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Stonington Harbor Management Commission
Special Meeting
October 13, 2015
Draft Minutes (Peter Tacy, Acting Secretary)
Stonington Borough Fire Department

1. Call to Order:

The meeting was brought to order at 7:01 PM by Chairman Jay Spalding. Those present were Messrs. Spalding, Diggs, Crites, O'Neill, Rose, Anderson, MacKinnon, and Tacy. Also present: Harbormaster Donch. Absent: Messrs. Johnstone, Smith.

2. Minutes:

The Minutes of the September 14, 2015 meeting were reviewed. Changes were proposed to correct a spelling error and the wording of the report concerning the Harbormaster Dock project. Acceptance as so revised was moved by Mr. Anderson, seconded by Mr. Crites, and approved unanimously.

3. Special purpose mooring reports:

Mr. Spalding reported that the change in the Commission's meeting date (to avoid the Columbus Day holiday) made it impossible for SHYC Fleet Captain Sinnett to attend this meeting as originally scheduled. He will report on use of Special Purpose moorings by SHYC at the November meeting.

4. Harbormaster boat dock project:

Mr. Diggs reported that the RFP which was circulated to Commissioners for comment has now been distributed, and some proposals have already been received. Discussion followed, including the possibility of wrapping the walkway around two pilings so as to make it a full 48" wide rather than the proposed 46". Mr. Diggs thinks this may be possible. He will report on this and other details in November. He thinks the project "looks promising" to be ready for next season and to arrive on budget.

5. Treasurer's Report:

Treasurer's report (written report is attached): Mr. Crites reports no changes from the prior month, including end-of-year "probable" forecasts, although (see item 7, below) a change in how the Robert G is stored for the winter may have some plus / minus cost consequences. We are still anticipating that at year-end we will see $10,000 in "locked" reserve for boat replacement, and about $5,000 in surplus. Acceptance was moved by Mr. MacKinnon, seconded by Mr. Rose, and approved unanimously.

6. Commisioners Surveys:

End-season mooring use survey reporting: an extended discussion followed, in which each commissioner reported on observations of specific mooring uses and problems, possible locations for new moorings, and "suspect / variant" situations in his particular harbor area. It was proposed that, now that the harbor grid is in place, Mr. Donch and Mr. Estabrooks should devise a way for each commissioner to be able to easily review (possibly via a pull-down menu on the Commission website) all charted grid locations in his survey area, whether or not moorings are assigned to be placed there, and not just active mooring locations. Mr. Donch agreed with this idea and will pursue the matter with Mr. Estabrooks and report on progress.

7. Harbormaster's Report:

Harbormaster's report (written report is attached): Mr. Donch said that since the Stonington Velvet Mill is no longer available for winter storage of the Robert G, an alternative must be decided. Indoor storage is not available locally. Putting the boat in Avondale would cost about twice what we have been paying at the SVM. Might outdoor storage under a weather-tight wrap be an acceptable option? After discussing various plans, he agreed to store the boat on its trailer and under an appropriate protective cover at his home this winter. He will notify Commissioners when this will happen so they can help him. Mr. Diggs then reported that the "Slow No Wake" restriction in the harbor has not been adequately observed by all local boaters during the post-Labor-Day period. Mr. Donch is aware and has been in contact with violators. There followed an extended discussion of the best way for the Harbormaster / Commission to complete the multi-year "gridding" project by moving a much larger than usual number of waiting-list applicants to the mooring list for 2016, and how a process to accomplish this task expeditiously (by year-end) and without overburdening the Harbormaster should be devised. After much deliberation, it was determined that Mr. Donch will (a) distribute via email a draft "check-list" process description to all commissioners for their review and comment, and then (b) after revision of this process as needed, send each commissioner information regarding several specific applicants / mooring locations in their harbor-survey areas, so commissioners can individually contact these applicants, confirm their interest and that they have a suitable boat, and then steer each one through the mooringassignment process. Mr. Anderson moved acceptance of the Harbormaster's report with these additions; this was seconded by Mr. Rose, and unanimously approved.

8. Harbormaster re-appointment:

Mr. Spalding and Mr. Crites reported that there is no legal need for the Commission to formally go through the three-year reappointment process with the DOT; a sitting Harbormaster can simply stay in place as a "continuing" appointment. That being so, and Mr. Donch being willing to serve, he will continue as Stonington's Harbormaster.

9. Public Comment:

No public comment was proposed.

10. Adjournment:

No other business being before the Commission, at 9:18 PM Mr. Crites moved adjournment, seconded by Mr. O'Neill. This was unanimously approved.

