

Town of Stonington, CT  
Stonington Harbor Management Commission  
Regular Meeting  
January 14, 2008  
7:00 PM  
Police Headquarters Public Meeting Room

A regular meeting of the Stonington Harbor Management Commission was held on January 14, 2008 at the Stonington Police Station at 7:00 p.m. Present for the meeting were Ed Smith, Arthur Medeiros, Rose Raffo, George Kenyon, William Abt, Rodney Johnstone, Bill Geary, Alan Banister, Harbormaster Eric Donch, and Peter Vermilya, presiding.

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

Mr. Geary motioned to bring the presentation of the Stonington Harbor Yacht Club to the top of the agenda and Mr. Johnstone seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Commission members and Yacht Club officials discussed the coming year's plans.

#### **MINUTES**

Mr Kenyon motioned to approve the minutes of the December 10, 2007 meeting with one spelling error, and Mr. Smith seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

#### **CORRESPONDENCE**

Chairman Vermilya stated he received an out-of-jurisdiction notice of new docks planned in Mystic: 1) off of Roseleah Drive, 2) Masons Island Marina, 3) the west side of Masons Island, and 4) Latimer Point.

In jurisdiction, Chairman Vermilya was notified by the DEP of 1) repairs planned for five areas of the seawalls in the Boro., and 2) a new ramp and float off of Wall Street being sought by Ann Blanchard.

No bills were paid this month; there is one bill outstanding, from PMW Marine.

#### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

Mr. Abt stated \$2,0445.00 spent in November, mostly on the Robert G, and \$262.74 spent in December. The new dock fund total is \$20,000.00. The Commission received \$8,085.00 by December, \$5,835 paid in expenses.

#### **HARBORMASTER'S REPORT**

Mr. Donch reported no new mooring permits were issued, and no additions to the waiting list, the total remains at 209. No new mooring assignments were offered or given up, and no deposits were made to the SHMC account.

Renewal notices were mailed on January 4, 2008 thanks to commission members help with stuffing envelopes. Harbormaster Donch stated Marmion was sunk at the dock, reportedly on purpose, by the owner, Fred Blackall. The Robert G has been winterized, covered, and will be taken to the Town Garage for winter storage. Mr.

Donch presented a copy of the registered letter he intends to send to the ten people who have not complied with mooring inspections. Commission members approved of the letter.

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

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **Town Dock Overnight tie-up Ordinance extension**

No decision has been made about an Ordinance prohibiting overnight tie-up at Town owned docks. Harbormaster Donch has had discussions with Darren Stewart, from the Police Department and First Selectman Ed Habarak.

### **Dodson's Boatyard Dock Expansion**

The Commission discussed issues associated with Dodson Boatyard's proposed dock expansion. Concerns about the proposal include: Maneuvering constraints, Flushing of the Harbor, Storm plan, and Loss of moorings. Mr. Donch is researching DEP guidelines on "wharfing out" and will circulate them among the Commission members.

### **Assistant Harbormaster Search**

Chairman Vermilya suggested running the editorial copy that was written by Bill Geary for an Assistant Harbormaster, and Commission members agreed. Rose Raffo will manage the placement of legal ads for the position in the Westerly Sun and the New London Day.

### **Winter Stake Removal**

Mr. Banister stated he was given names of mooring holders who have not used their moorings, from both Don's Dock, and Dodson's Boatyard. According to the Harbor Management Plan, if the moorings are not used for more than 60 days and the Harbormaster is not notified by the permittees of this non-use, the moorings may be considered abandoned and may be reassigned. The list was given to the Harbormaster to check against his list. The Commission agreed to invite Steve, from Dodson's Boatyard, and Ian, from Don's Dock to tour the harbor with Commission members this coming Spring.

### **Pump out boat Facility & Fixed Dock**

Chair Vermilya reported that the Town requires a closed bid process on contracts for over \$5,000.00. A legal notice must be run for three days in at least one paper that covers the Stonington area, although two newspapers are recommended. Ten working days must be allowed for responses, and there is no minimum number of bidders required. The sealed bids go to the Stonington Town Director of Finance who will read them at 2:00 p.m. on the closing day. The SHMC can make a

recommendation to the Selectmen, who will approve the winning bid.

There was no new business to discuss, and no Public Comment.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Abt motioned to adjourn and Ms. Raffo seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted

Peter Vermilya, Chairman