

**Five Mile River Commission
May 7, 2015 Meeting Minutes
The Boardroom, Rowayton Community Center
33 Highland Ave., Rowayton, CT 06853**

Commission members in attendance:

Matthew Marion, Chairman
William Jessup, Commissioner
Ray Meurer, Harbor Superintendent
David Snyder, Assistant Harbor Superintendent

Guests:

Ted O'Neill, All Seasons Marine Works
Steve Bartush, Norwalk Resident

Matthew Marion took the chair at 7:34 p.m.

Chairman Marion noted the Commissioners had reviewed and unanimously approved the March 26, 2015 meeting minutes electronically, and that the minutes were then filed electronically with the Town of Darien and the City of Norwalk. Public notice of the March 26, 2015 meeting was timely provided and the agenda timely filed with the Darien and Norwalk.

Moving to the agenda, Chairman Marion invited Ted O'Neill of All Seasons Marine Works (ASMW) to explain to the Commission his formal request for permission to store several docks temporarily in front of his marina. Mr. O'Neill stated that he had submitted, and the Department of Environment and Energy Protection (DEEP) had approved, plans for the relocation of the docks at ASMW. He stated the dock work would begin on a Monday in early June and be completed by Thursday of the same week, and that the federal channel would not be blocked at any time. Boats normally at his docks would be relocated temporarily to other marinas in the river and on nearby moorings. Based on Mr. O'Neill's representations and his conversation with the Harbor Superintendent, Chairman Marion confirmed the temporary arrangement was acceptable, and requested that Mr. O'Neill keep Ray Meurer timely informed about the commencement and progress of the work.

The Commission's May 2015 income and expense report by Tammy Papp confirms 2015 year-to-date income of \$42,850 and expenses of \$4,639. Income is \$11,150 ahead of the same period last year due mainly to the Harbor Superintendent's electronic distribution of renewal notices and The Boatworks' direct invoicing and collection of the harbor use fee from its dock customers for the first time. The Harbor Superintendent stated that in April he emailed reminders about payment of the harbor use fee to boat owners who kept their boats at slips last summer. Followup notices will be sent to slip users who have not paid through the year.

The Harbor Superintendent reported a private aid to navigation, Red Nun 4A, was replaced in April, and a hazard to navigation (a mushroom anchor near the River's mouth) was removed by

marine contractor Gary Wetmore. A number of people reported that Green Can #1 marking the entrance to the River appeared to be off station. The Harbor Superintendent confirmed that he was investigating and, if needed, would follow-up with the Coast Guard.

Guest Steve Bartush reported the growth of green algae along the shoreline of the River appears to be worse this year, which is a surprise given the low rainfall levels.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:56 p.m.

The remaining meeting dates for 2015 are June 11, July 23, September 10, October 22 and December 3. The meetings are in the Boardroom of the Rowayton Community Center beginning at 7:30 p.m.

Respectively submitted,
Ray Meurer
Harbor Superintendent