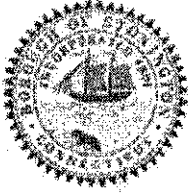


Final Minutes approved 6/9/2014
Julian - Chair



Stonington Harbor Management Commission

May 12, 2014

Minutes (D. L. Motherway, Acting Secretary)



1. Call To Order:

Chairman Spalding called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM at the Stonington Police Headquarters meeting room. Attending were Chairman Spalding, Commissioners Crites, Diggs, MacKinnon, Motherway, O'Neill, Rose, Smith and Tacy, Assistant Harbormaster Estabrooks. Commissioner Johnstone and Harbormaster Donch did not attend.

2. Minutes:

The minutes of the April 14, 2014 meeting were read. Mr. Tacy moved they be accepted as read. Mr. Crites seconded and the minutes were unanimously accepted as read.

3. Hydrographic Survey Results – Hydro Data, Inc.

Nancy Byrne of Hydro Data, Inc. was in attendance and provided a comprehensive presentation including visual aids of the survey results. The results, presented in a variety of formats included the Hydro Survey (Depth Info) and a more limited but useful side scan sonar survey (submerged object ID) of the Wamphassuc Point shoreline area. The data and scans indicated that the proposed mooring grid is well placed, providing safe mooring, and may in fact be capable of accepting a limited number of additional moorings. Additionally the results will be useful for modifying mooring placements as needed. It was agreed that the results would best benefit the Commission in CD format. Ms. Byrne was complemented on her efforts and the survey can be considered a cost effective tool for current and future use.

4. Correspondence

a. In Jurisdiction

There was no In Jurisdiction Correspondence.

b. Out of Jurisdiction

Mystic auxiliary channel dredging

5. Treasurer's Report

Mr. Crites distributed the April treasurer's report for review. Some discussion transpired surrounding the numbers of moorings and mooring charge totals. There was joy in finding that although the Hydro Survey was budgeted for \$10K, it came in for completion at less than \$7.5K. (final figure was \$9000 – JWS 6/12/2014) Mr. Smith moved to accept the report as written and Mr. Tacy seconded. The motion passed unanimously. The treasurer's report is attached.

6. Harbormaster's Report

Mr. MacKinnon will get in contact with Gilman Co. (Buoy Manufacturer) and get an estimate for replacement "Transient Anchorage" buoys for next month's meeting.

Bottom on the *ROBERT G.* is painted.

Follow up on Sandy Point dock/debris removal is being conducted.

Follow up with Dodson's on the derelict boat *Fiddler's Green* removal is in process.

"Slow No Wake" signs will be going up soon on Sandy Point.

The Harbormaster's report is attached. Mr. Smith moved the report be accepted and Mr. Crites seconded. The motion was passed

SPECIAL PURPOSE MOORING REQUEST

A Special Purpose Mooring Request from Stonington Harbor Yacht Club was forwarded to the Commission via Harbormaster Donch.

The request is for six (6) special purpose moorings for use in the 2014 boating season. The moorings would be used in conjunction with two public interest programs, i.e. support to the Special Olympics and a SHYC non-member Guest Introductory Sailing Program. After considerable discussion the Commission acted to deny the request based upon the following:

- a. The urgent need to award moorings to people who have long been on the waiting list.
- b. Insufficient documentation by SHYC to show their request clearly meets the requirements defined in the Harbor Management Plan, Article 4, Section 4.
- c. The continued rental and use of Dodson's Mooring is available. And the boats could still be used in the programs.
- d. The Stonington Harbor Management Commission is well aware and extremely supportive of Special Olympic Programs. We see their sailing program with a weekly meeting does not seem to warrant the need for seasonal moorings to support this.
- e. We have limited knowledge of The SHYC Introductory Guest Sailing Program and how its activity level would support a season long use of a special purpose mooring.

7. Old Business

a. Newsletter

The newsletter has been sent out by mail. Mr. Tacy provided several copies that were made available to the Commissioners to distribute at will to appropriate sites/groups/individuals. General discussion took place and all in attendance agreed that the product was an excellent presentation of information to inform mooring holders and the general public on how the Stonington Harbor waterways are being managed. The Commissioners praised the efforts of all who contributed especially to Mr. Diggs for taking the lead.

b. Town Pier - (Monsanto Breakwater)

Mr. Tacy reported that the State of Connecticut DEEP has agreed to award a \$30,000 grant to the Town Of Stonington for planning, assessment, permitting and design efforts in support of restoration/renewal of the breakwater. DOCKO, Inc. will be involved with engineering and design.

c. USACOE Dredging Project –Channel to Pawcatuck River

Chairman Spalding briefly reviewed his earlier correspondence on this subject with NOAA (LCDR Pounds), USACOE (Mr. O'Donnell) and USCG (Mr. LeBlanc) concluding that the USACOE stated their funding could only be used to dredge the existing channel.

Mr. Motherway stated he was opposed to continuing to push for a channel change and detailed the ideas supporting his position. The "New" channel is extremely limited and shallow and has a history of shifting. At a point in time, dating back at least 40 years, the outer end (western) of the channel was easily 100 yards closer to Napatree Point. He believes that this shallow channel is maintained by propeller wash (prop dredging) and boat/bottom interaction (hydrodynamic "added mass"). As boat traffic has increased by orders of magnitude over the years. Boat sizes, drafts, engine horsepower, boat speeds have all increased as well. It is likely these factors not being accounted for could lead one to believe the channel is improving naturally. The USACOE has stated in their correspondence that they have studied the area in the past and concluded it would not be cost effective to develop and maintain a channel due to the nature of the shifting sandy bottom. They infer as well it would be a problem for the USCG to manage the channel and aids to navigation due to moving shoals. Mr. Motherway is of the opinion that this condition will not change in the future. The exposed nature of the area combined with predominantly sand bottom would make any COE dredged channel prone to constant changes. The current channel, not without flaws, is a known entity having a history of where and when channel changes will occur and the extent to which it will need to be dredged. Currently, we have support from three Federal Agencies in maintaining a reasonably effective waterway. It can be maintained as a safe waterway. Shoreline damage due to wakes is extremely limited (mainly to the extreme western north shore) and can be controlled by enforcement, signage and soliciting public

support. Most wakes elsewhere are dissipated to harmless levels before reaching shore. Many boaters currently use both channels depending upon tidal situations etc. They take the best of both channels.

