

Town of Stonington, CT
Stonington Harbor Management Commission
Minutes
December 10, 2007
7:00 PM
Police Headquarters Public Meeting Room

The Stonington Harbor Management Commission held a meeting on December 10, 2007 at the Stonington Police Station at 7:00 p.m. Present for the meeting were: Rose Raffo, Arthur Medeiros, Alan Banister, George Kenyon, Rod Johnstone, Jack Gorby, and Peter Vermilya. Harbormaster Eric Donch also attended.

Chairman Vermilya called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

MINUTES:

Mr. Kenyon motioned to approve the minutes with one minor correction, Mr. Banister's name was spelled incorrectly, and Mr. Medeiros seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Out-of-Jurisdiction: Chairman Vermilya received notice from the DEP stating that Stonington Seahawk (Stonington Winery) had received a permit to construct a launch ramp for hand carried kayaks and canoes located at the entrance to the old Stonington Airport property,. Chairman Vermilya requested approval by the Commission to write a letter to the owners of the Stonington Winery acknowledging their generosity for creating an access to the water on their property. Commission members agreed a letter would reflect the thoughts of all.

In-Jurisdiction: Chairman Vermilya received a memo from the Town requesting comment on a proposed Ordinance prohibiting overnight tie up at Recreational Town docks. First Selectman Ed Haberek requested that the three Town Harbor Commissions e-mail their comments to him by 12/14/07 After discussion, the SHMC members agreed that the issue ought to remain open until the members of the Commissions and other townspeople had had more time to react to the ordinance. Chairman Vermilya will e-mail the Commission's comments to the First Selectman.

Bills Paid/Outstanding;

One bill was paid this month, to Ed Smith, for \$187.74 for a printer and supplies.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

None

HARBORMASTER'S REPORT:

Mr. Donch stated that no new mooring permits were issued. The total number of individuals on the waiting list remains at 209. One mooring was given up and no new mooring assignments were offered. No deposits to the SHMC account were made, with the 2007 YTD total remaining at \$7,900.00

On November 21, 2007, 88 mooring inspection reminder letters were sent to mooring holders who had not reported inspection of their moorings. As of December 9, 2007 32 completed inspection forms had been received, 2 mooring holders had said that they would be installing

new gear in the spring of 2008, and 1 asked for an extension. On December 11, 2007 Don's Dock faxed additional completed inspection forms to the Harbormaster, reducing the number of "no replies" to 15. Mr. Donch agreed to try to contact these 15 by the end of the year. A registered letter will be sent to any mooring holder who had not responded by this time. In an effort to allow these mooring holders more time, the Commission agreed they must have a signed contract to have their mooring inspected by March 31, 2007. No mooring renewals would be granted until these inspections are complete.

Mooring renewal applications will be sent out in January. Rose Raffo is checking with the Borough Hall to reserve January 10, 2008 for Commission members to meet and complete the mailing process in order for the letters to be sent by the middle of the month. A back up date of January 3, 2007 was decided.

The Robert G was hauled, power washed, and delivered to PMW Marine for winterizing of the engine. Once completed, Mr. Donch will cover the boat and ask the Town Garage to supply winter storage.

Mr. Gorby motioned to accept the Harbormaster's Report and Mr. Banister seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS:

Transient Anchorage area:

Chairman Vermilya signed the application and Mr. Gorby will bring it to the Town Hall for the Selectman's signature.

Pump out boat facility & Fixed dock

Chairman Vermilya learned from Rick Huntley of the CT DEP that the bid process for the new Town Dock must follow the Town of Stonington's regular policies and procedures. Chairman Vermilya will check with the First Selectman's office to learn how many bids will be necessary.

New Business:

Chairman Vermilya stated that he had received a report from the Stonington Harbor Yacht Club covering the usage of their floats and docks for the Summer of 2007. Chairman Vermilya will mail copies of this report to members of the Commission for their study prior to the next Commission meeting, January 14, 2008. At that meeting, the members will decide if this written report is sufficient to take the place of an in-person presentation by the Yacht Club.

Chairman Vermilya also received a letter from Dodson's Boatyard requesting the comments from the Commission on a proposed plan to substantially expand Dodson's work docks. Chairman Vermilya will mail copies of this letter to the members of the Commission and the plan will be discussed at the January 14th meeting.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Mr. Banister requested that a discussion of the fact that a number of moorings had been left with winter stakes attached through out the 2007 season be added to next month's agenda. Chairman Vermilya also stated that the search for an Assistant Harbormaster would need to be initiated at the January 14th meeting

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Kenyon motioned to adjourn, and Mr. Medeiros seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 8: 40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Peter Vermilya, Chairman