

Milford Harbor Management Commission

Zoom Teleconference Meeting

April 16, 2020

Board Members, Liaisons & Staff Present:

Robert Brennan, Chairman
Ray Oliver, Vice Chairman
Nancy Bennett, Secretary
Raymond Kirmaier
Dora Kubek
John Nevin
Robert Pacelli
Bruce Kuryla, Harbormaster
Lee Henschman, Deputy Harbormaster

Also present:

James Beard
Ray Swift, Operations Director
Greg Harla, Board of Alderman
Raymond Vitali, Board of Alderman
Jim Donegan

Board Members, Liaisons & Staff Absent:

Joseph Gilbert

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

Consideration of the minutes of the regular meeting of February 20, 2020

J. Nevin made a motion to approve the minutes of February 20, 2020 seconded by R. Oliver. The motion carried unanimously.

Public Comments: *None*

Chairman's Report—R. Brennan

- Nancy's father Allen Berrien, passed away adding that he was a Harbormaster and served on the Harbor Commission and was instrumental in the establishment of the Milford Harbor Management Plan and also in the planning & building of Lisman Landing and he called for a moment of silence.
- R. Kirmaier helped to draft the job description. N. Bennett and J. Beard, Bob Brennan, along with Julie Nash, Tania Barnes and Bruce Kuryla reviewed the applications received for the Director and narrowed it down to 4 candidates. B. Kuryla joined the Mayor and Bob Brennan to interview the candidates and selected Jim Donegan, in attendance tonight. He thanked Nancy, Jim, Ray & Bruce for their participation. He welcomed Jim Donegan as the Director. Mr. Donegan thanked them and stated he did receive their offer and accepted the position. He has scheduled orientation and his start date is May 4th. The Commission members welcomed Mr. Donegan and wished him the best.
- Regarding the shortfall in Revenues, the Mayor is aware that the projected revenues will not occur.

Director's Report—R. Swift

- He expressed thanks for the Commissions help and support over the years. His last day will be April 14th which will overlap Mr. Donegan's start date so he should be able to get him up to speed. He added that working at the Landing has been great and he will miss welcoming the transient boaters and others visiting the Landing as a public park. He added that his crew from year will be coming back and should be a smooth transition.

Harbormaster's Report- B. Kuryla

- Dredging - he has spoken to the Army Core at least 3 times this past week and they are working on the permit.
- There are 15 mooring vacancies and he filled 4 this week, all small boats.

Deputy Harbormaster's Report - L. Henschman

- Getting close to everyone paid with only 7 left to pay, 49 are fully paid. He had a few inquiries but then the Corona virus stopped the inquiries.

Permit Reviews – R. Brennan - None

Report of Standing Committees

Lisman Landing (Ray Oliver, John Nevin)–

Finance (Bob Brennan, Nancy Bennett) – R. Swift – Explained that in addition to the following he is preparing a deposit of approximately \$18,000.

Savings \$ 270,783.79

Checking \$ 45,763.36

Total \$ 316,547.15

Nominating Committee (James Beard, Ray Oliver)– *None*

Harbor & Mooring (Robert Pacelli, Bob Brennan)- *None*

Housatonic (Raymond Kirmaier, Dora Kubek) – *None*

Amendments (James Beard, Ray Oliver) - *None*

Correspondence: *None*

Old Business:

Channel and Anchorage Dredging- *See Harbormaster's Report*

Ct. Port Authority– SHIPPS Grant - *None*

Shellfishing- *None*

Simon Lake Submarine - *None*

Job Description & Search –*See Chairman's Report*

Tiki Boat – R. Brennan received an email from J. Nash, Community Development regarding the Tiki Boat Tours. The Commission had given a price of \$3,200 for the summer, the same as they offer their Commercial Fisherman. The boat is approximately 20-22 ft. long and was offered the location at the northern end of the lighthouse dock where it would be the least disruptive. N. Bennett added that this boat will have an impact on the facility here, bathrooms, parking adding this is a fair price. G. Harla added that for those who are not boaters and would likely not have the opportunity to experience the harbor, this is a nice proposition for them. Discussion ensued regarding the owner charging approx. \$55 per passenger, commercial fisherman fees, what other tenants pay for buildings to harbor, specifically Scoopy Doo's and Gulf Beach Stand, along with the cost of insurance. N. Bennett added that the commercial part of the Charter requires that they have the commercial fisherman as part of the need for the dredging the channel and the Tiki Boat is a much different use. R. Pacelli suggested we invite them back for a presentation as it has been a few years since the last and some things may have changed.

R. Pacelli made a motion to invite them back to make a presentation plan with N. Bennett seconding the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

New Business:

Ray Swift Boat – Agreement by the Commission that Ray Swift Boat Slip fee would be waived during the period he is helping get Mr. Donegan acclimated to the Director position. N. Bennett made motion to approve the waiver with D. Kubek seconding the motion. The Commission expressed to Ray that he was a pleasure to work with on the harbor and landing over the years and wished him well on his new endeavor.

Liaisons-Stratford – *None*

Alderman –

- J. Beard asked that Mr. Vitali and Mr. Harla find out the details and the origins of the lease for Scoopy Doo's as the rent is quite low and should be maybe three times that. Mr. Vitali will speak with P. Erodici, Finance Director.

- R. Vitali added that the Budget hearings begin on Monday, May 20th and the Harbor Commission is first on list to be heard and suggested that members come and bring Mr. Donegan.

Planning & Zoning - *None*

Motion to Adjourn

D. Kubek made a motion to adjourn at 7:55 pm seconded by N. Bennett and the motion carried unanimously. The meeting closed at 7:55 pm.

Beverly A. Hayes
Recorder