

Town of Stonington, CT  
Stonington Harbor Management Commission  
Regular Meeting  
December 14, 2009  
7:00 PM  
Stonington Police Public Meeting Hall

A regular meeting of the Stonington Harbor Management Commission was held on Monday, December 14, 2009 at the Stonington Police Public Meeting Hall. In attendance were Chairman Peter Vermilya, Jack Gorby, George Kenyon, Alan Banister, Jean Dixon, Rodney Johnstone, Ed Smith, Harbormaster Eric Donch and Deputy Harbormaster Charles Estabrooks. William Abt and Jesse Diggs were not in attendance.

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00PM by Chairman Vermilya. A motion to move the presentation of the Dodson Boatyard Work Dock Extension Proposal to the front of the meeting was made, seconded and passed unanimously. The minutes of this presentation are recorded under Old Business.

**Minutes**

Mr. Kenyon motioned to accept the minutes of the November 9, 2009, meeting as written and Mr. Gorby seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

Ms. Dixon requested that the commission authorize up to \$225 to purchase volume #3 for continued storage of SHMC meeting minutes at the Town Hall. Mr. Gorby motioned to authorize funding for the purchase of the book and Mr. Johnstone seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

**Correspondence**

Chairman Vermilya reported the following correspondence:

- A) Out of Jurisdiction – None
- B) In Jurisdiction
  1. Borough, Dodson Boat Yard – reported under Old Business
  2. Borough, East Grand Street Owners Association – Tentative determination by the CT DEP to approve permit to “retain a concrete ramp and mooring posts and modify an existing pier...” - the commission approved.
  3. Borough, 24 Water Street, David Williams, Application to the CT DEP to repair an existing sea wall. – the commission has no objection.
  4. William Morris – letter regarding the reassignment of the Q-44 mooring. Harbormaster Donch has spoken with Mr. Morris and continues to work on the mooring reassignment.

C) Bills Paid/Outstanding - None

### **Treasurer's Report**

A written Treasurer's Report, December 14, 2009, was presented from Treasurer Abt (Attachment A).

The ASAP Software expense item on the November report remains in question.

Mr. Kenyon motioned to accept the Treasurer's Report as written. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

### **Harbormaster's Report**

The Harbormaster's Report, December 14, 2009, was presented by Harbormaster Donch (Attachment B) with extended discussion about the GPS Mooring Location Project as reported under #B, Old Business.

Mr. Smith motioned to accept the Harbormaster Report as written. Mr. Kenyon seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

### **Old Business**

#### A) Dodson Boatyard Proposal For Work Dock Extension

1. Mr. Bill Cotter of Docko, Inc. presented the "Revised 11-24-09 DEP Service/Dinghy Floats Lift Pier & Dredging" plan. In summary, the project will:
  - Install 200 +/- Linear Feet of 12-FT wide service/dinghy floats on the north edge of Dodson area of development rights
  - Relocate a lift well pier
  - Dredge 16,200+/- cubic yards of silt/sediment over 82,000+/- sq ft to a depth of 8 feet MLWThe "Stonington Harbor Plan View" of the project is included here as Attachment C.
2. Dodson Yard Manager Mark Arruda stated that the proposed dredging allows better usage of the existing floats and enhanced access to the main docks
3. A letter from the Wadwanuck Club Board of Governors was presented to the commission stating that the club has no objections to this revised plan.
4. I. Fedderson, an abutting neighbor, voiced her concern about potential damage to her marina area in the form of relocated silt/sediment and piling damage.
5. The commission will issue a definition of "Work Dock" for use in future harbor management decisions.
6. The "Revised 11-24-90 DEP..." Plan was favorably received by the commission which commended Dodson's for working with the community, SHMC and neighbors to present a plan that was

agreeable to all parties. The commission deferred its vote on the "Revised 11-24-90 DEP..." Plan until the January, 2010, meeting.

B) GPS Mooring Anchor Location Project

1. The commission discussed implementation of the motion passed at November's meeting to require commercial inspectors to take latitude/longitudinal coordinates at the time of mooring inspection for use by the SHMC. This action supports mooring management/record maintenance as required by the SHMC Management Plan and supports recovery of the mooring field in the event of a disaster.

Commission members Diggs, Banister, Dixon and Assistant Harbormaster Estabrooks validated a GPS location mapping process and confirmed its accuracy for SHMC purposes during a test conducted on November 15, 2009, on 5 random mooring locations in Stonington Harbor.

2. Mr. Johnstone motioned that the SHMC Chairman be authorized to send a letter to all mooring service providers including Don's Dock, Dodson's Boatyard, Cardinal Cove Marina and Greenhaven Marina to advise that, effective immediately, the provider is required to capture latitude/longitude data during mooring service or inspection using the following process:
  - Lower mooring chain will be pulled and held vertical during reading to capture anchor position using a WAAS enabled Garmin GPS.
  - GPS coordinates shall be logged in mm.mmm format (to 1/1000<sup>th</sup> minute).
  - Data should be sent to the Harbormaster quarterly in electronic format.
  - Data currently on file should be sent now to the Harbormaster in electronic format.

