

**MILFORD HARBOR MANAGEMENT COMMISSION**  
**REGULAR MEETING**  
**October 20, 2011**

The Milford Harbor Management Commission held its regular meeting on Thursday, October 20, 2011 in the conference room at Milford Landing. Vice-Chairman Beard called the meeting to order at 7:03 P.M.

Commission Members Present

J. Beard  
R. Miller  
D. Newman  
R. Post  
A. Waterman

Not Present

N. Bennett  
R. Brennan  
G. Montano  
R. Winters  
B. Bier, Alderman Liaison  
N. Veccharelli, Alderman Liaison

Also Present

R. Swift, Operations Director, Harbormaster  
L. Bodick, Deputy Harbormaster

Consideration of Minutes

The minutes of the regular meeting of September 15, 2011 were presented. Mr. Waterman made a motion to accept the minutes. Mr. Post seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Comments – None

Chairman's Report – None

Director's Report – Columbus Day Monday was the unofficial end of the season. Weather wise it was a very good weekend. By 2 PM on Saturday, the marina was full. Boaters from various marinas and yacht clubs in the Housatonic River as well as Pequannock Yacht Club came for two days and had a good time.

The tent is down. Mr. Swift is getting the marina ready for the winter.

Harbormaster's Report – Most of the boats in the Housatonic mooring field are out. The floating docks in Milford Harbor will be brought in after November 1<sup>st</sup>. Renewals are coming in slowly. About ½ of the Housatonic applications are in and about 18 for the Harbor.

Report of Standing Committees

Milford Landing – no report

Finance - Fund balance as of 09/30/11 was \$ 266,200.26 in savings and \$ 85,405.37 in checking for a total of \$ 351,605.63.

Harbor and Mooring – no report

Housatonic – I-95 bridge work is progressing. Mr. Beard questioned where the state boat ramp users went since that ramp will be closed for a number of years. Mr. Swift stated that there is no way to tell which ramp(s) those users have relocated to. Most of the time Milford's boat ramp is manageable so probably not all of them came here. Some may use Stratford's ramp.

Amendments – no report

Correspondence – None

Old Business – There is no pond dredging update at this time.

Mr. Swift checked with the Finance Director on the bonding for the marina dredging. The Finance Director would like periodic updates so that he can sell the bonds when they will be needed. The DEEP dredging permit is good for three (3) years. The financing does not have a deadline so whenever the dredging gets scheduled, it will be financed through the bond sale. Mr. Swift also spoke to Roberge regarding postponing the dredging. Roberge stated that this fall would have been too soon to get started on the dredging. We will probably need cap material and by waiting we may be able to tag onto another project.

Mr. Post wanted to know how the channel made out with the storms in August. Mr. Swift stated that it seemed to be ok. Rich Wincapaw can probably give a better idea when he does mooring inspections in the spring as to whether the silt ended up in the mooring fields.

The marina truck is not in yet.

The bulkhead is progressing. There's been some slow down since obstructions have been hit as the steel is being driven.

New Business – Mr. Newman said that he had been approached by the Sea Scout troop looking for relief on their mooring fees. Mr. Swift said that they had been given the float the first year for no cost and each year thereafter it was for ½ the regular fee. The commission felt that that was an adequate charge and if the Sea Scouts wished to discuss it further they could talk to Mr. Swift directly. Discussion was held on various sailing programs in the area and boating membership at yacht clubs.

Mr. Beard inquired as to the state of the operational finances for the remainder of 2011/2012 year. Mr. Swift stated that it's hard to get a handle on it this early in the year. If anything is needed, Mr. Swift will get back to the commission well before June 30<sup>th</sup>. As for the budget for 2012/2013, the package was just picked up and is not due back for several weeks. Each account is very close to actual expenditures now, so there is little that can be cut.

Mr. Waterman suggested that since there have been open mooring floats for the past several years, could the commission think about using those spaces for transient dockage when the marina is full. He was approached by a member of Mount Sinai Sailing Association because there was a cruise to Milford and not all of the vessels could be accommodated at the marina. Perhaps use of a float or two for the overflow could be an option, with no tender service and a space for a dinghy to come down and tie up. Mr. Swift thought that boaters would start to feel too comfortable pulling up to an empty floating dock, want to do it all the time and not be willing to pay for the privilege. Mr. Waterman suggested keeping both sides of one or two floats in the mooring field closest to the marina open for this purpose only and make them available only when the marina is full. Discussion was held on how to collect the fees, how often the floats would be monitored for visitors, when and how to assign a float for this purpose. It was noted that the logistics would not be easy since none of the floating docks can be seen from the marina. Mr. Swift agreed to an unofficial trial run next season on select weekends.

Mr. Beard inquired as to whether a nominating committee had been set up. It has not. In light of the fact that Mr. Montano will be leaving at the end of December, Mr. Beard requested that Mr. Post, Mr. Waterman and Mr. Newman be the nominating committee and report back to the commission. It was noted out that there will be an opening on the commission when Mr. Montano leaves.

Liaisons

Stratford - no report

Aldermen – no report

P & Z - no report

Being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 7:54 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Tougas  
Recording Secretary