

Town of Stonington, CT
Stonington Harbor Management Commission
Minutes
November 19, 2007

The Stonington Harbor Management Commission held a Special Meeting on Monday, November 19, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. at Stonington Police Headquarters. Committee members present were Chairman Peter Vermilya, George Kenyon, Rose Raffo, Arthur Medeiros, Rod Johnstone, Jack Gorby, Ed Smith, William Abt, and Alan Banister. Harbormaster Eric Donch was also in attendance.

Chairman Vermilya called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

MINUTES:

Mr. Medeiros motioned to approve the minutes of the October 15, 2007 meeting as written and Mr. Smith seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Chairman Vermilya stated he received notice for tentative approval for a permit to repair a stone pier and construct a new dock for recreational boating off of 121 River Road in Pawcatuck.

Bills paid were to Dodson's Boatyard for \$1814.22 for bottom paint and repairs to the Robert G, Port Supply for \$231.61 for maintenance supplies and a new VHF Radio, and Town of Stonington, a fee of \$25.00 for a returned mooring fee check. One outstanding bill for \$24.91 is owed to Eric Donch, Harbormaster, for expenses related to the Sandy Point no-wake sign.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Mr. Abt stated \$940.00 was taken in October, to bring the total revenue to \$8085.00. Cash available is \$13,941.00. In reserve is \$100.00 for the Robert G, and \$8320.00 for the new dock, bringing the total to approximately \$22,200.00.

HARBORMASTER'S REPORT:

Mr. Donch stated no new mooring permits were issued and the waiting list remained at 209. No new mooring assignments were offered and no deposits were made to the account since the last report.

On November 8, 2007 a meeting of the CT Harbor Management Association in New Haven included discussion on moving Harbormasters to the Department of Environmental Protection from their current position under the Department of Transportation. The long term goal is to establish some type of training program,

possibly using the “Lake Patrolman” as a training guide. The DEP has a training program, where as the DOT does not. There was a general agreement that the DEP would be a better fit for Harbormasters.

On October 19, 2007 the vessel “Dress Whites” broke free of its mooring and sank at the jetty at the end of Wall Street. No release of fuel or oil was reported or observed. The vessel was raised on October 22, 2007 and removed to Gwenmor Marina.

Robert G is still in the water and having PMW Marine perform winterizing the motor was recommended. Harbormaster Donch will power wash the bottom and ask if the Town Garage will allow winter storage. A tarp, and wood for a framework, are still required. Only three letters from mooring holders confirming their required mooring inspection have been received by the Harbormaster. The Commission agreed a letter should be sent asking for the remaining 97 required inspections. Mr. Donch agreed to write the letter and get it posted to the mooring holders within the week. At the next Commission meeting on December 10, 2007 members will discuss measures for those who have not completed the required inspection.

Mr. Gorby motioned to accept the Harbormaster’s Report and Mr. Smith seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS:

Mr. Gorby stated that since the election has resulted in a new First Selectman, the names on the application for the Transient Anchorage Area, as well as the dates, will have to be updated. Chairman Vermilya stated he would sign the letters as soon as the changes are made, and the new First Selectman will then be able to approve the application.

A formal proposal from Christian McGugan at Gwenmor Marina has been received. Chairman Vermilya will ask Rick Huntley of the DEP how many bidders are required for the new Harbormaster dock to qualify for DEP funding. The Commission has received two bids.

Kathryn Burchenal is working on the proposal for the pump out grant, along with Larry Sullivan, Town Engineer, Ed Habarak, First Selectman, and Mike Logan, from Westerly pump out boats.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Kenyon motioned to adjourn and Mr. Johnstone seconded. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.