

**CITY OF NORWALK  
HARBOR MANAGEMENT COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 22, 2010**

**ATTENDANCE:** Tony D’Andrea, Chair; Henry Palau, Jan Schaefer, Tony Mobilia, Jack Callahan, Dr. John Pinto (7:45 p.m.)

**OTHERS:** Michael Griffin, Harbor Master; Geoff Steadman, Consultant; Peter Johnson, Shellfish Commission Chair; John Frank, Wes Oliver, Kirk Stirland

**CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE**

Mr. D’Andrea called the meeting to order at 7:38 p.m. Harbor Master Griffin then led all those present in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL**

Mr. D’Andrea announced that Mr. Cebrian, Ms. Clark and Mr. Romano all had excused absences.

**CHAIRMAN’S REPORT**

Mr. D’Andrea said that he had no report. He informed the Commission that he would be forwarding a letter from Mr. Austin that was sent to Coast Guard regard the R/V Oceanic anchoring.

**APPLICATION REVIEW COMMITTEE –**

A letter has been received from Brian Thompson thanking the Harbor Management for their input regarding the Tomas application, which was approved by the DEP. A brief discussion followed.

Mr. Steadman said that there had been another notice issued for Mr. Joseph Tomas of Seabreeze Place. He said that the Commission had commented on this last year. Mr. Steadman reviewed the details of this application, which involved repairing an existing seawall and work, removal of a concrete pad and some additional work on a floating dock. Mr. D’Andrea suggested that the old application be reviewed. If nothing is changed, sending the previous comments to the DEP, if there are modifications,

*Dr. Pinto joined the meeting at 7:45 p.m.*

**PLANNING AND ZONING REPORT – No report.**

**REPORTS**

**Dredging** - Dr. Pinto said that work on formulating a letter to the ACOE continues. Mr. Steadman said that there had been some discussions with ACOE and Mr. Wisker of the DEP. Mr. Wisker has said that he would need a list of what would be proposed for Phase III. The ACOE will have to submit another application because the previous permit has expired. He added that this would also have to be reviewed by another committee. Discussion followed.

**Finance** – No report.

**Boating and Harbor Safety** – No report.

**Water Quality/Watershed Initiative** – Ms. Schaefer reported that the water quality has remained at a constant level. Currently, the major issue is the beach closure and the source has not yet been identified. Dye testing was done but no obvious leak was discovered. A suggestion was made to do some testing to determine whether the fecal matter is human or animal in origin. Discussion about the details then followed.

Mr. D’Andrea said that there will be a meeting of the Watershed Initiative on September 29<sup>th</sup>. The interns have completed their work and there should be a report soon.

**Plans and Recommendation** – Mr. Mobilia said there was a meeting on September 21st during which several issues were discussed. One of the topics was in regards to regulations on floating structures in the Harbor. The Committee suggested that there be a review of the rules and regulations in regards to floats. Following this, there may be some modification to the Harbor Management Plan needed. Discussion followed about the various aspects.

Mr. Mobilia said that the Committee may propose that the Commission update the oyster bed maps. This is needed for determining where the boundaries of the various beds are. There are three different types of beds, naturally occurring, State and private managed. Discussion followed about how to do this. The recommendation is for the Commission to approve the funding amount so that the project can move forward.

**\*\* MR. MOBILIA MOVED TO APPROVE THAT THE COMMISSION PREPARE AN ACCURATE MAP OF ALL THE SHELLFISH BEDS IN NORWALK HARBOR.**

**\*\* DR. PINTO SECONDED.**

**\*\* THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**\*\* DR. PINTO MOVED TO AMEND THE PREVIOUS MOTION**

**FROM: TO APPROVE THAT THE COMMISSION PREPARE AN ACCURATE MAP OF ALL THE SHELLFISH BEDS IN NORWALK HARBOR.**

**TO: CONDUCT A PROJECT TO ASSEMBLE ALL AVAILABLE INFORMATION CONCERNING THE LOCATION OF ALL THE SHELLFISH BEDS IN NORWALK HARBOR AND PREPARE A REPORT ON THE ASSEMBLED DATA THAT WILL BE USEFUL FOR HARBOR MANAGEMENT.**

**\*\* MR. PALAU SECONDED.**

**\*\* THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE PREVIOUS MOTION AS AMENDED PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**\*\* MR. PALAU MOVED THAT THE HARBOR MANAGEMENT COMMISSION SHOULD AUTHORIZE AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$8,000 FOR THE PROFESSIONAL FEES AND COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE COMPLETION OF THIS MAPPING PROJECT.**

**\*\* MR. CALLAHAN SECONDED.**

**\*\* THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Mr. Mobilia said that there had also been a discussion about the mooring fees in the Harbor and that it would be important to clarify the definition of mooring both in the State Statutes and the definition of a mooring on the DEP general permit. Keeping this equitable will also be important. Discussion then followed.

