

**MILFORD HARBOR MANAGEMENT COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
May 20, 2010**

The Milford Harbor Management Commission held its regular meeting on Thursday, May 20, 2010 in the conference room at Milford Landing. Chairman Montano called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

Commission Members Present

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

Also Present

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

Not Present

R. Miller
D. Newman
B. Bier, Alderman Liaison
N. Veccharelli, Alderman Liaison

Consideration of Minutes

The minutes of the regular meeting of April 15, 2010 were presented. Mr. Post made a motion to accept the minutes. Mr. Brennan seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Comments – None

Chairman's Report – None

Director's Report – The marina will open this weekend. Fourteen to sixteen boats from Mount Sinai Sailing Association have reservations. Two power boats made reservations today. The property is in good shape and ready to go.

Mr. Geoff Steadman met with the Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) yesterday, May 19, 2010. He related anecdotal information using the seaflex installation from last year to try to get them to do another survey. There was extreme sedimentation last year on the helix anchors in the harbor. The rainstorm of December 2008 was the probable cause of depositing 6" – 8" of silt which Mr. Rich Wincapaw had to clear out before changing the seaflex tackle in the spring of 2009. Mr. Brennan reported that smaller vessels from the Milford Yacht Club were the only ones going out so far. There won't be any updates as to depth until the larger ones go out. Mr. Brennan also reported that he passes the duck ponds frequently and it looks as if the ducks are walking on the top of the water, that is how shallow the ponds have become. Mr. Swift said that the Connecticut Harbor Management Association has included Milford in its proposal to the ACOE to utilize the Currituck for dredging various harbors in the area.

Milford Landing will need to be dredged. It was maintenance dredged 5 years after the initial installation. It has been 10 years since that dredging. Mr. Swift received a quote from Roberge Associates Coastal Engineers to do a Hydrographic Survey for \$2980.00. Mr. Montano stated that he will step aside from comment and voting on using Roberge since he has worked with the firm in the past. Mr. Swift has spoken with the Mayor in regards to the issue. The mayor would like a transfer request submitted that would include the survey and testing costs. The Harbor Commission needs approval from the Board of Aldermen to spend the money since it has not been budgeted beforehand. Ms. Bodick asked if there is the ability to remove the docks at the landing. She stated that it would be a big mistake to go around the docks. Mr. Swift said that it could be done if needed. Mr. Post wanted to know if the permit process fee should be included in this transfer request as well. Ms. Bodick suggested that she could look

up what she just spent on testing and a survey for Milford Boat Works. Mr. Swift said that he could contact Mr. Montano with that figure if the Harbor Commission would give Mr. Montano the authority to OK the transfer figure after the meeting since it needs to be given to the Mayor before the next Harbor Commission meeting. Discussion was held as how to calculate the transfer figure and what to include. The project will need to go out to bid.

Mr. Devin Santa of Roberge came in and was introduced to the Commission. He passed around a booklet explaining the company, their areas of expertise and a step-by-step definition of what the project entails. First there is a meeting with city representatives to discuss past history and what needs to be done. Then a hydrographic survey is done to establish depths at present and determine a maintenance cycle needed – 5 years, 10 years, etc. Roberge will then meet with the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) with the survey results and discuss what the DEP's requirements will be. A work plan is drawn up and proposed to the DEP. Sediment sampling is taken according to DEP specifications. 10 samples were done the last time. It is unknown how many will be required this time. There are strict regulations on performing the sampling, getting the samples to the lab and getting the results. After the results are received, paperwork and drawings for the permit can be drawn up and submitted. The permit is then followed up on with clarifications and revisions done if necessary before final approval is given. Mr. Brennan wanted to know Mr. Santa's best guesstimate of funds needed for the survey, testing and permit fees and lab costs. Mr. Santa was using the 2000 costs adding a percentage for inflation. He came up with \$2,980 for the survey. \$500 per sample x 15 samples needed, \$1,500 lab fee per sample x 15 samples for roughly \$30,000 needed for the sampling. The question was posed that what if the samples came back bad and the dredged material needed to go upland. At that point, it would probably be too costly to dredge. Mr. Montano wanted to know if 7 or 8 samples could be done ahead of time. Mr. Santa replied that it was probably a waste of money because they may not have been taken where the DEP says to take them or have been handled to their specifications. Mr. Santa said that it's a judgment call on what is a good or bad sample. Mr. Swift wanted to know how long the sample results are good for. Mr. Santa replied that permits are usually good for 3 years with perhaps a 1 year extension once they are accepted so the results would be good for that period. Mr. Winters wanted to know if it would help us by having Milford Boat Works recent results on file since their property abuts ours. Mr. Santa replied that it would not. Roberge shops labs but has used Alpha Analytical because they've had good experiences with them. Mr. Brennan made a motion to authorize the expenditure of funds for a hydrographic condition survey, sediment sampling and testing program including laboratory fees, and regulatory permit application not to exceed \$35,000.00. Mr. Winters seconded. Motion passed with Mr. Montano abstaining.

Mr. Swift looked into pond dredging. He checked with the city's inland/wetland department. MaryRose Palumbo has no charge over the maintenance of waterways. She approves or denies permit applications. An inspection was done on the dam behind city hall and the dam is good. Mr. Brennan stated that Eisenhower Park pond is getting a second look because the city's scout troops are starting to use the area. Mr. Swift said that Mr. Rich Conine, owner of Stonebridge Restaurant, is pushing to have the pond dredged behind his building. He is willing to get something going and has promised \$2,500 in seed money to that effect. Mr. Swift said that there will probably be no funding from the city and public works may not be able to put in anything for removal so it will be up to the private sector. Any discussion should be kept small and local since the prior regional approach didn't get results. There will be a meeting shortly regarding this. Mr. Winters, as a member of the Flood/Erosion board, and Mr. Montano expressed interest in attending.

Mr. Swift reported that the Mayor's assistant is investigating the PILOT funds for 2010/2011 for the Harbor Commission and will let Mr. Swift know the status.

Harbormaster's Report – Mr. Brennan asked about mooring availability. There are 22 unassigned moorings with paperwork out on 10. It is still early and some should sell before too long.

Underwater inspections are to start next week. Rich Wincapaw is working in the Housatonic this week.

Report of Standing Committees

Milford Landing – no report

Finance - Fund balance as of 04/30/10 was \$265,075.48 in savings and \$66,974.82 in checking for a total of \$332,050.30. All bills are paid. Mr. Swift pointed out that part of the total balance has been allotted for the 2010/2011 budget year. The revenue remains \$20,000 above the expenses. Mr. Swift is hoping for a good May and June.

Harbor and Mooring – no report

Housatonic – no report

Amendments – no report

Correspondence – A permit application was received for the Nettleton Creek area by Heritage Sound. The state is proposing to remove sand and open up the waterway.

Old Business - None

New Business – None

Liaisons

Stratford - no report

Aldermen – no report

P & Z - no report

Being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 8:03 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Tougas
Recording Secretary