

Milford Harbor Management Commission

October 16, 2014

Board Members, Liaisons & Staff Present:

Nancy Bennett
Robert Brennan
John Nevin
Robert Pacelli
Alan Waterman
Robert Post, Chairman
Ray Swift, Operations Director
Bruce Kurlya, Harbormaster

Board Members, Liaisons & Staff Absent:

James Beard
David Newman
Ray Oliver
Lee Henchman, Deputy Harbormaster
Brian Bier, Board of Alderman
Nick Veccharelli Board of Alderman

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

Consideration of Minutes of September 18, 2014

J. Nevin made a motion to approve the minutes of September 18, 2014 seconded by A. Waterman and the motion carried unanimously.

Public Comments:

- Steve Johnson, Open Space Manager, provided an update on the Wepawaug Pond Dredging, highlighting that there may be funds available from the CDBG Grant program and for upgrades to the Fire Department Flood monitoring system. Also C. Saley, Public Works Director is looking into how his department could help. The Watershed Alliance has a small grant for bacteria sampling, for which they have been sampling from Orange following the river down behind City Hall and New Haven Avenue. This will give some base line data. He added that he participated in a boat tour with members of the Norwalk Harbor who have been tracking water quality in their region for years, watching them care for oysters, adding that they haul in a lot less than when the sound was a lot less clean. He would love to see something like that done here to get some stakeholders interested in the quality of the water that enters the harbor from upstream.

Chairman's Report – R. Post

- Guilford received a permit to dredge with the CT DOT picking up the tab.
- West Haven received funds to restore their beaches.

Director's Report – R. Swift

- Columbus Day is the unofficial end of the season, with just boats passing through and stopping overnight. There are a few more events planned that will utilize the harbor facilities, including a 5 k race/walk and for the 375th celebration for Veteran's Day, honoring those who have served. There will be activities from 10 – 7 with the tent being used for refreshments.
- The seasonal help is gone, the bubbler system will be put in, the work boat is back repaired by Port Milford. Funds are available for maintenance.

- Officer Nielsen from the Police Dept. was invited to talk about the Police Boat that was purchased, however, he is not here. He will be invited again for another meeting.

-

Harbormaster's Report-B. Kurlya

- Army Core samples came back clean, he should receive report tomorrow. He added not sure what is next. B. Post added that there is a time limit to do this dredging, thinking from October 1st – January 31st. It is only approximately 8,000 cubic yards. Other towns have been much larger. He added that he does know that the State wants to put it back on the beach which may be the delay.

Permit Reviews- B. Post

- 182 Milford Point Road – a new home, information only, no action required by Commission.
- 13 Sailors Lane – approved by State.
- Seaweed Farm – the application has come back to the Commission for review, as they moved the site slightly east, however, still in navigable water and is 4.4 acres with over 60 buoys. It is inconsistent with the Harbor Plan. N. Bennett added that there are no longer seasons mentioned in the permit which could mean year round larger crop making the location unnavigable. R. Pacelli added that it goes against the Harbor Plan to make waters navigable at all times. A. Waterman made a motion to write a letter to the applicant stating that their proposal is not consistent with the Harbor Plan, seconded by R. Brennan and carried unanimously.

Report of Standing Committees

Milford Landing– none

Finance– R. Swift stated that the Harbor is in good shape financially. He added some projects are the float near the ramp and the flooring within the building may be projects for the winter.

Savings \$267,821.10

Checking \$127,609.65

Total \$395,430.75

Harbor & Mooring–none

Housatonic, Amendments- L. Henchman

Correspondence:

Old Business:

Pond Dredging Update – see Steven Johnson

Milford Harbor Federal Channel Dredging – see B. Kurlya

New Business:

Motion to Adjourn

A. Waterman made a motion to adjourn seconded by J. Nevin. The meeting closed at 7:40 pm.

Beverly A. Hayes
Recorder