Mr. Banister seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

3. The process will be reviewed after an inspection/service cycle and after data currently on file has been obtained to ascertain the timeframe during which we can expect to have coordinates for the entire mooring field.
4. Public comment (I. Fedderson) indicated a concern that throughways to distinct areas such as marinas may be restricted by mooring placement. The commission agreed that the mooring mapping project will support identifying and rectifying issues in these areas.

C) Mooring Count/Projected 2010 Income

1. No information to report.

- D) SHMC Borough Ordinance
  - 1. Mr. Gorby reported that the ordinance approval for SHMC, Ordinance #SBO21, was approved at the Stonington Borough July, 2009, meeting.
- E) New and Reassigned Mooring Locations
  - 1. Included in the Harbormaster Report
- F) Aerial Photography of Stonington Harbor
  - 1. Mr. Banister reported that he will contact Thomas L. Millette, Ph.D. of Research Aviation and Mapping Science, LLC in spring, 2010, to review potential use of environmental imaging services to complement the GPS Mooring Anchor Location project recently approved by the SHMC.
- G) No-Wake Buoy Proposal
  - 1. Mr. Gorby completed the DEP permit application for six No-Wake buoys.
  - 2. Mr. Ian Hetherington of Don's Dock suggested that the buoys be equipped with eye-like fastenings that will help with their retrieval during maintenance. The commission agreed.
- H) Transient Mooring Buoys
  - 1. Anchorage Area Mooring buoys have been removed and stored by Don's Dock who installed pot buoys for winter usage. Mr. Hetherington indicated that he would be able to complete the winter maintenance within the budget authorized by SHMC in October.
- I) Harbor Management Plan Rewrite
  - 1. Mr. Johnstone will chair the sub-committee consisting of Mssrs Smith and Donch to review and update the Stonington Harbor Management Plan.

### **New Business**

- A) Stonington/Boothbay Race
  - 1. Mr. Gorby reported that the Stonington Harbor Yacht Club will coordinate the race on July 23, 2010, starting at 11:00AM off Watch Hill Passage with approximately 40 boats participating. The commission discussed potential increase in harbor traffic and overnight transient anchorage.

### **Public Comment**

No public comment.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 8:48 upon a motion by Mr. Kenyon. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

Submitted by Jean D. Dixon

Attachment A  
**Treasurers Report**  
**Stonington Harbor Management Commission**  
**December 14, 2009**

1. For the month of November 2009:

Expenses	
Harbormaster Expenses	75.00
Revenue	00.00

2. Yearly Summary of SHMC activity as of 11/30/2009:

INCOME	
Mooring fees.....	\$7480.00
EXPENDITURES	
Reproduction and Printing.....	184.38
Equipment and Support.....	3164.93
Harbormaster Expenses.....	2410.96
Subtotal Expenditure.....	\$5760.27
Revenue over expenses.....	1719.73

3. Cash available to Harbor Commission

General Fund.....	18243.58
Cash still reserved for harbor boat.....	200.00
Cash reserved for new dock.....	9840.00

Respectfully submitted,

Bill Abt,  
SHMC Treasurer

Attachment B  
**Harbormaster Report**  
December 14, 2009

New Mooring permits issued: 0  
Additions to Waiting List: 0 Total: 144  
Mooring being given up (this month): 0  
New Mooring assignments offered: 0  
Deposits to SHMC account since last report: \$ 0 (2009 YTD = \$ 7380)

No new news from Cardi Corporation project manager Alfred Nazareth.

As of November 25<sup>th</sup> the “Anchorage Area” buoys have not been removed from the harbor.

On Sunday, November 15, Three members of the SHMC (Alan Banister, Jesse Diggs, and Jean Dixon) along with Deputy Harbormaster Charles Estabrooks took the harbor boat on an exploratory survey of the mooring field. The purpose of the survey was part of a long term effort to obtain accurate latitude and longitude coordinates for every mooring in the harbor.

Conclusion:

While we were able (with some difficulty) to pinpoint some of the shallow water mooring locations with reasonable accuracy, it is not feasible to do the same for the deeper water moorings and/or those with heavier gear. The harbor boat is not equipped for this purpose and the gear is too heavy to pull by hand.

A full report will be provided by the survey team.

Robert G

Boat hauled 25th of November. Bottom power washed.

The boat was taken to PMW Marine for winterizing.

