

Milford Harbor Management Commission
July 21, 2021

Board Members, Liaisons and Staff Present:

Robert Brennan, Chairman
Nancy Bennett, Secretary
Jim Beard
Joseph Gilbert
Raymond Kirmaier
John Nevin
Bruce Kuryla, Harbormaster
Lee Henschman, Deputy Harbormaster
Greg Harla, Board of Aldermen

Board Members, Liaisons and Staff Absent:

Ray Oliver
Dora Kubek
James Donegan, Operations Director
Robert Pacelli
Raymond Vitali, Board of Aldermen

R. Brennan, Chairman called the Zoom meeting to order at 7:01 pm

Consideration of the minutes of the regular meeting of June 16, 2021

John Nevin made a motion that was seconded by Joe Gilbert to accept the minutes as presented. Passed with a unanimous vote.

Public Comments: None

Chairman's Report – R. Brennan

Bob reported that we have had two or three trespassing incidents on the docks. These occur later in the evenings and have resulted in boats being boarded by trespassers. Bob will contact the police and ask for more aggressive presence at the Landing and we will check our signage at the top of the ramps to be certain that it is worded properly.

Bob also reported that as part of an Eagle Scout project the gazebo and the attendant's shack at the launch ramp have been painted.

Director's Report – Lee Henschman provided us with a Power Point presentation that had been prepared by Operations Director James Donegan who was unable to be present as he had a bad accident and is awaiting surgery to repair a broken arm.

Jim did a 10 year review of our revenues from the boat ramp, dinghy racks, concession income, mooring income and transient dockage income. It was incredibly helpful for the commission to see where our income streams are and how they are behaving. They were generally trending upwards but there was an incredibly large increase in our transient dockage revenues in the past year. This may be due to the fact that we now have DockWa and it gives us the amazing ability to track our revenues and income but all agreed that Mr. Donegan has been incredibly diligent in collecting our dockage fees, his tenacity and attention to detail allow us to "turn over" and collect on the same slip multiple times each day. Alderman Harla asked to go on record to compliment Mr. Donegan for his work on the City's behalf.

The City now has kayak space available in a locked trailer at Walnut Beach. The size limit for a kayak in the container is 10 feet in length. To rent a space, the public may contact Harbormaster Kuryla at 203 876-2670.

Harbormaster's Report – Bruce Kuryla

The procedure for SHIP Grants has changed. There will now be periodic invoices and disbursements which differs from the past.

He stressed the need for additional dinghy racks at the launch ramp. It's overcrowded and there are kayaks doubled up in some of the spaces and dinghies on the ground.

Deputy Harbormaster – L. Henschman

The last viable mooring in the Housatonic has been rented. The only ones left are in very shallow or very deep water, not really appropriate.

Permit Reviews

There were two permits for our review only, not needing formal approval.

37 Point Beach Drive

Storm drain permit for the City of Milford.

There were no questions on either permit.

Report of Standing Committees:

Milford Landing – none

Finance – Checking account balance \$162,690.47 and Savings balance \$271,159.51 for a total of \$433,849.98

Nominating – none

Harbor and Mooring – need a subcommittee to review the different size boats that can safely be on our mooring floats. They will need to review the specs on the Helix anchoring system and the Seaflex cabling.

Housatonic – none

Amendments – none

Correspondence – none

Old Business:

Channel and Anchorage – none

Port Authority and SHIP Grant – none

Memorial Plaques – no update

New Business:

There was a general discussion about attendance at our meetings as well as a request from our Harbormaster that each member of the Commission read our Harbor Plan. It could use some updating and before we start the updating process we should all have a full understanding of the plan as it sits.

Alderman Harla reported that the City of Milford received 29.196 million dollars as part of the American Rescue Plan Act.

The City is accepting requests for improvements that would benefit the public especially as it relates to outdoor spaces.

A sub-committee was formed with Ray Oliver as the head with Joe Gilbert and Ray Kirmaier.

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn at 7:44 pm was made by John Nevin and seconded by Jim Beard.

Nancy Bennett

Secretary