

Town of Stonington, CT
Stonington Harbor Management Commission
Minutes
July 9, 2007

The Stonington Harbor Management Commission held a regular meeting on Monday, July 9, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. at Stonington Police Headquarters. Committee members present were Chairman Peter Vermilya, George Kenyon, Jack Gorby, Rose Raffo, Rod Johnstone, Arthur Medeiros, Alan Banister, and William Abt. Harbormaster Eric Donch was also in attendance.

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

MINUTES:

Mr. Banister brought one correction to the attention of the Commission, stating the Sandy Point Beacon was the responsibility of the Harbormaster, and not the SHMC. Mr. Kenyon motioned to accept the minutes of the June 11, 2007 meeting, with the one correction, and Mr. Banister seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Chairman Vermilya stated he had received notification from the Borough of Stonington that Ms. Raffo had been reappointed to the Commission. Two applicants responded to the Deputy Harbormaster vacancy ad. The Chair also received the application by Don's Dock for additional dockage. Although the dockage is not under the jurisdiction of the Commission, as written, it is within the jurisdiction of the Harbormaster. Also received this month were Certificates of Permission for Quiambaug Cove.

No Bills had been paid this month. Pending bills include a bill from Dodson's for fiberglass repair, \$976.13; bottom and topsides painted, \$838.09; Sun Publishing for the legal ad: \$304.90; and PMW Engine bills from 2006. Chairman Vermilya said he would research the PMW Engine bill to make sure it had not been paid before writing a check.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Mr. Abt stated he had nothing new to report.

HARBORMASTER'S REPORT:

Mr. Donch reported no new mooring permits issued, and no additions to the waiting list. One mooring had been given up, and no new mooring assignments were offered. Mr. Donch explained to the Commission that no new moorings would be assigned until all the renewals had been resolved.

Mr. Donch, Ed Smith, and Chairman Vermilya had inspected the Sandy Point signage along with Avalonia Land Trust President, Ann Nalwalk. The sign will need to be moved to a more visible location. Ms. Nalwalk asked that they not remove the posts presently supporting the sign, as it may disturb the area. The Commission will purchase 2 new 4"x 4" posts and hardware. The sign will be moved to its new location as soon as a scheduled day can be decided.

Mr. Blackall's vessel "Marmion" is floating, but remains at the dock. Mr. Gorby offered to speak with the Board of Governors for the Stonington Harbor Yacht Club, of which Mr. Blackall is a member, to discuss possible solutions for relocating the boat.

Permits have been obtained from the USCG for the Special Olympic Event. The Coast Guard will alert mariners to keep clear of the area. The Stonington Police Dept. and Westerly Ambulance have committed to providing on-water support, and the Stonington Ambulance will provide shore side support.

Mr. Donch contacted the person making the new leaning post cushions for the Robert G. All efforts will be made to have them ready for the Blessing of the Fleet.

OLD BUSINESS:

Because Chairman Vermilya received only two responses for the advertised position of Deputy Harbormaster, he asked Commission members for input on how to advertise the position further. Commission members recommended a flyer placed in marinas, newsstands, bulletin boards at the A&P, Town Hall, and Fire stations, and the local Shell Station. Chairman Vermilya stated he would first check to learn if the Commission is allowed to seek applicants in this manner, or if the Commission is limited by Town policy in the type of ads it is allowed to run or distribute. Once the Commission has 3 or 4 applications in hand, the Commission will either review the applications as a whole, or a subcommittee would be formed. Mr. Gorby volunteered to draw up and help distribute the flyer. Mr. Gorby questioned the Commission on the Sandy Point Beacon, stating he believed the signage was supposed to be v-shaped in order to be more visible. After discussion, the Commission agreed a sandwich board sign could meet the requirements of the permit. The Commission also agreed that before the sign was installed, Chairman Vermilya would check with Dave Peyton of the CT DEP to insure that the sign, as installed, will be in compliance with the DEP's interpretation of the permit text.

Mr. Gorby distributed the proposed application for Transient Anchorage Buoys, stating he needed the range, bearing, and depth in order to complete the forms. Mr. Gorby hopes to have the application complete in the next three weeks and will then submit the plan to the First Selectman's Office for signature.

Although Mr. Gorby stated the Pump out boat feasibility subcommittee has not met formally with the Westerly Public Works Dept., Mr. Gorby had occasion to use the service and speak with the man operating the Westerly pump out boat. This person suggested the best way to offer service would be to have boat

owners use channel 8 on VHF to call for service. Harbormaster Donch supplied charts of the Harbor moorings to pass on to the Westerly pump out boats.

Mr. Kenyon motioned to adjourn the meeting and Mr. Gorby seconded. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Peter Vermilya, Chairman