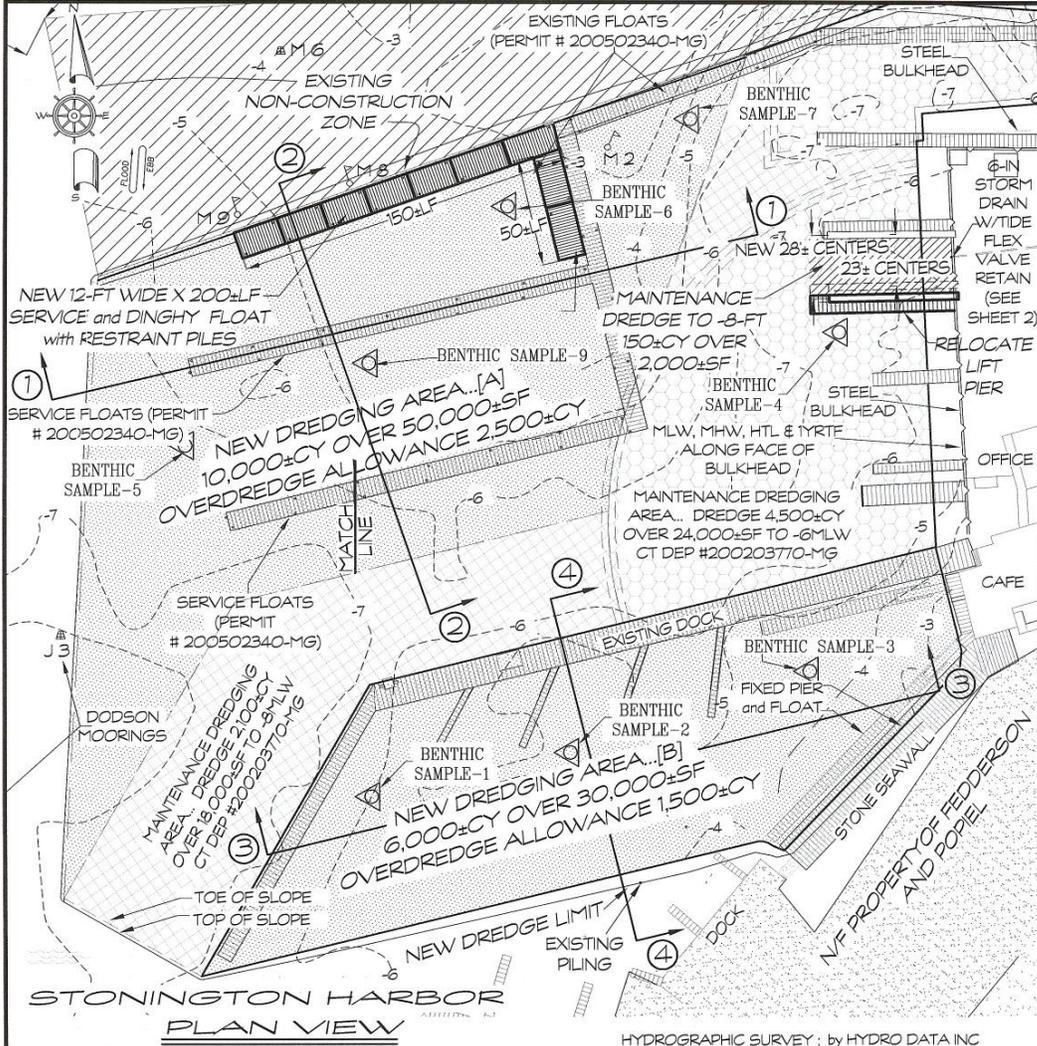
December 12<sup>th</sup> the boat was placed in the Velvet Mill Building for winter storage.

Respectfully Submitted

Eric Donch  
Stonington Harbormaster

# Attachment C

## Dodson Boatyard Proposal for Work Dock Extension Stonington Harbor Plan View



**STONINGTON HARBOR  
PLAN VIEW**

HYDROGRAPHIC SURVEY : by HYDRO DATA INC



- REVISED 11-24-09 DEP SERVICE/DINGHY FLOATS and LIFT PIER
- REVISED 1-15-08 DEP DREDGE LIMITS
- REVISED 11-26-08 DEP STORMWATER DRAIN
- REVISED 3-5-09 DEP NEW FLOATS AND DREDGE AREA
- REVISED 5-21-09 DEP PROJECT

PROJECT: SERVICE FLOAT EXTENSION and DREDGING  
 LOCATION: STONINGTON POINT, TOWN OF STONINGTON  
 NEW LONDON COUNTY, CONNECTICUT  
 WATERWAY: STONINGTON HARBOR  
 DATE: JULY 25, 2006  
 APPLICANT: DODSON BOAT YARD  
 AGENT: SHEET 3 OF 6  
 DOCKO, INC.  
 Keith B. Nelson, PE  
 Mystic, CT 06355  
 860 572 8939 FAX 860 572 7569  
 EMAIL: docko@snet.net



DWG 06-03-1788