

**FINAL**  
Town of Stonington, CT  
Stonington Harbor Management Commission  
Regular Meeting  
September 13, 2010  
7:00 PM  
Stonington Police Public Meeting Hall

A regular meeting of the Stonington Harbor Management Commission was held on Monday, September 13, 2010 at the Stonington Police Public Meeting Hall. Attending were Chairman Peter Vermilya, Alan Banister, Jesse Diggs, Jean Dixon, Ed Smith, Sherman Crites, William Abt, George Kenyon, Rodney Johnstone, Harbormaster Eric Donch and Deputy Harbormaster Charles Estabrooks. William Geary did not attend.

**I. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00PM by Chairman Vermilya.

**II. Minutes**

Mr. Banister motioned to accept the minutes of the August 9, 2010, meeting as written and Mr. Johnstone seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

**III. Correspondence**

Chairman Vermilya reported the following correspondence:

- A) Out of Jurisdiction  
Nothing to report.
- B) In Jurisdiction
  1. Permit Application to the CT DEP on behalf of the Stonington Harbor Yacht Club: To install 2 new float restraint piles and relocate 2 float restraint piles in Stonington Harbor; the Commission had no comment.
  2. Permit approval by CT DEP for Meryl Wiener to construct a new pier and boat lift on Wamphassuc Point
  3. Permit approval by CT DEP for Rosemary McKinney to construct a new fixed pier and boat lift on the east side of Stonington Borough
  4. Application to the CT DEP on behalf of James & Pamela Elesh, 225 Wamphassuc Point Road, to alter an existing permit issued by the CT DEP on 7/10/2010 for a new fixed pier. The alteration consists of adding a new boat lift at the north end of the pier; the Commission had no comment.
  5. Tentative Permit Approval by the CT DEP of a Permit for Dodsons Boatyard to "conduct dredging, install service and dinghy docks and retain a storm water drain to support recreational boating"; the Commission had no comment.

6. Telephone communication with Joan of Docko. Inc. She confirmed that the Town had applied for and received an extension of the permit for the Harbormaster Boat dock.

C) Bills Paid/Outstanding

1. Paid: To Brian's Signs for construction of two 4' square aluminum signs saying "Slow No Wake" for west end of Sandy Point, \$700.00
2. Outstanding: Harbormaster expenses since April

**IV. Treasurer's Report**

Treasurer Abt presented the Treasurer's Report (Attachment A). Mr. Abt noted that the \$5.00 revenue item for August was for the purchase of a copy of the Stonington Harbor Management Plan. Mr. Abt motioned to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented. Mr. Banister seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

**V. Harbormaster's Report**

The Harbormaster's Report, September 13, 2010 was presented by Harbormaster Donch (Attachment B).

Extended discussion:

- a) Reporting: HM Donch reported that 1 new mooring permit was issued.

\*In the future, HM Donch will include the mooring # and new holder's name for a) new permits issued and b) moorings given up in his monthly reports.

- b) HM Donch, Mssrs. Vermilya and Crites will relocate the new Sandy Point "Slow, No Wake" sign next week.

- c) An apparent conflict in harbor mooring section numbers with Dodsons Boatyard, most notably in section "S" was again discussed.

The motion to accept the Harbormaster Report as presented was made and passed unanimously.

## **VI. Old Business**

### **A) Mooring Status Reporting**

#### **1. Harbor Mooring Surveys**

The Harbor Mooring Survey by external surveyors, Ms. Donch and Ms. Santos, under HM Donch's supervision was completed. HM Donch merged survey data with database data to support validation between the 2 sources. HM Donch will submit an invoice to the Commission for the surveyor services.

\*HM Donch will send to commission members: Survey data, Data Base data, Merged data.

\*Commission members will analyze those data sets as well as the results of their own surveys completed this summer for their respective harbor area responsibilities. Discrepancies will be reported at the October meeting with the goal of identifying and reconciling invalid, unused and unidentifiable moorings as well as establishing a baseline of valid moorings in Stonington Harbor.

#### **2. Mooring Reports: Nothing was reported.**

\*HM Donch will provide a report of moorings that have become available in recent years by mooring # and status (assignment, open, offered) with related dates.

\*HM Donch will provide a report of individuals who have not responded to the 2010 mooring permit renewal process so that the Commission can take appropriate action including termination if appropriate.

#### **3) Wait List Policy and Procedures**

Chairman Vermilya presented a proposal for managing the wait list by sending letters to wait list persons to verify continued interest.

