

Mystic Harbor Management Commission

Minutes for February 2, 2017

FINAL

The Mystic Harbor Management Commission held its regular meeting on February 2, 2017, at 7:00 p.m. at the Fourth District Voting Hall. Commission members present were Dave Carreau (Chair), Lou Allyn, Fred Allard, and Ken Scott. Also present were Harbormaster Don Procko, Katrina Bercaw (recording secretary), and guests Ernie Plasse, Gregg Fedus, Jayne Scott, Tom Blumie, Keith Neilson and Paul Bates.

Call to Order

Chairman Carreau called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Approval of Minutes

Minutes of the January 5, 2017, regular meeting were presented. Mr. Allyn made a motion to accept with corrections. It was seconded by Mr. Scott and unanimously approved.

Harbormaster

Harbormaster Procko thanked Mr. Allyn for his help with the mooring permit applications. Commercial and non-commercial application forms have been mailed. Response has been good. Replies are coming in with the required information.

Unfinished Business

Secondary Auxiliary State Channel - Marker Replacement: Chairman Carreau has been in contact with Masons Island Marina. The four pilings to mark the newly dredged channel are scheduled to be installed shortly.

Commercial Moorings: The Harbormaster is working with boatyards to obtain detail information on commercial mooring locations and buoy identification.

East Fairway - Proposals for Dredging Permit: Mr. Allyn noted that the benthic survey required by the CT DEEP for the dredging permit would be very costly. An alternative to dredging is changing the exact location of the fairway from that authorized in the May 1995 Mystic Harbor Management Plan. A depth of 5 feet may be obtained rather than the 6 feet desired as was obtained for the recently dredged auxiliary channel north of Masons Island. The utilization of pilings to minimize scope from marker buoy pennants was discussed. Signage could also effectively be used on pilings. Also, minimizing the fairway width to 50 feet is a possibility.

Mystic Harbor Management Plan Review: In progress.

Pier & Float Application by A. Maurice, 36 Riverbend Drive: The DEEP hearing officer has tentatively approved the Maurice request. The Commission has until February 15, 2017, to respond. Chairman Carreau spoke with the town attorney concerning the next step which is providing an exception statement. Chairman Carreau notified Stonington First Selectman Rob Simmons of the present status. It was noted that the Army Corps of Engineers is still reviewing this request and has not yet made a determination.

Private Moorings in Anchorage Area T-3: Harbormaster Procko has issued two mooring permits to Mr. and Mrs. Botchis in front of their waterfront property. The moorings were initially placed in the transient anchorage which violated the Mystic Harbor Management Plan. This new location respects the owners' property right to have a mooring which is out of the T-3 anchorage area and is coordinated with the overall plan being developed for the new Mystic River Boathouse Park.

Mystic River Boathouse Park: Keith Neilson of Docko, Inc., presented a concept on the new hydrographic chart for use of the area from Mystic Seaport's north boundary to the cemetery to the north and also out to the Groton town line from shore. The object is to accommodate the multiple uses desired for this area. These include the historic natural channel to Old Mystic, the rowing activities of the new park, the sailing activities of the Mystic Seaport and the T-3 Transient Anchorage designated in the Mystic Harbor Management Plan. As a start, Chairman Carreau will go over this initial effort with the Boathouse Park Implementation Committee to coordinate our thoughts and obtain an understanding of their needs.

Dock at Clipper Point - Documentation update: DEEP and Docko, Inc., are working on the documentation which should be finished by summer.

New Business

COP Request for a new Boat Lift Installation by Mr. Kevin North of 38 Nauyaug Point Road, Masons Island: This project is consistent with the Mystic Harbor Management Plan. Mr. Allard made a motion to accept, which was seconded by Mr. Allyn and unanimously approved.

PZ1626ZC Greylock Property - Harry Austin Drive - 42-Multi Dwellings: Fedus Engineering presented the Master Site Plan for development of the former Mystic Color Labs property. The plan is preliminary and does not address drainage. Chairman Carreau clarified that the Commission will need details for storm water discharge, i.e. 80% of the suspended solids from the first inch of rain should be captured prior to discharge into the harbor. See page 42 of the Mystic Harbor Management Plan.

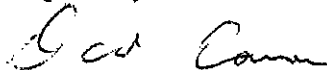
Proposal for a new Kelp Farm off of Mechanic Street Marina: The proposal was reviewed without comment. The area is outside the Commission's jurisdiction.

Transient Dinghy dock at Holmes Street: Mr. Plasse inquired about using the dock for his dinghy to access his mooring. Chairman Carreau noted that the dock was built with public grant funding and is intended for visiting transient boaters. Regulations prohibit overnight use of the dock. Chairman Carreau pointed out that any person who has a mooring in a designated mooring field must have shore access specified on his annual permit. This can be a contract with a boating facility or a public launching area. The shore access stated on his mooring permit will be verified.

Lighting of Nun Buoys: Mr. Wil Langdon requested via the Harbormaster that lighting be installed on buoys N20, N22 and N24 in the federal channel. Mr. Langdon was not present to justify this necessity. No action will be taken.

Mr. Allard moved and Mr. Allyn seconded a motion to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 8:32 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:


David Carreau, Chairman