

Mystic Harbor Management Commission
January 3, 2008

The Mystic Harbor Management Commission held a regular meeting on Thursday, January 3, 2008 at 7:30 p.m. at the Fourth District Voting Hall. Commission members present were: Chairman David Carreau, Louis Allyn, Richard Lotz, Oliver Wilson, John Lee and Fred Allard. Harbormaster Paul Watts and Groton Commission Chairman Paul Bates were also present.

Call to Order

Chairman Carreau called the meeting the order at 7:30 p.m.

The Commission said the pledge of allegiance.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Wilson made a motion to accept the December 6, 2007 minutes. Mr. Lotz seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved by the Commission.

Reckless Boat Operation

Harbormaster Watts distributed a copy of the response from Ms. Mariani – State Boating Law Administrator, from his request to have the speed limit be 6 mph for the whole Mystic River. The two towns which share a part of the Mystic River i.e. Groton and Stonington will start work on the recommended procedure provided. Support from elected officials for this effort was discussed.

Mooring Permit Applications

Harbormaster Watts give Mr. Allyn the latest data on moorings for 2008. The applications will be updated and printouts provided to the harbormaster for distribution and authorization.

Dredging of Channel

Mr. Allyn informed the committee that Mr. Ed O'Donnell of the Army Corps does not yet have the sediment sampling results taken last fall. Also, there is still the problem of spoil disposal and the status of federal funding. The moorings in what is believed to be the turning basin south of the railroad bridge will present logistics problems with mooring holders during the dredging process. Previous discussion had centered on using half of this area for moorings and the other half for the turning basin and not all for moorings as presently exists. An additional option discussed was the dredging of a new turning basin on the opposite side of the channel. This is a shallow area with only a few small boats. It could also be configured to solve a maneuvering problem which exists because of the bend in the channel just south of the railroad bridge.

Transient Dingy Dock

The town ordinance revision regarding transient dock usage is still on hold until after review by other town agencies.

CT. Harbor Management Association Annual Meeting

As a result of this meeting, Mr. Allyn is investigating the relationship between the Harbormaster and existing Emergency Response Systems. Mr. Allyn has obtained information from the Town of Stonington and will contact the Town of Groton. Coordination will be necessary for Harbormaster Paul Watts has jurisdiction over both sides of the Mystic River. Other coastal towns may also be an information resource for this issue.

Pump out boat

The commission received the bill for \$1500 from the Town of Groton for participation of the operation of the pumpout boat. As agreed at the last meeting, the Mystic Harbor Commission would increase the portion from \$1,500 annually to \$1,650. The payment from commission funds has been processed.

Adjournment

Mr. Wilson made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 p.m. Mr. Lee seconded the motion and it was so voted.

Respectfully submitted,

David Carreau, Chairman