

Milford Harbor Management Commission
September 19, 2013

Board Members, Liaisons & Staff Present:

James Beard
Robert Brennan
Ray Oliver
Robert Pacelli
Robert Post, Chairman
Alan Waterman
Ray Swift, Operations Director
Bruce Kurlya, Harbormaster

Board Members, Liaisons & Staff Absent:

Nancy Bennett
David Newman
Larry Bodick, Deputy Harbormaster
Brian Bier, Board of Alderman
Bob Nunno, Board of Alderman

Robert Post, Chairman called the meeting to order at 7 pm.

Consideration of Minutes of August 15, 2013

J. Beard made a motion to approve the minutes of August 15, 2013 seconded by R. Oliver. J. Beard asked for further details of the minutes regarding the Duck Ponds. R. Post explained that city is seeking funding for the Ponds. B. Kurlya stated that the Mayor is in support of the project and an engineering study has been done and was emailed to him. R. Post asked for a copy. J. Beard stated we are lead agency in this project and have to see it through the Board of Alderman for funding. The minutes were approved unanimously.

As a follow up: B. Kurlya forwarded the study on 9-20-13; it was noted that the first pond located between New Haven Ave and Metro North R.R. Tracks was not mentioned in the report, he will contact the consultant as to why it was not included

Public Comments: None

Chairman's Report – Robert Post

- Next meeting is October 17, 2013.
- Boat Ramp Fee Increase –It should be on the November Board of Alderman Agenda and Commissioners are encouraged to attend. As soon as agenda is set he will inform members.
- Boat Ramp Power - outstanding issues with United Illuminating.
- Milford Police Dept. - awarded \$ 25,000 grant for Port Security.
- New Haven/Norwalk Dredge Project - Bid were open - August 14; 7.7 million for both projects to be funded by Conn DOT
- Charles Island Oyster Farm – received response from City Attorney with the commission's comments. Meeting in Mayors office on Tuesday, September 24th regarding this. This is a serious concern to navigation and public safety in a heavily used area for boating.
- Lisman Landing – dredging to begin late October/November. Need to make marina ready for the project.

Director's Report – Ray Swift

- Event weekends are good, but not so good in between. Good Season though financially. Oyster Festival went very smooth and sold out all slips. Irish Festival is this weekend, we are sold out, booking though September.
- Dredging contract went out through purchasing to Coastline Consulting. October-December timing of project. After Columbus Day will break down the marina, the fingers and main dock will be removed there will be no reservations after that time. Will have a crew till Columbus Day and only one to help after that with breaking the marina down.
- Boat Ramp Power – didn't have power over the other side of marina all year. There was concern from UI regarding a splice before the meter and the cable being too short.

Harbormaster's Report- B. Kurlya

- He reported the Coast Guard relocated nun "RN 8" due to shoaling in the channel and that a few mooring holders that haven't paid yet. There is a waiting list for 2014.

Report of Standing Committees

Milford Landing – covered in Director's report

Finance

Savings: \$ 267,242.06

Checking: \$ 100,151.06

Total: \$ 367, 393.12

Harbor & Mooring - none

Housatonic, Amendments- none

Correspondence:

R. Post received letter from Fisheries regarding an open house for October 19th. Anyone interested is invited to attend.

Old Business

Pond Dredging Update – Chairman's report

Marina Dredging Update – Director's report

Proposed Boat Ramp Fee Increase – Chairman's report/ Director's report

New Business

Caswell Cove Ramp – The city is looking to fix, repair and open the Caswell Cove ramp located next to the sewage treatment plant. J. Beard said it has never been accepted because it is hazardous and it takes lots of money to fix it. He expressed concern over the funds and resources to open and manage it as well as the liability and urged members to be careful about accepting responsibility for it. R. Oliver stated it is mainly used for kayaks and canoes not boats.

Shoaling Milford Harbor Federal Channel – R. Post and B. Kurlya have been in discussion with the U.S.A.C.E, DEEP and Conn DOT about the shoaling in the entrance to Milford Harbor. The DOT recommended we develop a plan and apply for State funding. The plan would be to restore the outer channel to the prescribed depth 10'. The first options discussed; transport the material to the L.I.S. central dumping ground (unlikely to be approved by DEEP). The second, use of the U.S.A.C.E. Currituck, a near shore approved dump site would be required. Although the use of the Currituck would be the most economical, the commission agreed with the comments from the Fisheries and Aquaculture staff, that

sand would quickly find its way back into the channel. The third option is to develop a long term plan, for the maintenance of the channel with reuse of the sand along Milford shoreline. R. Post asked the Board to look over a proposal from Roberge Engineering, B. Kurlya stated some of the costs in the Roberge proposal are already done and he volunteered to work to develop a sampling plan, locate a disposal site and obtain the required permits.

R. Oliver made a motion seconded by A. Waterman, to do sampling in locations directed by the DEEP location plan not to exceed \$7,000. The board unanimously approved the motion.

Motion to Adjourn

J. Beard made a motion to adjourn seconded by A. Waterman. The meeting closed at 8:05 pm.

Beverly A. Hayes
Recorder