



Stonington Harbor Management Commission



November 9, 2020

Minutes by *(Melanie Degler, Secretary)*

1. Call to Order:

Chairman Spalding called the virtual meeting to order at 7:00 PM. The virtual meeting was held via ZOOM with public call-in availability. The Commissioners listed below were on the ZOOM meeting.

Attending: Chairman Spalding, Treasurer Crites, Secretary Degler, Vice Chairman Diggs, Commissioners, McKinnon, O'Neill, Rose, Smith, and Williams, Harbormaster Donch and Deputy Harbormaster Estabrooks

Absent: Commissioner Anderson

2. Minutes:

The Minutes of the October 19, 2020 Special meeting were reviewed. Commissioner Smith made a motion to approve the October 19, 2020 Minutes. Commissioner McKinnon seconded the motion. No further discussion occurred, all in favor, motion approved.

ACTION ITEM #1: Harbormaster Donch will contact Michael Peyton, DEEP, for an update on the status of the permit for the private aid to navigation for Pawcatuck Point (Osbrook Point).

a. Clarify the Commission prefers a piling versus a buoy

ACTION ITEM #2: Commissioner MacKinnon will contact the Gilman Company to further discuss the pricing for new buoys for the Harbor.

3. Public Comment: There was none.

4. Correspondence:

In Jurisdiction:

- Lincoln Norton Mooring Request – Harbormaster Donch has contacted Mr. Norton about his request.
- Fall Buoy Invoices – Treasurer Crites will be paying all Don's Dock invoices as submitted.

Out of Jurisdiction: There was none.

5. Treasurer's Report

The Financial Report for October 2020 was reviewed and attached to these minutes.

- The Town will reimburse Commissioner Williams and Secretary Degler for their recent expenses.

Vice Chairman Diggs made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented. Commissioner Smith seconded the motion. No further discussion occurred, all in favor, motion approved.

6. Harbormaster's Report

The Harbormaster's Report for November 9, 2020 was reviewed.

ACTION ITEM #3: Harbormaster Donch will discuss the purchase of more up-to-date and advanced options for search lights for the Harbormaster boat, including a handheld device.

ACTION ITEM #4: Harbormaster Donch will double-check the electrical issue at the dock to confirm the issue has been resolved.

ACTION ITEM #5: Harbormaster Donch will investigate the possible change of storage facilities to a facility on Extrusion Drive in Pawcatuck.

Vice Chairman Diggs made a motion to approve the Harbormaster's Report as presented. Commissioner Smith seconded the motion. No further discussion. all in favor. motion approved.

7. Old Business:

1. SHMP Revision Status – no update
2. Stonington Harbor Management Ordinance Status
 - a. Commissioner Smith is currently updating and will send his changes to Chairman Spalding to send to CT DEEP.
 - b. Next step will be to send to the Town of Stonington.
3. Mooring Waiting List Fee
 - a. Secretary Degler requested another discussion on the proposed changes to the current fees.
 - b. Proposed initial application fee of \$50 was discussed by the Commission.
 - c. Proposed annual renewal fee of \$25 was discussed by the Commission.
 - d. Initial change letter will be sent in the first quarter of 2021 through Online Mooring, including an update to the Town SHMC webpage by Deputy Harbormaster Estabrooks.
 - e. Wait List Renewals will be sent as usual in September 2021 with the new fee through Online Mooring.

ACTION ITEM #6: Chairman Spalding will include Mooring Waiting List Fee Changes to the Public Comment section of December's Meeting Agenda to allow the public to offer further comment before the fee changes are approved and posted.

ACTION ITEM #7: Harbormaster Donch will issue the next (10) names on the Waiting List to Commissioner Williams to make contact with these individuals to inquire of their interest in a new mooring in the Harbor for the 2021 Season.

8. New Business:

1. Commissioner O'Neill discussed his findings on the roles of the Harbormaster and Deputy Harbormaster as requested during last month's Executive Session.

ACTION ITEM #8: Commissioner O'Neill will report at the January 2021 meeting on his discussions with other Connecticut Harbormasters related to their roles and compensation.

2. Secretary Degler asked whether a permanent sign, like those used on Napatree Point, be installed for the sign on Sandy Point, to lessen the burden of yearly placement and removal by the Harbormaster. Harbormaster Donch stated the current sign is easy to place and the winter weather conditions on Sandy Point require removal in the fall months.
3. Secretary Degler asked whether a solar speed sign would be beneficial for the entrance to the

Harbor. Harbormaster Donch stated speed is not the monitoring issue but vessel wakes, which are difficult to check without webcam/ video capability.

