



Stonington Harbor Management Commission

May 8, 2023

Minutes by Katrina Bercaw, Recording Secretary



1. **Call to Order:** Vice Chairman Jesse Diggs called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Attending: Vice Chairman Jesse Diggs, Treasurer Sherm Crites, Commissioners Melanie Degler, Tori Gimple, Caleb Rose, Joseph Williams, Edward Smith, Harbormaster Eric Donch, and Recording Secretary Katrina Bercaw

Not in Attendance: Chairman Jay Spalding, Bruce MacKinnon, Stathis Manousos

Guests: none

2. **Minutes:**

The Minutes of the April 10, 2023, meeting were reviewed. Commissioner Gimple made a motion to approve the minutes. Commissioner Degler seconded the motion. After review of the action items, no further discussion occurred, all in favor, motion approved. Minutes of the Special Meeting with Executive Session held April 18 were presented. Commissioner Crites made a motion to approve the minutes. Commissioner Degler seconded the motion. All in favor, motion approved.

Action Items remaining open:

ACTION ITEM #1: Harbormaster Donch is awaiting a return call from DEEP to discuss potential future commercial moorings.

ACTION ITEM #2: Chairman Spalding will contact the Stonington PZC as well as the Town attorney regarding Lockwood Marina's history with the Town.

ACTION ITEM #3: Chairman Spalding will contact DEEP to advise them that there may be updates to the Stonington Harbor Management Plan.

ACTION ITEM #4: Commissioner Gimple will continue to follow up on her request for a meeting regarding the East Side Inner Breakwater project, as no reply has been received.

3. **Public Comment:**

Vice Chairman Diggs received a call from Mark Adams, a fisherman, regarding shoaling of the Sandy Point channel, and checking that the location of the green buoy marking the channel is correct.

4. **Correspondence:** Vice Chairman Diggs

- **In Jurisdiction:** none
- **Out of Jurisdiction:**
 - 6 Cogswell St., Pawcatuck, CT, Walkway demolition: no action required

5. **Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer Crites

See attached. Commissioner Smith made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented. Commissioner Rose seconded the motion. No further discussion, all in favor, motion was approved.

6. Harbormaster's Report:

The Harbormaster's May 2023 Report was reviewed and attached to these minutes.

Commissioner Smith made a motion to approve the Harbormaster's Report as presented. Commissioner Williams seconded the motion. No further discussion, all in favor, motion was approved.

7. Online Mooring Update: Commissioner Degler reviewed details in the report, which is attached. 300 approved paid private moorings; 103 on mooring waitlist. Commissioner Degler has created a list of several mooring holders that have requested relocation. Two additional moorings have been relinquished since the last meeting, bringing the total this year to 17. Mooring holders without current inspections have been reminded to have them inspected. Some OLM glitches with inadvertent notices sent out. Vice Chairman Diggs thanked Commissioner Degler for all the time she is putting in to manage the OLM interface.

8. Old Business:

- A. Deputy Harbormaster Search Update - Harbormaster Donch reported that one candidate has been interviewed. A Special Meeting will be scheduled to interview the second candidate.
- B. Stonington Harbor Management Plan update - no news at this time
- C. East Side Inner Breakwater Project Update - Commissioner Gimple is continuing to reach out to pursue an information-gathering meeting regarding the project history. This will be important to pursue funding.
- D. Newsletter - Commissioner Degler: 1500 newsletters have been printed, and will be distributed to local marine centers by commission members. Recognition was enthusiastic for her work in putting it together and getting it printed. The newsletter has been [posted](#) on the Town website.

9. New Business: none

10. Adjournment: Vice Chairman Diggs adjourned the meeting at 8:05 p.m.

Approved: _____ 

Date: 6/12/2023

Attachments:

- Treasurer's Report
- Harbormaster's Report
- OLM Report

Report Date 5/08/2023

	Plan	Feb	Mar	Apr	YTD	Probable
Operating Expense:						
Mooring Admin:						
Mailings:	200				0.00	200.00
Telephone:	0				0.00	0.00
Online Mooring	5,250		1,692.96	2,055.02	3,779.76	5,250.00
Miscellaneous:	200				0.00	200.00
Sub-Total:	5,650	0.00	1,692.96	2,055.02	3,779.76	5,650.00
Boat:						
Fuel & Oil:	800				0.00	800.00
Commissioning:	3,000	625.00			625.00	3,000.00
Storage:	0				0.00	0.00
Maintenance/Repairs:	500				0.00	500.00
Equipment:	500	1,092.54			1,092.54	500.00
Sub-Total:	4,800	1,717.54	0.00	0.00	1,717.54	4,800.00
Harbor Maintenance:						
Buoy: Commission/Haul/Store:	7,500				0.00	7,500.00
Misc Service/Locker/PO Box:	1,000		317.17	85.00	402.17	1,000.00
Adjust Grid Allignment	1,000				0.00	1,000.00
Signage:	100				0.00	100.00
Sub-Total:	9,600	0.00	317.17	85.00	402.17	9,600.00
Dock/Pumpout:						
Dock Eqpt./Maintenance:	500				0.00	500.00
Pumpout Eqpt./Maintenance:	0				0.00	0.00
Miscellaneous	0				0.00	0.00
Sub-Total:	500.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	500.00
Administrative:						
Supplies:	250	53.16			53.16	250.00
Newsletter:	5,200				0.00	5,200.00
Professional Services:	1,500		250.00	125.00	500.00	1,500.00
Sub-Total:	6,950	53.16	250.00	125.00	553.16	6,950.00
Total Operating Expense:	27,500	1,770.70	2,260.13	2,265.02	6,452.63	27,500.00
Approved Projects/Capital						
Replacement HM Boat	17,000	11,945.95		1,133.31	13,079.26	17,000.00
Public Access/Insurance Reserve	20,000				0.00	20,000.00
Approved Projects/Capital	37,000	11,945.95	0.00	1,133.31	13,079.26	37,000.00
Total Designated Funds	64,500	13,716.65	2,260.13	3,398.33	19,531.89	64,500.00
Undesignated Funds:	17,597	18,448.95	33,163.82	29,765.49	29,765.49	17,697.38

Harbormaster Report

May 8, 2023

Deposits to SHMC account since last report: \$13,090 2023 YTD=\$30,365

Deputy Harbormaster job posting: 1 candidate left to interview. He should be back in town May 16. I will set up a date for interview.

Talked to Town Hall. Background check for Deputy HM should be done through State. Waiting a callback from my State HM contact.

Sandy Point shoaling, no updates from USCG or ACOE.

Harbormaster Boat

New boat delivered 3/1/2023.

- 1) Boat lettered at Amie's Signs in Ashaway. COMPLETE
- 2) Engine swap at PMW Marine. COMPLETE
- 3) Electronics swap by Harbormaster and Scott Degler, WORKING

Should be launched before Memorial Day Weekend

Issue with paperwork for old boat. RI would not accept Title and Bill of Sale for Dave Vargas to register. I have appointment at DMV May 18. Will register old boat in my name in CT and transfer to Dave in RI.

Respectfully Submitted,

Eric Donch
Stonington Harbormaster

Town of Stonington, CT

You are here: [Dashboard](#)

All
Mooring Permit
One Year Special Purpose Permit
Commercial Mooring

Calendar
Add

Mooring Permit

Status	Count	Flags	Count	Wait List	Count	Wait
Approved	300	Renewal Issues	8	Mooring Wait List	103	8 years
Wait Listed	90					
Wait List Hold	13					
Renewal Under Review	6					
Application Under Review	1					
Renewal Incomplete	1					
Application Incomplete	5					

- Started a list for Move Requests - (2) to date
 - one does not like rolling near breakwater
 - one too far to travel in dinghy to mooring
- (2)Waitlist Apps since last meeting
- Special Purpose Moorings-still waiting on one payment from WAD Club
- (2) Individuals removed from Waitlist at their request - in the military and will not be purchasing vessels
 - (2) Moorings given up-no longer have vessels
 - (17) Moorings given up to date this year
 - American Yacht Club paid back fees of \$200, sent check to HM
 - Inspection reports run and only two overdue from 2018 and 2020. Left VMs, no reply as yet
 - OLM issue with system sent out overdue mooring inspection notices in error - they addressed and again checked our full account to ensure does not happen again

Respectfully submitted,

[Melanie S. Degler](#)

SHMC Commissioner and Mooring Administrator

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