

**CITY OF NORWALK
HARBOR MANAGEMENT COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
JULY 23, 2014**

ATTENDANCE: Tony Mobilia, Acting Chair; Dr. John Pinto, Bill Gardella,
Dick Stumpf, John Romano

OTHERS: Police Officer Delallo, Police Officer Silva, Police Officer Ouellette,
Geoff Steadman, Consultant; Harbor Master Griffin, Peter
Johnson, Shellfish Commission

CALL TO ORDER/ PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

Acting Chair Mobilia called the meeting to order at 7:37 p.m. Dr. Pinto led those present in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT.

No report.

Consultant – No report.

Harbor Master/Harbor Manager – (See attached)

Mr. Steadman mentioned the procedures with the Visitor's Dock and wished to know how this is monitored at night. Harbor Master Griffin said that the staff will be on duty until 11 p.m. when the cruise departs but will not be on duty when the boat returns later. Mr. Steadman asked if there would be a fine if there is a problem when the boat returns to the dock. Officer Silva said that he was one of the responding officers when the recent fight broke out. Discussion followed.

Mr. Romano suggested that perhaps it would be good to change the rules so that a police officer will be on site when the boat returns to the dock. Officer Silva said that the Coast Guard has ruled that the boat may only have 150 passenger and the officers have no interest in arguing about how many people are on board. In order to accomplish this, the officers intend to just video any response.

The discussion moved to what happens when the park closes at 10 p.m. Harbor Master Griffin reviewed how the cars are issued parking passes. Officer Silva said that the police intend to simply count the cars parked in the lot after 10 p.m.

**** MR. GARDELLA MOVED TO ACCEPT THE HARBOR MASTER /HARBOR
MANAGER REPORTS AS SUBMITTED.**

**** MR. STUMPF SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

City of Norwalk
Harbor Management Commission
Regular Meeting
July 23, 2014

REPORTS.

Waterfront Advisory - (See attached)

Mr. Mobilia said that the pier was beautifully done. He said that one morning that he was there, unfortunately there were fish heads and beer cans left all over the end of the pier.

Dredging - Dr. Pinto said that a request has been put in for reimbursement from the DOT for the dredging at the Visitors Dock. He said that the City had been allowed to put in a request for an 80% recovery. He said that the item had not been on the July Bond Commission agenda.

Application Review – Dr. Pinto said that there were a few questions regarding the kelp farm application from Mr. Bloom, such as safety issues, and mooring issues for the booms.

A second item was an application for 5 St. James Place for a swim float. There is an issue with the location of the float over some shellfish beds. Dr. Pinto said a letter had stated that the float would be removed on October 1st and reinstalled after May 1st.

There was a request for 3 Gregory Court and the application has been modified to a joint project for a float with 1 Gregory Court. Dr. Pinto said that the Committee had no issues, but reserves the right to review the final application.

An application had been received from Mr. Hilts. This will be tabled until the Committee hears from Ms. Jacobson since this has already been reviewed by the Commission.

Mooring and Harbor - Mr. Mobilia said that Mr. Santella had submitted a report. (See attached) Keith, the intern has been reviewing all the responses and contacting the various boat owners. The response from the boaters has been good.

Officer Silva asked what it would take to have a mooring ball put out by the mouth of the Harbor for the Police boat. Harbor Master Griffin said that this could be done.

Mr. Mobilia said that Mr. D'Andrea has been working with the various managed fields with good results.

In his report, Mr. Santella said that there would be a meeting in the near future to work on Rules and Regulations, which will include expanding the definition of mooring.

Finance - A brief discussion followed about how the checks from the moorings are transmitted to the Commission.

Plans and Recommendations - Mr. Mobilia said that the Committee had met on Monday night and minutes were done. Mr. Mobilia said that there was a copy of the bylaws with the proposed changes marked on it. He explained that the Commission needed to discuss the changes and that

if the Commission moves it forward to the next meeting, there has to be a vote. Following this, this will need to be noticed and added to the agenda.