The Commission appreciated Mr. Motherway's experience and also discussed the need for communication and cooperation with the Westerly Harbor Management Commission and the potential for a scientific and engineering study of the issue.

8. New Business

A letter from Ben Tamsky, Chairman of the Town of Stonington's Planning and Zoning Commission, dated April 29, 2014 re: 2014 Plan of Conservation and Development (POCD) requesting input from local Boards and Commissions. The letter stated that the draft POCD would be sent by May 16, and comments be provided by June 13. Mr. O'Neill and Mr. Smith agreed to obtain and review this document and report on it at the June 9 meeting.

9. Public Comment

No public comment was received.

10. Adjournment

Mr. O'Neill moved to adjourn. Mr. Tacy seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 PM.

Treasurer's Report:

Report Date: 5/12/2014	Plan	Feb	Mar	Apr	YTD	Probable
Funds Generated:						
Balance Brought Forward:	8,704.04	8,026.35	7,005.96	7,010.96	704.04	8,704.04
Paid Moorings: Com/PW/Pub:	128/259/4			128/204/4	128/204/4	128/259/4
Moorings Fees:	25,830.00			23,080.00	23,080.00	25,830.00
Miscellaneous Income:	20.00		5.00	100.00	105.00	20.00
Total Generated Funds:	34,554.04	8,026.35	7,010.96	30,190.96	31,889.04	34,554.04
Operating Expense:						
Moorings Admin:						
Mailings:	500.00	105.89			105.89	500.00
Telephone:	450.00				0.00	450.00
Computer Sftwr:	200.00				0.00	200.00
Miscellaneous:	100.00	914.50			914.50	1,000.00
Sub-Total:	1,250.00	1,020.39	0.00	0.00	1,020.39	2,150.00
Boat:						
Fuel & Oil:	300.00				0.00	300.00
Commissioning:	1,000.00				305.00	1,000.00
Storage:	750.00				0.00	750.00
Maintenance/Repairs:	750.00				0.00	750.00
Equipment:	250.00				0.00	250.00
Sub-Total:	3,050.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	305.00	3,050.00
Harbor Maintenance:						
Buoy: Commission/Haul/Store:	2,000.00				241.02	2,000.00
Misc Service/Locker Storage:	500.00				0.00	500.00
Signage:	100.00				0.00	100.00
Sub-Total:	2,600.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	241.02	2,600.00
Dock/Pumpout:						
Dock Eqpt./Maintenance:	500.00				0.00	500.00
Pumpout Eqpt./Maintenance:	0.00				0.00	0.00
Miscellaneous:	100.00				0.00	100.00
Sub-Total:	600.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	600.00
Administrative:						
Supplies:	0.00				0.00	0.00
Newsletter:	750.00				0.00	1,000.00
Professional Services:	0.00				0.00	0.00
Sub-Total:	750.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,000.00
Total Operating Expense:	8,250.00	1,020.39	0.00	0.00	1,566.41	9,400.00
Approved Projects/Capital						
New Boat Reserve:	5,000.00				0.00	5,000.00
New SNW Buoys (2):	2,000.00				0.00	2,000.00
Moorings Field Grid Alignment:	1,000.00				0.00	1,000.00
Town Pier/Breakwater Analysis:	500.00				131.67	500.00
Pumpout Pier ExtDesign/Permit:	2,000.00				0.00	2,000.00
Hydrographic Sunev Project:	10,000.00				0.00	7,600.00
Sonar - Robert G	1,500.00				0.00	1,500.00
Radar - Robert G	1,500.00				0.00	1,500.00
Total Project/Capital	23,500.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	131.67	21,100.00
Total Designated Funds	31,750.00	1,020.39	0.00	0.00	1,698.08	30,500.00
Undesignated Funds:	2,804.04	7,005.96	7,010.96	30,190.96	30,190.96	4,054.04
Notes:						
Petty Cash Advance - 300.00	May Inc: 850 @ 17	May Expense:	PO Box - 71	DD - 525		
Harbor Boat Reserve - 640.00			Hydro - 7,600	Agjo - ~1,000		

Harbormaster Report

May 12, 2014

New Mooring permits issued: 2 Moorings being given up (this month): 4
New Mooring assignments offered: 2
Deposits to SHMC account since last report: \$ 17200 2014 YTD = \$24600

Mooring Renewals:

225 Processed to date
12 Non received
4 Given up
21 Pending (missing paperwork)

The 12 "Non received" mooring renewals have all been sent an email. I will contact them by telephone to discuss their options by end of this month.

The 4 NESS "Special purpose" moorings have been installed.

Derelict Vessel "Fiddlers Green" has not been disposed of yet by Dodson Boatyard. I will get an expected date from them.

I've been informed by Don's Dock that we need to consider replacement of at least two of the "Transient Anchorage" marker buoys.

Robert G

New steering "Teleflex" has been installed.

Waiting bottom paint.

Expect to launch by end of May.

Respectfully Submitted

Eric Donch
Stonington Harbormaster