

*Norwalk Harbor Management Commission
Application Review Committee
Minutes
June 16, 2009*

Attendees: Pat Clark, Henry Palau, John Pinto, John Frank (Shellfish Commission), Geoff Steadman, John Hilts (agent), Tony D'Andrea (9:00)

Meeting called to order at 7:50. The Chair moved to suspend the rules and add one late item to the Agenda.

1. 2008-08 Revised: SoNo Landing Associates, 90 Water Street, Norwalk

Application to DEP #200800255-SJ for commercial docking facility now revised to address the lease of the land to a tenant who wishes to establish a public recreational rowing facility. Previously the plans had included a 106' dock with 5 finger piers to house 10 boats; the waterward end of the finger piers had been set back 36' from the Federal Channel line; this was recommended for favorable approval by NHMC in April '08.

The current proposal includes: a 7' wide concrete landing, a 9' x 12' swale to accommodate the ramp at low tides; a 6 x 30' ramp and a 10 x 90' dock with 3 anchor pilings. The ramp and swale are relocated at the southern end of the property. The long float has room landward to berth wakeless support boats; the waterward face is set back 36' from the Federal Channel. Rowing shells would be launched and temporarily berthed along the float. When not in use, shells will be stored in a fenced area upland. The drawings dated 5/16/09, prepared by agent John Hilts, continue to show an area adjacent to the southern littoral line that will be made available for the Norwalk Marine Police vessel.

A lengthy review ensued; Shellfish Chairman John Frank indicated they would have no objection to this proposal and comments on safety and navigation issues from Harbormaster Mike Griffin were read.

The Committee voted to recommend favorable action to the Commission 3-0-0.

2. 2009-09 Cont: Anthony and Elise Tomas, 18 Tonetta Circle, East Norwalk

DEP #200802443-SJ, a proposal for a residential dock facility extending 84.5' and including a pile-supported timber pier, ramp, and six additional pilings to support a 10 x 10 float, a float lift, and a boat lift. Reviewed by NHMC 5/09 and found consistent with the Plan pending approval by the Shellfish Commission. Shellfish Commission has now

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sent written objections stating this is an area of intense productivity for harvesting. They would only approve a facility in this location if all structures more than 25' waterward of the sea wall (including pilings) were removed seasonally.

A lengthy discussion followed. Based on the objections and concerns stated by the Shellfish Commission, the Committee voted 3-0-0 to find the proposal in its current form NOT consistent with the Plan

3. 2009-10 Cont: David Woodward, 16 Tonetta Circle, East Norwalk

DEP application # 200802445-SJ for residential dock facility as at abutting property (above), extending 88.16' from a seawall. The Shellfish Commission has now issued a strong objection to this proposal, stating this is an area of intense productivity. Based on those objections and concerns, the Committee voted 3-0-0 to find the proposal in its current form NOT consistent with the Plan

4. 2009-03 Cont: Vantage Point Association, Inc. 100 Seaview Avenue

DEP #200502096. This application has been reviewed and tabled by the Commission pending commentary from the City's DPW regarding possible issues of encroachment into the City right-of-way. Agent Ray Redniss has requested comments from DPW but has had no response.

The Committee voted 3-0-0 to recommend that the Commission contact DPW and/or the Corporation Counsel for guidance in the resolution of possible encroachment issues into the City right-of-way.

5. 2008-22 Cont: Thomas and Christine McDonough, 11 Sylvester Court

DEP #200900377-SJ. Notice of Tentative Determination and Notice of Intent to Waive Public Hearing for proposal to construct a recreational dock facility, previously approved by NHMC. Drawings dated May 3, 2009 show a minor revision to include float stops to the previously approved pilings to meet Army Corps of Engineers standards. The Committee voted 3-0-0 to let the previous approval stand.

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6. 2009-07 Cont: Deborah Dawson, 6 Shorehaven Road

Agent John Hilts reviewed ongoing discussions with Sue Jacobsen of DEP, with the Norwalk Shellfish Commission, and with the Harbor Commission regarding the possible addition of sand for beach nourishment adjacent to a stone groin at this property. Shellfish Commission has great concerns about disturbing an active clam site and with the introduction of sand from an unknown source on a productive shellfish resource area. DEP says their geologist says this is needed to prevent further erosion, despite areas of sand buildup at groin areas on abutting properties. Mr. Hilts is asking for guidance from the two Norwalk Commissions before proceeding with a survey and final COP application to DEP. The Committee recommended that Geoff Steadman forward policies from the existing Plan regarding beach nourishment, erosion control, and groin repair.

Permits Received:

- Ischoda Yacht Club, 138 Water St., So Norwalk: COP#200900885-SJ
- Jill Evans, 69 Roton Avenue, Rowayton: General Permit DEP-LIS-GP-001, 4/40 Docks
- Marion Holmes (formerly Soper), 63 Bluff Avenue, Rowayton. DEP# 200900020-SJ. Includes a revision dated 5/18/09 showing the float size changed from 6' x 16' to 7'4" x 13'6".

Meeting adjourned 10:45 p.m.

Pat Clark,
Chair