

Five Mile River Commission
January 18, 2018 Meeting Minutes
Darien Town Hall, Room 119
2 Renshaw Road, Darien, CT 06853

Commission members in attendance:

Matthew Marion - Chairman
Dirk Leasure
Wim Jessup
John deRegt

David Snyder, Harbor Superintendent
Steve Bartush, Assistant Harbor Superintendent

Absent: None

Guest: Mr. Lance Zimmerman, Zimmerman Architecture

The Five Mile River Commission meeting commenced at 7:33 with a full quorum of commissioners present. Chairman Marion noted pro forma meeting minutes for the December 2017 meeting were duly filed which confirmed that the properly noticed December meeting did not take place due to the last minute unavailability of the Rowayton meeting facility. Chairman Marion also distributed the Commission's 2018 schedule, with meetings set for February 22nd; March 22nd; May 3rd; June 7th; July 19th; September 6th; October 18th; and December 6th at several specified venues in Darien and Norwalk.

Next, the Commission reviewed the current iteration of the CAM Application for 197 Rowayton Avenue. The applicant's architect, Lance Zimmerman, reviewed the site plans and CAM application, focusing on the differences between the applicant's 2016 presentation to the Commission and the current plans. After questioning Mr. Zimmerman, the Commission reserved decision, indicating it would discuss the revised submission and respond as soon as practicable.

Next, the Commission and Harbor Superintendent Snyder reviewed several issues related to the 2018 Ground Tackle Inspection program. The Harbor Superintendent confirmed he had sent out updated reminders and instructions to mooring permit holders and marine service providers in December 2017, and will send a follow-up email at the end of January. He also noted that the two of the three approved marine service providers, Boatworks and Norm Edwards, have provided insurance documentation previously requested by the Commission.

The Commission also re-confirmed its prior decision that all moorings must be inspected by authorized service providers (Boatworks, Norm Edwards, and All Seasons Marine) regardless whether the mooring permittee is a commercial or recreational

operator. The Commission noted that the two known commercial operators in the river would each receive one Harbor Use Fee waiver for the 2018 season.

The FMRC then discussed its initiative to rationalize the mooring strings, and how best to achieve that goal, based on the Harbor Superintendent's 2017 mooring string audit. The Commission also discussed the necessity for guidelines for mooring users and installers for 2018. Commissioner de Regt and Harbor Superintendent Snyder will work to establish such guidelines and recommendations for restructuring the mooring field, and will provide specific recommendations at the Commission's March 22nd meeting.

Harbor Superintendent Report

The Harbor Superintendent (HS) provided YTD expense/income reports, and noted that 2018 applications are now being received.

Mr. Snyder also reported that mooring renewals will be processed in the following way: (i) the HS will approve completed applications and provide them to Tammy Papp with the enclosed deposits (application and use fees); (ii) Tammy will deposit the fees and hold the applications until the HS receives and approves completed Ground Tackle Inspection Forms; and (iii) Tammy will then send mooring decals to approved permittees.

In addition, the HS reported the following:

- He sent Dock Application Forms to marinas/managers for forwarding to their customers in early January.
- New FMR 2018 Stickers have been ordered (Green) and will be received shortly.
- Kayak Buoys: will be serviced/replaced as needed during the early spring.
- Channel Markers: a new green channel marker #5 has been reordered to replace the one that went missing in 2017.

On the subject of transient moorings in the river, the Commission reiterated its support for several moorings for short-term rental by coastwise boaters in 2018. Harbor Superintendent Snyder reported the Commission currently owns two sets of transient mooring tackle, and confirmed this ground tackle will be inspected and appropriately maintained for use during the 2018 season. The Harbor Superintendent is also collecting information about online dock/mooring scheduling services, including Dockwa. Information regarding the availability of the transient moorings will be posted on-line when they are available for use.

Last, Chairman Marion and Commissioner Leasure confirmed they would work together to identify the private dock owners on the Darien and Rowayton shores of the river with the objective of ensuring dock owners receive regular information and updates about the river and are compliant with river usage requirements, including their payment of the harbor use fee.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 pm. The next meeting is scheduled for February 22, 2018 at 7:30 pm at Darien Town Hall in Room 119, 2 Renshaw Road Darien, Connecticut.

Respectively submitted,

David Snyder, Harbor Superintendent.