

MILFORD HARBOR MANAGEMENT COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
April 16, 2009

The Milford Harbor Management Commission held its regular meeting on Thursday, April 16, 2009 in the conference room at Milford Landing. Chairman Montano called the meeting to order at 7:03 P.M.

Commission Members Present

J. Beard
N. Bodick
G. Montano
A. Waterman
R. Winters

Also Present

R. Swift, Operations Director, Harbormaster

Not Present

R. Brennan
R. Miller
D. Newman
R. Post
L. Bodick, Deputy Harbormaster
B. Bier, Alderman Liaison
N. Veccharelli, Alderman Liaison

Consideration of Minutes

The minutes of the regular meeting of March 19, 2009 were presented. Mr. Beard made a motion to accept the minutes. Mr. Winters seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Comments – None

Chairman's Report – Mr. Montano and Mr. Swift attended a meeting on Wednesday April 15, 2009 of the Connecticut Maritime Commission. Most shoreline towns were represented. Among other items discussed Wednesday were mandatory kayak/canoe registration and Housatonic River dredging.

Director's Report – Mr. Swift reported that he is getting ready for the season. The fire extinguisher boxes were weathered and are being replaced as well as the life rings on the docks.

At present on the floating docks, the cleats are bolted to the plank and then the plank is screwed into the dock frame. Lag bolts will be put in next to the cleats into the stringer to provide a more secure hold.

Mr. Swift took up some of the patio blocks in an area that retained water every time it rained. He is working on leveling it off and will replace the blocks.

The stairs by the dock office were taken apart, leveled off and replaced. Public Works is going to come down at some point and install a ramp instead of stairs. In the meantime, the stairs can be utilized.

Two parking spaces have been marked and striped at the launch ramp for short-term public use. Signs are being made with the wording required. Mr. Swift will look for the third space agreed upon and it will be marked accordingly.

The tent will go up next week because there are several events coming up at the Landing or in the vicinity. The war re-enactment will be on April 25th primarily on the launch ramp and at the green, Rape Crisis Walk a Mile in her shoes will be on April 26th starting and ending at the Landing and the Catholic Schools duck race will be on May 3rd.

The Naval Academy visit is a go for July 3rd through July 6th. The vessels will stay across the harbor on the south launch ramp docks. The press release draft is attached with a description of proposed events while they are here.

It was pointed out that the fence on the end of High Street is looking a bit ratty. Mr. Swift will speak to Public Works about it. Ms. Bodick wanted to know if the repaired road collapse area was going to be repaved. Mr. Swift will look into that as well.

Painting of the bulkhead at the waterline was brought up. Discussion ensued about the bulkhead and what finish was on it now. Also, once it was repainted, how to attach zincs to make it last longer. Milford Boat Works attaches zincs to welded plates well below the water line. Perhaps something similar could be worked out. Mr. Swift is still working out the logistics of getting to that area to paint it.

Harbormaster's Report – The floating docks have been placed on the helixes. The new seaflex will be installed out there when they come in. Rich Wincapaw has said that any boats on the floats will not interfere with installation.

There are 28 unassigned float spaces with paperwork out on 22. If everyone responds, that will leave 6 open float spaces.

Report of Standing Committees

Milford Landing – None

Finance - Fund balance as of 03/31/09 was \$288,807.39 in savings and \$97,964.97 in checking for a total of \$386,772.36. All bills are paid. Mr. Montano questioned if all city loans have been paid. Yes they have. Other than the helix retrofit, there are no large expenditures in the immediate future.

Harbor and Mooring – Mr. Swift reported that there is no update from Wayne LaPuglia regarding the concession stand at the launch ramp. It was questioned why we didn't go out to bid on the concession. Mr. Swift stated that bids aren't required for anything on the income side. Mr. Swift has a copy of the contract that was used in the past and Mr. LaPuglia made suggestions for changes to that but the Commission needs to have a new contract written up and signed before he arrives at the launch ramp. Mr. LaPuglia's goal is to be in before Memorial Day. Also, if he has changed his mind, Mr. LaPuglia should let us know that he won't be going in this year. The suggested fee for the first year is \$0 with \$1,500 per year after that. Mr. LaPuglia's cost to put in the electricity would be in exchange for a concession fee for the first year.

Housatonic – Mr. Swift, as Harbormaster, reported that the last house on the right before crossing the Route 1 Bridge into Stratford has a pier that is askew. It is a Ganim property and the owner is on top of it. The owner contacted Rich Wincapaw about stabilizing the end of the pier. If the pier falls, it will go into a neighbor's dock.

Mr. Beard inquired if the Caswell Cove park scenario involves the Harbor Commission in any way. Mr. Montano and Mr. Swift didn't seem to think so.

The state launch ramp on Naugatuck Avenue will close this June or July and will not be reopened for approximately seven (7) years.

Amendments – None

Correspondence – The Naval Academy visit was covered under the Director's Report.

Old Business – No meeting has been held regarding the Wepawaug Ponds dredging.

The float system update was given in the Harbormaster's Report.

New Business – None

Liaisons

Stratford - no report

Aldermen - no report

P & Z - no report

Being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 7:50 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Tougas
Recording Secretary

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USNA Blue and Gold Coordinator

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Milford Chamber of Commerce

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MILFORD CT TO HOST US NAVAL ACADEMY SAILING SQUADRON

ANNAPOLIS, April 20, 2009 – The U. S. Naval Academy (USNA) Offshore Sail Training Squadron (OSTS) will visit Milford over the July 4th weekend. After a 300-nautical mile sail from the USNA, four NA-44 foot sailboats will arrive at Milford Landing on Friday morning July 3rd. The boats, crewed by Midshipmen, will stay at Milford Landing until departure on Monday morning, July 6th.

The NA-44's will be welcomed by USCG Auxiliary and Milford Fire Department vessels. *Milford Boatworks* will provide fuel and support services to the fleet; maintenance will be handled by *Port Milford*.

On Friday evening, the Midshipmen will participate in the "Honoring our Hero's" ceremonies at the Westfield Connecticut Mall. The evening will conclude with a spectacular fireworks display. On Sunday evening, *Milford Yacht Club* will host the Midshipmen for a private reception and dinner.

The public is welcome to tour the USNA offshore sailing vessels from 12- 4:00 PM on Saturday and Sunday, and to meet the Midshipman who crew them.

The Milford Chamber of Commerce is seeking the public's involvement to support the visit of these future Naval and Marine officers. Specifically, financial donations are needed to help offset the cost of hosting the Midshipmen.

Donations can be sent to the Milford Chamber of Commerce, 5 Broad Street, Milford, CT. 06880. Please make the checks payable to: *Milford Chamber of Commerce-USNA Visit*.

Milford has long supported the U.S. military. With many veterans in the area, everyone is encouraged to give financial support in any way possible. This is the community's opportunity to thank these fine young men and women who will be serving their country during these difficult times.

Note: pictures attached. If published, please give credit to **Ralph Naranjo**