

March 13, 2017

The Waterfront Commission held a regular meeting on this date at the Town Dock meeting room, Stonington, CT. Members present were Chairman Sandy Grimes; Ethan Grimes, Vice Chairman; Alene Whipple and Mike Grimshaw. Director of Finance Jim Sullivan and Stonington Harbor Management Commission Vice Chairman Jesse Diggs were also present.

Chairman Grimes called the meeting to order at 7:04 pm.

Comments from the Public – None

Treasurer's Report - TABLED

Previous Minutes

Mr. E. Grimes made a motion to approve the minutes of the February meeting. Mr. Grimshaw seconded and voting was unanimous.

Old Business

- Dock Area Housekeeping- Keeping it clean as they go, looks good. Maintenance/Repairs -- GroundUp Inc. is about 50% completed on the cooler at Gambardella Fisheries. Dock planking and pilings are all in good shape.

Mr. Grimshaw reported that the South dock has begun to show aggressive gaps in the base. When the electrical work was done by contractor hired by the Town, incorrect backfill material was used. Keith Nielsen from DOCKO oversaw the project. Adding the continuous surge from several storms over the past few years, it will need to be addressed soon as a cave in is inevitable. Discussion ensued and Mr. Sullivan stated that he will get the Town Engineer there as soon as possible to check it out.

- Donahue Park –all looks good, no negative activity to report.

New Business

Fuel Tank – Mr. Sullivan stated that the tank replacement was completed in April 1989 with a 30 year life. He was present to discuss who is responsible for the removal and replacement of the fuel tank. According to Waterfront Commission minutes from January 1988 through April 1989, the Town covered the cost of the removal and the Southern New England Fishermen's' and Lobstermen's' Association covered the replacement. Members looked at the Map of the dock which shows that the tanks are not in the area leased by the Association. Mr. Sullivan handed out a *Budgetary Estimate of Project Cost for Underground Storage Tank (UST) Replacement*.

The estimated cost to Remove and Replace one 20,000 Gallon Steel UST (Diesel) at the Town Dock was \$215,000. This includes a \$30,000 contingency. Mr. E. Grimes made a

motion to approve moving forward with the Underground Storage Tank (UST) Replacement. Mrs. Whipple seconded and voting was unanimous. Mr. Sullivan stated he would go before the Board of Finance to inform them of the support and cooperation from the Waterfront Commission and the Southern New England Fishermen's' and Lobstermen's' Association regarding a split of the total cost for the UST project.

#### Correspondence

Monsanto Breakwater – Members received a Stonington Harbor Management Commission Newsletter along with a handout addressing the background and summary of plans for the breakwater. The structure is nearly flush with the sea at high water and has deteriorated. As a result, everyone to the North of the breakwater would be adversely affected. Mr. Diggs stated that the Breakwater was federally owned but now belongs to the State. The SHMC joined a task force with representatives from the Town and Borough governments and the State Senate to assess, plan and seek support for the restoration of the Old Stonington Wharf/Breakwater. Mr. Diggs was present to ask for the support of the WFC regarding restoration. In February 2015 proposals were sought for planning and engineering, this was funded by a state grant of \$30,000 and was completed in June 2015 with an estimated cost of \$5 million, per DOCKO. Mr. Diggs added that funds are available for Harbor improvement and a working group headed by Town Planner Jason Vincent is currently putting together a multi stage proposal for the deadline of April 17, 2017. *\*\*New London Day article March 7, 2017* Members thanked Mr. Diggs and discussed a joint meeting with SHMC soon.


At this time, Chairman Grimes reported that he met with Scott Bates who informed him of a Port Authority grant. He added that he is still waiting on further information. Members agreed to a Special meeting Monday, March 20, 2017 at 6:00 pm to discuss this grant in more detail, particularly addressing needs of the Dock.

Letter from Stonington Village Improvement Association requesting use of the grass area adjacent to Town dock for the Farmers Market, Saturdays from 9am to 12 noon from May 27<sup>th</sup> 2017 to October 28, 2017.

Letter from Stonington Garden Club regarding tri-annual Gardens by the Sea tour. Friday and Saturday June 9 and 10, 2017 from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. Members agreed to support these functions.

There being no further business to come before the Commission, Mr. E. Grimes made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Grimshaw seconded the motion and the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Ethan Grimes  
Vice Chair/Treasurer