

Milford Harbor Management Commission

November 19, 2020

Board Members, Liaisons & Staff Present:

Robert Brennan, Chairman
Ray Oliver, Vice Chairman
Nancy Bennett, Secretary
James Beard
Raymond Kirmaier
Dora Kubek
John Nevin
Robert Pacelli
Bruce Kuryla, Harbormaster
Lee Henschman, Deputy Harbormaster
James Donegan, Operations Director

Also present:

Raymond Vitali, Board of Alderman
Gregory Harla, Board of Alderman

Board Members, Liaisons & Staff Absent:

Joseph Gilbert

R. Brennan, Chairman called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Consideration of the minutes of the regular meeting of October 15, 2020

J. Nevin made a motion to approve the October 15, 2020 minutes with R. Kirmaier seconding the motion. The motion carried unanimously

Public Comments: *None*

Chairman's Report–R. Brennan

- Met with the Mayor, City Attorney, J. Beard and R. Oliver regarding leases. See Executive Session.

Director's Report – James Donegan

- Add the following two items for discussion under New Business
 - 2021 Marina Rates to be increased from \$2.50 to \$3.00 during the week and from \$3.00 to \$3.50 on weekends. These rates are in line with rates from the comparison that Jim Donegan compiled.
 - DOCKWA – Implementation.

Motion by N. Bennett, seconded by J. Nevin to add the two items to the Agenda. The motion carried unanimously

- Marina and grounds in good shape. Winterizing is almost done.
- Boat ramp with warmer days has been busy, so will wait for December to move the floats. There is maintenance needed on the longer floats and will begin work on those soon.
- Next year's budget remains same with no substantial changes.
- Security cameras will be installed at a cost of \$8,234 and should be completed by end of 2020. Mayor will assist with the funding for them.

Harbormaster's Report- B. Kurlya –

- Dredging – Silent

- Meeting with J. Nash and J. Rosen to put together a PowerPoint presentation for Rosa DeLauro as she is expected to be the head of the Ways & Means Committee.

Deputy Harbormaster's Report - L. Henschman

- All boats out of the mooring field and the inspection of the fields is complete now which he demonstrated with a shared spreadsheet depicting those of concern. Those owners have been notified of the repairs required at approximate cost of \$1,000 to replace tackle with shock, swivel & chain.
- Oystering – dragging through the mooring field again causing damage to the mushrooms. R. Oliver will speak with his contact regarding who is responsible.

Permit Reviews – R. Brennan

- 3 Housatonic Drive – Certificate of Permission to replace an existing pier behind the house
- Blair Street – Requesting to go over tidal wetlands to install an apron for their driveway.

Motion by J. Nevin seconded by R Kirmaier to approve both applications that they are consistent with the Harbor Management Plan. The motion carried unanimously.

Report of Standing Committees

Lisman Landing (Ray Oliver, John Nevin)– None

Finance (Bob Brennan, Nancy Bennett) – James Donegan

Checking \$ 94,362.63
Savings \$ 270,979.17
Total \$ 365,341.80

Nominating Committee (James Beard, Ray Oliver)– N. Bennett received notice that her term is up this December and requested that if her term should not be renewed that the new appointee be replaced in kind with someone from the commercial sector.

Harbor & Mooring (Robert Pacelli, Bob Brennan)– None

Housatonic (Raymond Kirmaier, Dora Kubek) – None

Amendments (James Beard, Ray Oliver) - None

Correspondence: None

Old Business:

Channel and Anchorage Dredging – None

Ct. Port Authority – SHIPPS Grant – Meeting this past Tuesday, no money, nothing has been put on the Bonding Agenda by the Governor and we are not in the running on it this year.

Shellfishing - R. Oliver stated just what he forwarded the Commission last month.

Submarine – None

Boat Ramp– See Director's Report

Leases – See Executive Session

Memorial Plaques – J. Donegan – the list is complete, and he only received one quote although he contacted others. He would like to go ahead with the vendor that responded. He went over the initial cost is for the \$3,300 to create the garden with the stones. The cost to engrave is \$20 per stone. He has 15 Chairmen, 7 Harbormasters, 4 Deputy Harbormasters for a total of 26 stone for \$550 engraved. The total is 3,850 for which we do not have a funding source yet. R. Oliver made a motion to approve with J. Nevin seconding the motion. The motion carried

unanimously. Discussion ensued as to donation by G. Montano for \$500 with. N. Bennett offering \$1,000 in honor of her father's work.

Alderman Harla commended J. Donegan for a great job on the rates and DOCKWA adding this is a great night for the Commission.

Alderman Vitali added J. Donegan has done a great job bringing visibility to the harbor and seeking these changes.

New Business:

2021 Meeting Dates – Motion by N. Bennet to approve the 2021 meeting dates with R. Kirmaier seconding the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

2021 Marina Rates – J. Donegan presented a spreadsheet depicting changes to the rates. Non-Resident Fee added for non-motorized more specifically for kayaks, Electricity Fee increase and increase of Transient Dock Fees from \$2.50 to \$3 per foot for week and from \$3 to \$3.50 on weekend per foot. He referenced other similar Marinas in area for the justification. Discussion ensued. J. Donegan reminded that Commission that the Board of Alderman voted in September to allow the Harbor Commission to set the rates. Motion by J. Nevin seconded by N. Bennett to approve the change in rates as discussed with the motion passing unanimously.

DOCKWA – J. Donegan would like to add DOCKWA software to simplify registration, reservations and billing and give the Marina a better Web presence. This should help us increase revenue by bringing in overnight transient boaters. The cost is the per year fee \$1,200 and the credit card charge goes from current 2.6% to 3.5% so will cost by his figures approximately \$2,200. He explained that he will pay for it out of advertising which has typically been via magazine ads. Discussion ensued. Motion to Approve the implementation of DOCKWA by J. Nevin, seconded by R. Kirmaier and passed unanimously.

Liaisons-Stratford – None

Alderman– None

Planning & Zoning - None

Executive Session - Leases

Executive Session for Discussion of Leases added to the Agenda. – Motion by R. Oliver seconded by N. Bennett to go into Executive Session. The motion carried unanimously.

Directions were provided on how to go into the Session for Zoom.

Motion by R. Oliver seconded by N. Bennett to go into Executive Session at 8:05 pm. The motion carried unanimously. The following Commission Members were included Chairman R. Brennan, Vice Chairman R. Oliver, Secretary N. Bennett, J. Beard, J. Nevin, R. Pacelli along with Director J. Donegan, Harbormaster B. Kuryla and Deputy Harbormaster L. Henchman.

Motion by N. Bennett seconding by J. Nevin to come out of Executive Session at 8:34 pm. The motion carried unanimously.

Motion to Adjourn

J. Nevin made a motion to adjourn at 8:36 pm seconded by D. Kubek and carried unanimously. The meeting closed at 8:36 pm.

Beverly Hayes
Recorder