9. Adjournment:

Vice Chairman Diggs made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Smith seconded the motion. No further discussion occurred, all in favor, motion approved for adjournment at 9:19 pm.

Approved: 
Jay Spalding, Chairman SHMC

Date: 14 Dec 2020

Attachments:

- Treasurer's Report
- Harbormaster's Report

SHMC FINANCIAL REPORT - 2020

	Plan	Aug	Sep	Oct	YTD	Probable
Funds Generated:						
Balance Brought Forward:	24,730	35,459.81	10,167.81	10,167.81	24,730.48	24,730.48
Paid Moorings: Com/Pvt/Pub:	128/263/14			0/21/0	128/245/14	128/255/14
Moorings Fees:	26,230	0.00		1,050.00	25,330.00	25,830.00
Miscellaneous Income:	100			487.20	750.00	750.00
Total Generated Funds:	51,060	35,459.81	10,167.81	11,705.01	50,810.48	51,310.48
Operating Expense:						
Moorings Admin:						
Mailings:	600				0.00	0.00
Telephone:	0				0.00	0.00
Online Mooring:	4,000	54.00		30.00	2,069.79	4,000.00
Miscellaneous:	0				134.00	134.00
Sub-Total:	4,600	54.00	0.00	30.00	2,203.79	4,134.00
Boat:						
Fuel & Oil:	200				0.00	200.00
Commissioning:	2,500				2,707.00	3,000.00
Storage:	0				0.00	0.00
Maintenance/Repairs:	150				0.00	150.00
Equipment:	250				0.00	250.00
Sub-Total:	3,100	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,707.00	3,600.00
Harbor Maintenance:						
Buoy: Commission/Haul/Store:	5,000				3,158.48	5,000.00
Misc Service/Locker Storage:	500				0.00	500.00
Adjust Grid Alignment:	1,000	238.00			238.00	238.00
Signage:	0				94.67	94.67
Sub-Total:	6,500	238.00	0.00	94.67	3,491.15	5,832.67
Dock/Pumpout:						
Dock Eqpt./Maintenance:	0			722.21	697.01	697.01
Pumpout Eqpt./Maintenance:	0				0.00	0.00
Miscellaneous:	0				0.00	0.00
Sub-Total:	0	0.00	0.00	722.21	697.01	697.01
Administrative:						
Supplies:	0				443.94	443.94
Newsletter:	3,400				209.46	209.46
Professional Services:	1,000				0.00	0.00
Sub-Total:	4,400	0.00	0.00	0.00	653.40	653.40
Total Operating Expense:	18,600	292.00	0.00	846.88	9,952.35	15,117.08
Approved Projects/Capital						
New SNW Buoys	10,000				0.00	0.00
New Anchor/Channel Buoys	1,000				0.00	0.00
Addition to Boat Reserve	5,000	5,000.00			10,000.00	10,000.00
Emergency Reserve	0	10,000.00			10,000.00	10,000.00
Public Access Improvement	2,000	10,000.00			10,000.00	10,000.00
Total Project/Capital	18,000	25,000.00	0.00	0.00	30,000.00	30,000.00
Total Designated Funds	38,600	25,292.00	0.00	846.88	39,952.35	45,117.08
Undesignated Funds:						
Petty Cash Advance	300					
HM Replacement Boat Reserve	30,000					
Public Access Reserve	10,000					
Emergency Reserve	10,000					

Harbormaster's Report

Harbormaster Report November 9, 2020

New Mooring permits issued: 0 (East Side) Moorings being given up (this month): 0
New Mooring assignments in the works: 0
Deposits to SHMC account since last report: \$ 200 2020 YTD \$ 26017.20

Correction to deposit on 10/1/2020: amount deposited was \$1537.20 not \$1437.20 as reported

Spoke with Tim Delgado at CT DEEP regarding definition of the area of the SNW zone at west end of Sandy Pt. We came to an agreement on the area and the wording to describe it. This should be covered under Ordinance revision item of SHMC agenda.

Participated in the search for a missing boater from Groton on Friday, Oct 30, from 2000 to 2300 and Saturday, Oct 31, 0730 to 1200. Request came from USCG via Marine Group 4 notification. I was assigned search of Mystic River Friday night and shoreline search from Little Narragansett Bay west toward Groton Saturday. Unfortunately, search ended in recovery of body Saturday north of Great Gull Island.

SNW sign on Sandy Point will need to be taken down in near future.

Robert G

Expect to haul boat by end of November (once the harbor is clear of most moored vessels). Boat will be stored at Don's Dock again this year unless arrangements can be made elsewhere.

Respectfully Submitted,

Eric Donch
Stonington Harbormaster