

Five Mile River Commission  
December 6, 2018 Meeting Minutes  
Rowayton Community Center, Farrell Room  
Norwalk, CT

*Commissioners in attendance:*

Matt Marion (Chairman)  
Dirk Leasure  
Wim Jessup

*Absent Commissioners:*

John deRegt

*Also Present:*

David Snyder, Harbor Superintendent

The Five Mile River Commission meeting commenced at 7:35 with a quorum of Commissioners present. Chairman Marion confirmed that the October 18, 2018 meeting minutes were distributed and unanimously approved by the two commissioners in attendance, and were then filed electronically with Darien and Norwalk within the statutory period shortly after the Commission's October meeting.

Chairman Marion remarked that 2018 was a productive year, thanks to the efforts of Harbor Superintendent David Snyder, Assistant Harbor Superintendent Steve Bartush, Commission Secretary Tammy Papp, and Commissioners, Dirk Leasure, John DeRegt, and Wim Jessup. He distributed the approved 2019 meeting schedule in hard copy and confirmed he will circulate and arrange for the filing of electronic copies as well.

First, the Commissioners reviewed the dock application for a new 4/40 dock at 19 Cudlipp Street, Rowayton CT. The Commission discussed the specifications covering the proposed dock, including the facts that the project, as described, would have no impact on the federal navigable channel or adjacent docks, and noted one potential concern--that any motor boat tied up on the waterward side of the proposed dock would sit on the river bottom at low tide. Boat lifts and other mitigating alternatives were discussed. Before the Commission finalizes its decision, Commissioner Jessup will inspect the proposed dock site in order to confirm the absence of any protected vegetation and will report his findings.

Next, the Commissioners discussed the revised mooring field and ground tackle guidelines proposed by Harbor Superintendent Snyder at the October meeting. The

Commission thanked Mr. Snyder for his valuable input and noted that some aspects of the Guidelines would likely be implemented in conjunction with the next ground tackle inspection cycle. The Commission confirmed its immediate priority is for the Harbour Superintendent to arrange for the removal of abandoned moorings in the 'E' and 'F' strings (E-13, E-14, E-15, E, 16, E-17, E-18 and F-8) and, working with the marine service providers, to create a suitable identification system for the mooring strings prior to the 2019 season. Superintendent Snyder agreed to followup.

The Commission discussed the format of written reports by the Harbor Superintendent and requested that future reports include an action item checklist to be reviewed at each Commission meeting. The action items--which will involve participation by the Commissioners and/or the Harbour Superintendent, depending on the item--will be discussed collaboratively and updated/finalized prior to each meeting. Items for the January 2019 meeting will include: (i) the change of cellphone carriers for the Harbor Superintendent's cellphone to reduce the Commission's monthly cost (Marion/Snyder); (ii) a review of the Commission's checking account arrangements (Leasure/Papp); (iii) finalization of Dockwa paperwork for transient moorings (Jessup/Marion/Snyder); (iv) removing abandoned moorings in the 'E' and 'F' strings (Snyder); (v) marking moorings for the 2019 season (Snyder/DeRegt/Jessup); and (vi) drafting a refund policy covering Harbour Use Fees (Marion/Snyder).

Then, the Harbor Superintendent presented his report to the Commission. His report included the following items: (i) assistance provided to the Norwalk/Darien Marine Police in locating a missing dinghy; (ii) the disappearances of several other dinghies from one dinghy dock and possible improvements in the way the dinghies might be secured at that dock; (iii) assistance provided to the Darien Marine Police in identifying a power boat abandoned at a private dock on Five Mile River Road; (iv) the issuance of mooring revocation notices to two individuals; (v) discussions with the marine service providers about how best to ensure consistent mooring string placements; (vi) future discussions with mooring holders who leave mooring balls in place through the winter about realigning their mooring tackle/mooring balls in the event it is dislodged by ice during the winter; and (vii) YTD income and expense reports, which are comparable to 2017 results.

Chairman Marion closed the meeting at 9:05 p.m. and wished everyone and their families a happy holiday. The next Commission meeting will be held on Thursday January 17, 2019, at 7:30 pm, in the Board Room at Rowayton Community Center, 33 Highland Avenue, Norwalk, Connecticut.