

Milford Harbor Management Commission, December 8, 2022, 7:00 P.M., via Zoom

Board Members, Liaisons and Staff Present:

Robert Brennan, Chairman
Joseph Gilbert, Vice-Chairman
Nancy Bennett, Secretary
Jim Beard
Raymond Kirmaier
Dora Kubek
Dylan Mark
John Nevin
Richard Preneta

Staff

James Donegan, Harbormaster/Director

Board Members, Liaisons & Staff Absent:

Lee Henschman, Deputy Harbormaster
Gregory Harla, Board of Alders
Raymond Vitali, Board of Alders

Chairman Brennan called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Consideration of the minutes of the regular Meeting of November 17, 2022

A motion by Mr. Gilbert and seconded by Mr. Nevin to approve the minutes of November 17, 2022, passed unanimously.

Public Comments: Stephen Povroznik, 312 Wheelers Farm Road, and Matt Wright, 1084 East Broadway, introduced themselves as attending in support of a Scouts civic project.

Chairman's Report: R. Brennan

Chairman Brennan said the special meeting had been called to allow the board to expedite action on the dredging permit application.

Director/Harbormaster Report: J. Donegan

Mr. Donegan thanked the group for their efforts throughout the year. He listed completed projects, including a new pavillion, the paver walkway, and revamped gardens around landing. He noted successful marina seasons and looked forward to 2023's projects of new dinghy racks and the harbor dredging. He advised that the landing's lobster pot Christmas tree had been erected and lit in front of a festive crowd. He said he is working on the budget, having met with the finance director and mayor and made minor adjustment to line items due to rising costs. He reported meeting with purchasing and the city attorney about bids going out for the Gulf Beach fishing platform, Housatonic mooring inspections, and the new dinghy racks. He noted that marina bookings for next season being January 1 with reservations available via Dockwa and the city website. He said he will reach out to yacht clubs to try and coordinate cruise dates. He said contracts for Housatonic and Milford Harbor moorings, as well as for dingies will be delivered electronically via Dockwa. He and Ms. Bennett discussed de-icing procedures.

Mr. Beard commended Mr. Donegan on his accomplishments. Chairman Brennan thanked commissioners and alders. Mr. Donegan agreed and also expressed appreciation for the support and cooperation of city staff.

Deputy Harbormaster Report: L. Henschman--None

Permit Reviews

CT DEEP –LWRD Pre-Submission Consultation Form
Applicant: Army CORPS of Engineers
Project: Milford Harbor FNP –Dredging

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Chairman Brennan remarked on the quality and value of the report created by the Army Corps of Engineers. Mr. Donegan noted increased interaction with the Army Corps said that a quick approval would expedite the project.

Mr. Beard motioned to **approve** with a second from **Ms. Bennett**.

Discussion: Mr. Gilbert raised the topic of an area that would not be disturbed due to contaminants that aren't suitable for open water disposal. Mr. Donegan noted that future options might be upland disposal or Confined Aquatic Disposal but neither will be part of this project. Mr. Gilbert also asked for consideration of future discussions with shellfish management stakeholders.

Vote to approve was unanimous.

Report of Standing Committees

Lisman Landing (Dylan Mark, John Nevin): Mr. Donegan noted plans for a gate with a simple push-button access code that can be changed.

Finance (Bob Brennan, Nancy Bennett) Not available yet.

Nominating Committee (James Beard, Nancy Bennett): None

Harbor & Mooring (Richard Preneta, Bob Brennan): Mr. Preneta said deliberations on the feasibility of the city renting out 55 Housatonic moorings were underway. He added that the city's police boat was moved to the Landing.

Housatonic (Raymond Kirmaier, Dora Kubek): None

Amendments (James Beard, Joseph Gilbert): None

Shell Fishing (Robert Brennan, Joseph Gilbert, Ray Kirmaier) None, but Chairman Brennan encouraged review of the Army Corps' report. He also said the Harbor Management Plan required updating.

Correspondence: None

Old Business

- 20 Rogers Ave—nothing new.
- Channel and anchorage dredging—discussed above.
- Ct. Port Authority – SHIPPS Grant—nothing new.
- Memorial Plaques—Mr. Donegan said the Ray Oliver memorial one will be on the fishing pier in spring.

New Business: None

Liaisons - Stratford: Not present

Alders: Not present

Adjournment was at 7:31.

Any individual with a disability who needs special assistance to participate in the meeting should contact the Operations Director, 874-1610, five days prior to the meeting if possible.

Respectfully submitted by M.E. Greene