Approved:_____ Date:_____

Jay Spalding - Chair SHMC

Attachments:

A. Treasurer's Report:
B. Harbormaster's Report

Attachment A: Treasurer's report

Report Date 10/01/2015	Plan	Jul	Aug	Sep	YTD	Probable
Funds Generated:						
Balance Brought Forward:	7,065.73	22,730.60	19,757.30	18,884.79	12,065.73	7,065.73
Paid Moorings: Com/Pvt/Pub:	128/250/4	0/0/3	0/29/4	0/0/0	128/223/7	128/225/7
Mooring Fees:	25,380.00	60.00	1,530.00	0.00	24,090.00	24,190.00
Miscellaneous Income:	100.00				100.00	100.00
Total Generated Funds:	32,545.73	22,790.60	21,287.30	18,884.79	36,255.73	31,355.73
Operating Expense:						
Mooring Admin:						
Mailings:	500.00				170.18	200.00
Telephone:	0.00				0.00	0.00
Computer Sftw r:	50.00				0.00	0.00
Miscellaneous:	100.00				466.12	500.00
Sub-Total:	650.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	636.30	700.00
Boat:						
Fuel & Oil:	500.00				47.12	250.00
Commissioning:	1,500.00				1,720.00	2,250.00
Storage:	750.00				0.00	750.00
Maintenance/Repairs:	500.00				15.98	100.00
Equipment:	250.00	120.00			722.73	800.00
Sub-Total:	3,500.00	120.00	0.00	0.00	2,505.83	4,150.00
Harbor Maintenance:						
Buoy: Commission/Haul/Store:	1,500.00	352.00			379.80	1,500.00
Misc Service/Locker Storage:	1,400.00	225.00			1,035.00	1,400.00
Signage:	0.00				16.63	20.00
Sub-Total:	2,900.00	577.00	0.00	0.00	1,431.43	2,920.00
Dock/Pumpout:						
Dock Eqpt./Maintenance:	0.00				0.00	0.00
Pumpout Eqpt./Maintenance:	0.00				0.00	0.00
Miscellaneous	0.00				0.00	0.00
Sub-Total:	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Administrative:						
Supplies:	0.00				0.00	0.00
New sletter:	1,200.00				1,290.57	1,300.00
Professional Services:	0.00				0.00	0.00
Sub-Total:	1,200.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,290.57	1,300.00
Total Operating Expense:	8,250.00	697.00	0.00	0.00	5,864.13	9,070.00
Approved Projects/Capital						
*New Boat Reserve:	5,000.00				0.00	5,000.00
New Anchorage Buoys (4):	3,000.00		2,072.51		3,472.51	3,500.00
Mooring Field Grid Allignment:	1,000.00	410.20			1,028.20	1,250.00
Tow n Pier/Breakw ater Analysis	0.00				0.00	0.00
Pumpout Pier ExtDesign/Permit:	10,000.00	1,926.10	330.00		7,006.10	7,000.00
Radar - *Robert G*	0.00				0.00	0.00
Total Project/Capital	19,000.00	2,336.30	2,402.51	0.00	11,506.81	16,750.00
Total Designated Funds	27,250.00	3,033.30	2,402.51	0.00	17,370.94	25,820.00
Undesignated Funds:	5,295.73	19,757.30	18,884.79	18,884.79	18,884.79	5,535.73
Notes:						
Petty Cash Advance - 300.00	October:					
Boat Reserve Cash - 740.00						
*Boat Reserve Accrual - 10,000.00						

Attachment B: Harbormaster's report

Harbormaster Report
October 13, 2015

New Mooring permits issued: 1 Moorings being given up (this month): 0
New Mooring assignments in the works: 11
Deposits to SHMC account since last report: $ 0 2015 YTD = $23700

9/16/15 The "Green Sailboat" was tied illegally to the "Tee Head" of the Dockominiums. The President of the organization told him he had 2 hours to move. The vessel sailed that afternoon and was last seen headed west outside of Stonington Harbor.

10/2/15 I received a phone call from Kenneth Elyosius, owner of "Green Sailboat", that he intends to file suit against the Stonington Harbormaster, Town of Stonington, and CT Harbormaster Association. He alleges that while his boat was moored in Stonington Harbor, while he was incarcerated, that it was allowed to fill with enough water to foul the engine. This made the engine not operable and caused the boat to go aground in Niantic. The vessel was removed from Black Point Beach with an excavator and scrapped.

Sandy Point "SNW" sign needs to be removed.

No update on the proposed ACOE dredging in Sandy Point channel.

Robert G

A new propeller was installed to replace the spare propeller.

Respectfully Submitted

Eric Donch
Stonington Harbormaster