Harbor Master Griffin said that he would like to write a letter to CHMA regarding the clarification of the definition of “mooring”.

**Waterfront Advisory** – Harbor Master said that the season was winding down and that the hours had been changed accordingly.

**Newsletter/Website** – Mr. D’Andrea said that he had spoken with IT about getting a email address and this is working its way through the process. A brief discussion followed.

### **STAFF REPORTS**

**Harbor Master/Harbor Manager** – Harbor Master Griffin announced that Ms. Schaefer had recently been married. The Commission members congratulated Ms. Schaefer.

Harbor Master Griffin then gave a brief overview of the items in his report. He said that there had been a recent meeting with Mr. Thompson regarding Long Island Sound. He then said that he would like to have a letter sent to CHMA regarding establishing a meeting with DEP about the lack of notification by the applicant regarding the DEP and the second one regarding the ongoing DEP approval of applications despite concerns or inconsistencies expressed by the Harbor Management Commission.

**\*\* MR. PALAU MOVED TO MOVE TO ACCEPT THE HARBOR MASTER'S REPORT.**

**\*\* MR. CALLAHAN SECONDED.**

**\*\* THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

### NEW/OLD BUSINESS

Dr. Pinto said that he had sent out letters requesting names for nominations for the David S. Dunavan award. The discussion then moved whether there had been a plaque to add the names of those receiving the award.

*Harbor Master Griffin left the meeting at 8:51 pm.*

**Consultant** – No report.

### APPROVAL OF AUG 2010 MINUTES

The following corrections were noted:

Page 1, under **REPORTS – Dredging** – please change the following from:

“he, Mr. Mobilia, Mr. Steadman had met with the ACOE”

to: “he, Mr. Mobilia, Mr. Steadman and Harbor Master Griffin had met with the ACOE”

Page 2, **MOTION** – Please change the following motion from:

**\*\* MR. MOBILIA MOVED TO WRITE A LETTER TO ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS [ACOE] SUMMARIZING THE MEETING AND ASKING THE ACOE TO AUTHORIZING THE COMMISSION TO MOVE TO THE NEXT STEP OF THE PROJECT.**

**\*\* MR. CALLAHAN SECONDED.**

**\*\* THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**TO:**

**\*\* MR. MOBILIA MOVED TO WRITE A LETTER TO ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS [ACOE] ASKING THE ACOE TO MOVE TO THE NEXT STEP OF THE PROJECT.**

**\*\* MR. CALLAHAN SECONDED.**

**\*\* THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Page 2, under **Water Quality/Watershed Initiative**: please change the following from:

“speak with Mr. McCloster about this issue”

to: “speak with Mr. Closter about this issue”

**\*\* MR. CALLAHAN MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF AUGUST 25, 2010 AS AMENDED.**

**\*\* MR. MOBILIA SECONDED.**

**\*\* THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

### **NEW/OLD BUSINESS CONT'D.**

The two members of the public who were present introduced themselves. Mr. Wes Oliver was present regarding his concerns about the fee structure. Mr. Kirk Stirland from the Norwalk Yacht Club was also present regarding the issues around the mooring fees.

Mr. D’Andrea said that the Commission was working on keeping parity with the fees.

Ms. Schaefer said that she needed to set the date for the State of the Harbor meeting. After some discussion, it was decided that it would be November 4<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. Mr. D’Andrea said that he would be sending out an email about this.

Mr. Frank said that he had received a set of “as built” plans for the Roberg project on Woodward. He indicated that there were some changes Mr. D’Andrea said that he would ask for an official copy.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

**\*\* MR. PALAU MOVED TO ADJOURN.**

**\*\* MR. CALLAHAN SECONDED.**

**\*\* THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon L. Soltes  
Telesco Secretarial Services

City of Norwalk  
Harbor Management Commission  
Regular Meeting  
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