In addition, plans include dredge of Basin B (~1,900 CY) to elevation of -3.0' MLW with a one foot over-dredge (-4.0' MLW). Calculated dredge volume including over-dredge for Basin B is approximately 3,400 CY. Dredge volumes include side slope cuts taken at a 1V:6H slope. Dredging will involve a barge mounted crane with clamshell bucket or long- reach excavator mobilized to the site. A scow will be staged adjacent to the barge and will be filled with excavated material until capacity, at which point a pushboat will transport the scow to Western Long Island Sound Disposal Site (approved site).

Dr. Pinto gave a review of the proposed work. He stated that the Application Review Committee found that in regards to maintenance dredging, the application to be consistent with the Harbor Management Plan. The major concern will be the stationing of vessels. There will be a pushboat vessel and a dredger. He stated that the stationing of both vessels would be at the direction of the Harbor Master. He stated that we are concerned about the positioning of spudding in shellfish beds.

- ** DR. PINTO MOVED THE ROTON POINT ASSOCIATION, 15 PINE POINT ROAD APPLICATION WITH COMMENTS.**
- ** MR. GARDELLA SECONDED THE MOTION.**
- ** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

2. 5 Gregory Court Tentative Notice to Approve for work in Norwalk Harbor proposed by Steve LoParco (Permit #201705100-SDFTW). The proposed activity includes (a) removal of a 5' x 21' pile supported timber pier, 30" x 23' aluminum ramp, 10' x 10' timber floating dock and two timber float anchor pilings and (b) construction of a new 4' x 65' pile supported timber pier, installation of a 3' x 36' aluminum ramp, and installation of an 8' x 20' timber floating dock and two timber float anchor pilings.

Dr. Pinto reviewed the proposed work. He stated that the plan was prepared by a professional engineer. He stated that after reviewing the positioning of the dock, we recognize that maintaining a distance of 25 feet will not be feasible. This is due to the length of the applicant's shoreline. Dr. Pinto stated that the proposed new structures will be at least 35 feet removed from any existing dock structures on the adjacent property line. He stated that the plan has no mention of float stops on the dock. He stated that no float stops or vessels attached to that structure should rest on the bottom during any normal tide cycle.

- ** DR. PINTO MOVED TO THE 5 GREGORY COURT TENTATIVE NOTICE TO APPROVE FOR WORK IN NORWALK HARBOR PROPOSED BY STEVE LOPARCO APPLICATION WITH COMMENTS.**
- ** MS. SCHAEFER SECONDED THE MOTION.**
- ** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

3. Maritime Aquarium and Seaport Association Vessel Relocation Study: Discussion of options and recommendations of DEEP's Vessel Relocation Proposal.

Dr. Pinto stated that three options were considered for the relocation of the vessels. The options involve the placements of the docks. There are three options for placement: perpendicular, parallel or diagonal to the shoreline. Option 1, which is parallel to the shoreline, is the best option, but it has problems. Dr. Pinto stated that a backup plan, in case Option 1 does not work out, needs to be in place. He stated that the area has not been dredged before and there are concerns about adequate water. Underwater utilities in the area could also be a problem. Dr. Pinto stated that the work area subjects the public to an area that may not be safe. The Harbor Master must review the safety of the area. Dr. Pinto stated that if there is a reduction to public access, it is inconsistent with the Harbor Management Plan.

- ** MR. GARDELLA MOVED TO RESPOND TO THE APPLICATION WITH COMMENTS.**
- ** MS. SCHAEFER SECONDED THE MOTION.**
- ** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

4. Village Creek Harbor Corporation, maintenance dredging project submitted by Robert Everich, 31 Splitrock Road, Norwalk, Connecticut 06854. This is a proposed re-application following withdrawal of a previous application in 2016 to dredge 24,900 CY to depth of -6' MLW. The current proposed

application discusses dredging of ~15,000 – 18,000 CY to depth of -6' – -8ft MLW. Volume to be determined by amount of acquired/available funds.

Dr. Pinto stated that the Application Review Committee decided to table the item pending receipt of the pre-application.

5. 11 Tonetta Circle

**** MR. GARDELLA MOVED TO ADD THE 11 TONETTA CIRCLE APPLICATION TO THE AGENDA.
** MS. SCHAEFER SECONDED THE MOTION.
** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Dr. Pinto stated that the CAM Application stays within the same footprint. It meets FEMA requirements. It meets City requirements for stormwater maintenance. There are no changes to the impervious surface area.

**** MR. GARDELLA MOVED TO APPROVE 11 TONETTA CIRCLE WITH COMMENTS.
** MS. SCHAEFER SECONDED THE MOTION.
** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

b. Mooring and Harbor Safety

Marine Police Unit

NFD Marine Unit

No reports were given.

c. Finance

Mr. Aitoro stated that we paid Mr. Hart for the Study. The Telesco bills have been paid. He stated the Harbor Master bill has not been paid yet. He stated that the City Grant has not yet been put in our account. We have a balance of \$37,643.87.

d. Plans and Recommendations

Ms. Schaefer stated that the Plan of Conservation and Development Oversight Committee will be holding a Special Meeting. It will be held on Wednesday, November 1, 2017 at the South Norwalk Branch Library. The time of the meeting is 6:30 p. m.

e. Nominating Committee

Dunavan Award discussion

Dr. Pinto stated that the committee discussed that posthumous nomination of Deputy Harbor Master Paul Saviano for the Dunavan Award.

- ** MS. SCHAEFER MOVED TO NOMINATE DEPUTY HARBOR MASTER PAUL SAVIANO FOR THE DUNAVAN AWARD.
- ** MR. AITORO SECONDED THE MOTION.
- ** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Dr. Pinto stated that we will need to submit three names for the position of Deputy Harbor Master to the Governor. Ms. Schaefer stated that we need to follow up on finding out if the Deputy Harbor Master will receive a stipend.

f. Newsletter / Web site

Ms. Schaefer stated that we may be able to put together a newsletter in time for the State of Harbor meeting. Discussion followed on possible articles that could be included in the newsletter. Mr. Perella stated that he has been posting items relevant to the Harbor on Facebook.

g . Water Quality

No report was given.

h. Bridges

No report was given.

7. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

September 27, 2017

Page 1 Change “Paul Saviano, who recently passed away.” To “Paul Saviano, Deputy Harbor Master, who recently passed away.”
Change “The planning consultant, did a study on the possible uses for the island.” To “The planning consultant, for the Manresa Association, did a study on the possible uses for the island.”

- ** DR. PINTO MOVED TO APPROVE THE SEPTEMBER 27, 2017 MINUTES AS AMENDED.
- ** MS. SCHAEFER SECONDED THE MOTION.
- ** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

8. NEW BUSINESS / OLD BUSINESS

No items were brought forward.

9. ADJOURNMENT

- ** MS. SCHAEFER MOVED TO ADJOURN.
- ** MR. GARDELLA SECONDED THE MOTION.

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:18 p. m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tom Blaney
Telesco Secretarial Services