The commission then reviewed the proposed changes to the by-laws.

Officers Silva, Dellallo and Ouellette left the meeting at 8:30 p.m.

**** DR. PINTO MOVED TO BRING THE PROPOSED BYLAWS FORWARD FOR VOTING AT THE REGULARLY SCHEDULE AUGUST MEETING.**

**** MR. STUMPF SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Mr. Mobilia said that the proposed bylaws will be posted on the website.

The Commission then reviewed the 2014 Standing and Special Committees. Mr. Mobilia said that this would be brought up at the next meeting.

**** MR. ROMANO MOVED TO BRING THE 2014 STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEE OF THE NORWALK HARBOR MANAGEMENT COMMISSION FOR A VOTE TO THE REGULARLY SCHEDULED AUGUST MEETING OF THE HARBOR COMMISSION.**

**** DR. PINTO SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The Committee then reviewed the Harbor Master's Task List.

**** DR. PINTO MOVED TO BRING THE HARBOR MASTER'S TASK LIST FORWARD FOR A VOTE AT THE REGULARLY SCHEDULED AUGUST HARBOR MANAGEMENT COMMISSION MEETING.**

**** MR. GARDELLA SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Water Quality - Mr. Mobilia said that Mr. D'Andrea has sent a report because he could not attend the meeting. (See attached).

Newsletter/Website - Mr. Mobilia said that he hoped that everyone who promised Ms. Schafer an article is working on their article.

Shellfish Commission - Mr. Johnson asked if there was any way that any commercial vessel over 30 passengers could be tracked in terms of when they were being pumped out. He said that Betts Bay now has a high human fecal count. Harbor Master Griffin said that they had spoken to the Coast Guard about this, and since this section of the Sound is a "No Discharge" zone, any discharge is illegal. Harbor Master Griffin went on give the details around this issue. Harbor Master Griffin reminded everyone that the commercial vessel regulations do not allow the use of

the pump-out station. Mr. Johnson said that he would like to have a rule that requires disclosure of the pump out system. Mr. Mobilia asked when the Betts Bay by Chimmons Island was first closed. Mr. Johnson said that it has been closed for the last three years. Discussion followed.

**** DR PINTO MOVED TO ASK MR. MOCCIAE TO INQUIRE ABOUT REQUIRING THE MOST RECENT PUMP-OUT DOCUMENTATION FOR COMMERCIAL VESSELS OVER 30 PEOPLE AND A BETTER METHOD OF MONITORING THE NUMBER OF PASSENGERS BOARDING AND DISEMBARKING COMMERCIAL VESSELS.**

Harbor Master Griffin pointed out that the boat was only certified to carry 150 people, but there have been several comments that the operator has been carrying 200 or more passengers. This is a major safety concern. Mr. Romano said that the operator should be required to show a recent pump out documentation and required to hire a police officer for the time period when the passengers embark and disembark. Under the guise of safety, the officers can take a head count.

**** MR. STUMPF SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Mr. Johnson left the meeting at 9:24 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES.

May 15, 2014 Special Meeting.

**** MR. ROMANO MOVED THE MINUTES OF THE MAY 15, 2014 SPECIAL MEETING.**

**** MR. GARDELLA SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MAY 15, 2014 SPECIAL MEETING AS SUBMITTED PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

June 25, 2014 Special Meeting.

**** MR. STUMPF MOVED THE MINUTES OF THE JUNE 25, 2014 SPECIAL MEETING.**

**** MR. ROMANO SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE JUNE 25, 2014 SPECIAL MEETING AS SUBMITTED PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

June 4, 2014 Special Meeting.

**** MR. ROMANO MOVED THE MINUTES OF THE JUNE 4, 2014 SPECIAL MEETING.**

**** MR. STUMPF SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE JUNE 4, 2014 SPECIAL MEETING AS SUBMITTED PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

ADJOURNMENT.

**** MR. STUMPF MOVED TO ADJOURN.**

**** MR. ROMANO SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting adjourned at 9:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon L. Soltes
Telesco Secretarial Services