Discussion continued about the individual's responsibility to maintain current contact data with the commission vs. the commission's obligation to make extra effort to locate individuals during the wait list procedure.

Mr. Crites will author and send the letter which was approved in concept at the August SHMC meeting. The letter will be sent in

September to the first 25 persons on the wait list to remind them of their responsibility to keep their wait list contact data current with the Harbormaster. They will return updated data to HM Donch only if there has been a change.

The letter will be sent under "return receipt requested" to identify those undeliverable addresses. The Commission will try to contact these individuals.

B) Harbormaster Boat/Pumpout Boat Dock Project

Chairman Vermilya stated that CUSH reported no action since last month. The notice of CT DEP award of funding for the project is expected in mid-September.

C) Slow/No Wake Harbor Proposal

Mr. Banister reported that the proposed ordinance was presented to the Board of Selectmen on August 25, 2010, and was approved unanimously for inclusion on town ballot, probably in December. Mr. Banister stated that the Selectmen and CT DEP had been notified of a change in the wording of the original ordinance proposal: Marker #5 color to "green", not "red".

The need to communicate the proposal to the public prior to voting was acknowledged and will be discussed at the next commission meeting. HM Donch emphasized that the proposed ordinance is not connected to the Mystic no-wake proposal in any way.

D) Harbor Management Plan Update

The sub-committee, Mssrs. Johnstone, Crites, Diggs, Smith and Donch, will meet on 9/22 to initiate the project.

**VII. New Business**

A) Winter Storage of Robert G

Mr. Diggs reported that a space is available for six months of winter storage of ROBERT G at the Velvet Mill for \$600.

Mr. Abt motioned to authorize Mr. Diggs to enter a contract with the Velvet Mill for ROBERT G storage for 6 months for \$600. Mr. Crites seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

**VIII. Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

**IX. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 upon a motion proposed by Mr. Banister, seconded by Mr. Johnstone and approved unanimously.

Submitted by Jean D. Dixon

\*Indicates action items

**Attachment A**

Treasurer's Report  
Stonington Harbor Management Commission  
September 13, 2010

	<u>June</u>	<u>July</u>	<u>Sept</u>	<u>YTD(\$)</u>
Misc. Program Income	0.00	5.00	5.00	10.00
Mooring Fees Received	420.00	0.00	0.00	7,880.00
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>420.00</b>	<b>5.00</b>	<b>5.00</b>	<b>7,890.00</b>
Reproduction & Printing Equipment & Support Harbormaster Expenses	211.00	0.00	0.00	2,539.42
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>211.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>2,539.42</b>
<b>Revenue Over(under) Expen.</b>	<b>208.76</b>	<b>5.00</b>	<b>5.00</b>	<b>5,350.58</b>
Cash Available to Harbor Commission				23,594.16
Cash Reserved for Boat				300.00
Cash reserved for new dock				9,840.00

## Attachment B

### **Harbormaster Report**

September 13, 2010

New Mooring permits issued: 1  
Mooring being given up (this month): 0  
New Mooring assignments offered: 0  
Additions to Waiting List: 0 Total: 196  
Deposits to SHMC account since last report: \$ 0 (2010 YTD = \$7420)

Sandy Point is now opened to the public I suggest making improvements to the "SLOW NO WAKE" sign to make it harder to remove.

I have been moving 3-4 boats in north end of harbor to facilitate Cardi Corp barge moves for restocking of supplies. I have owner's permission to make these moves as necessary. To date these moves have happened 3 times.

Hurricane Earl: Harbor was toured 3 times as storm moved up coast. Owners who did not have double pendants or had excess windage (extra canvas, sail bags, etc.) were contacted and encouraged to make storm preparations. Due to wind strength/direction predictions (35-55kts NE backing to NW) it was decided to leave Cardi work barges in north end of harbor and move Robert G to Dodson's docks.

Special Olympics Sailing Regatta was September 11-12 in Stonington Harbor. 85 athletes participated in the event.

Kate Donch and Sara Santos completed survey of harbor. "Raw" data and data I have been able to supplement, along with the picture files will be turned over to SHMC once I know what media is desired (hard copy, disk?).

### Robert G

Winter storage: It appears Jesse Diggs and I have both been in contact with Velvet Mill. I will refer any further calls from Velvet Mill to Jesse to avoid duplication of efforts.

Boat will be hauled mid October as long as it is not needed to facilitate Cardi barge moves.

Respectfully Submitted  
Eric Donch

**Stonington Harbormaster**