Mystic Harbor Management Commission

Minutes for Regular Meeting
May 2, 2019
-FINAL-

The Mystic Harbor Management Commission held a regular meeting on May 2, 2019, at 7:00 p.m. at the Fourth District Voting Hall. Members present were David Carreau (Chair), Lou Allyn, Rod Cook, Fred Allard, and Ken Scott. Also present were Harbormaster Don Procko, Katrina Bercaw (recording secretary), and guests Keith Nielson, Carmen Martocchio, Hugh McGee, Patricia B. Copp, Betsy Copp Lebel, Renate Gleysteen, Sarah Lee, Moore Hallberg, Peter Kepple, Tom Flaherty, Kay Tower, Waller Walker, Jeffery Walker, Eric Janney, Wendy Sevisen and Linda Watkins.

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 April 4, 2019, Regular Meeting were presented. Mr. Allard made a motion that they be accepted. This was seconded by Mr. Scott and unanimously approved.

Harbormaster(s) Report:

Harbormaster Procko has deposited an additional \$200 in mooring fees. He thanked those who responded to Amtrak e-mails on their moveable bridge meeting. He will attend their May 8 and May 17 meetings. The issue on boat speed when they are encouraged to hurry to make an opening before closure will be brought up. Another speed issue is the rowing crew chase boats when they are close to the Mystic Seaport and other congested areas. Complaints to First Selectman Rob Simmons and to Van Riley, Superintendent of Schools, have been made.

Mr. Allyn shared information from the Town's FOI training seminar. College students working with Keith Burns and Jason Vincent have prepared a great report. Mr. Allyn also mentioned that the Gleysteens' application for a new boatlift and dock extension has similarities to that of Mr. Martocchio dock. However, it is out of the Commission's jurisdiction.

Unfinished Business:

Pier & Float, Morning Glory Manor, LLC - Masons Island:

Mr. Neilson withdrew the application presented last month based on the commission's rejection. A new proposal will consist of rock removal, modification of a small craft lift and other supplemental items. He will provide a new application before next month's Harbor Commission meeting after submitting it to the DEEP. There will be no dock extension.

Mr. Martocchio provided a presentation on his situation. He shared photos of the area which present a hardship because of insufficient water at low tide. Various comments pointed out that most people with large boats keep them on a mooring (which he has) and have access from their property by dingy which is kept at their dock. It was understood that this may be difficult for a challenged individual to get aboard, but this is a situation which most boaters live with because the DEEP has refused to allow many previous docks not to extend out to deeper water. Because of our tidal range, larger boats are able to be brought in to their dock at high tide

for loading and wash downs. Mr. Martocchio pointed out that he has already compromised by eliminating the big boat lift. The main issue now are the rocks at low tide. He has found that other permits were granted that allowed more than he is requesting just as the commission has found that the DEEP has been more restrictive to many existing dock owners.

Ms. Gleysteen questioned whether the rock removal application will be a COP. Mr. Neilson stated that the rock removal is eligible. Chair Carreau offered the services of Vice Chair Allyn to distribute the next documentation package to concerned neighbors via e-mail to eliminate the upsetting non notification situation which occurred from the first COP.

Pump-out Boat Funding: \$10,000 was approved by town referendum. Many thanks to Mr. Allard for his comprehensive report detailing pertinent statistics and to Danielle Chesebrough for her efforts to clarify the need and benefits to the Stonington Finance Committee.

Speed Zone Signs for East Fairway: Awaiting installation by Masons Island Marina.

Mystic Harbor Management Plan: Progress is being made by Mr. Allard. His overall approach is to over-write old plan. (He and the original members began the first draft in 1989)

Pier & Float Application: A. Maurice - no news

'Marker Piles & "T - 3" Transient Anchorage Area: (North of Mystic Seaport) - Mr. Cook reported that discussion at a town economic development meeting suggested people might be encouraged to come downtown via boat service. This would utilize the Historic Natural Channel for which the installation of marker piles is in progress.

Mystic River Boathouse Park Support: no new information

New Business:

COP for two tie-off pilings - 37 Roseleah Mystic for upweller mooring:

The owner has requested two piles to hold oyster bins. This is a designated areas for shellfish use in Appendix B-1-1b of the Mystic Harbor Management Plan. Mr. Allard questioned whether it is a commercial operation in a residential zone. Page 14 in MHMP says approvals should support adjacent land use designations. This was tabled pending word from the PZC to confirm that no commercial activity will be on land. Mr. Cook and Mr. Allard will seek more information.

PZ1913CAM G. Dunnington, 12 Jerome Ave. Demolish & Reconstruct house on pilings: Mr. Scott made a motion to approve, as the project is not inconsistent with the Mystic Harbor Management Plan. Mr. Allyn seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

Commission Summer Meeting Schedule: The July Regular Meeting will be cancelled due to the July 4th holiday. A Special Meeting will be called if necessary.

The meeting adjourned at 8:23 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted: Lac Comman David Carreau - Chair