

Norwalk Harbor Management Commission Application Review Committee Minutes: November 16, 2009

Attendees: Pat Clark, Chair; Henry Palau; Geoff Steadman; John Hilts; John Pinto (7:43)

Meeting called to order at 7:40 p.m.

1. 2009-13: Richard Scalise, 15 Seabreeze Place

Pre-Application proposal for CT DEP with drawings by John Hilts dated 7/2/09 depicting a private residential docking facility. The in-water structures include a pile-supported 4' x 50' timber pier at +12.5' elevation; a 10' x 10' pierhead at the waterward end supporting a boat elevator that will extend roughly 13 additional feet. Total waterward encroachment from the existing seawall is roughly 73'. The bottom of the boat lift will be at +2' over the substrate. The pier length is dictated by an area of spartina vegetation. In addition, the proposal includes the installation of 4' wide stairs landward of the seawall to access the pier. The applicant also seeks authorization for a 5' high x 1' deep x 147' concrete seawall constructed prior to 1980.

Comments from the Shellfish Commission were discussed at length; the structures are in a shellfish resource area, primarily clams. The area is infrequently worked and the encroachment onto the area is minimal with no structure or vessel resting on the bottom, thus the Shellfish Commission notes there will be some adverse impact but it is not unreasonable. No objection was noted.

The Shellfish Commission noted that Dave Carey of Dep't of Aquaculture has determined that there will be significant impact on resources.

A lengthy discussion followed with the NHMC Committee members weighing the comments by the Norwalk Shellfish Commission versus the reputed comments from the Dep't of Aquaculture. The Committee voted 3-0-0 to find the proposal Consistent with the Norwalk Harbor Management Plan, with the comment that there is no objection noted from the Shellfish Commission.

Other Business

1. CT Light and Power: CT DEP Notice of Tentative Determination to Approve work along the banks of the Norwalk River, north of New Canaan Avenue to stabilize an eroding bank with the installation of 8,200 sq. feet of riprap. The matter was discussed for informational purposes only.

Permit Received:

South Norwalk Boat Club, 16 Mack Street, COP # 200903062 for maintenance dredging.

Meeting adjourned 8:30 p.m.

Pat Clark, Chair