

**TOWN OF FAIRFIELD
HARBOR MANAGEMENT COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 15, 2011**

A meeting of the Harbor Management Commission (HMC) was held on Tuesday, February 15, 2011 at 4:30 p.m. in Meeting Room II of the Honorable John J. Sullivan Independence Hall, 725 Old Post Road, Fairfield, CT.

MEMBERS PRESENT:; E. Hewitt Gaynor; Acting Chairman; David Drabaski; John Zygmant; Louis Schueler; Sandye Mann, and Nelson North. **ABSENT:** Mary von Conta, Chairman; James P. Bradley; and Hugh Smith **ALSO PRESENT:** Patrick Carroll, Harbor Master; Geoff Steadman, HMC Consultant; Thomas Steinke, Conservation Director; Joel Kunkel, Pequot Yacht Club; and Jeff Engborg, Pequot Yacht Club Manager.

The meeting was called to order at 4:32 p.m. by E. Hewitt Gaynor, Acting Chairman.

Sandye Mann and Nelson North were appointed to sit as full members.

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF JANUARY 18, 2011 MEETING:

Sandye Mann *moved* and John Zygmant *seconded* to approve the Minutes of January 18, 2011. *Motion passed unanimously.*

II. CORRESPONDENCE:

E. Hewitt Gaynor reported the following correspondence:

Five letters from Harbor Master Carroll to Mr. Paul Hiller enclosing checks as follows:

January 15, 2011: Checks in the amount of \$2,945.00 (\$1,800.00 for mooring permits; \$1,095.00 for maintenance fees; \$50.00 for waiting list application, Messenger, #134).

January 23, 2011: Checks in the amount of \$3,820.00 (\$2,000.00 for mooring permits; \$1,820.00 for maintenance fees).

January 30, 2011: Checks in the amount of \$5,580.00 (\$3,150.00 for mooring permits; \$2,430.00 for maintenance fees).

January 31, 2011: Checks in the amount of \$1,100.00 (\$750.00 for mooring permits; \$350.00 for maintenance fees).

February 15, 2011: Checks in the amount of \$6,990.00 (\$4,050.00 for mooring permits; \$2,490.00 for maintenance fees).

Early in February: A copy of the Shellfish Commission Meeting Agenda for February 9, 2011.

January 20, 2011: An e-mail from Ellery Plotkin, Chairman of the Parks and Recreation Commission, noting that the Commission will be pleased to meet with Mr. Bradley and Mr. Steadman at its meeting on February 16, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. at which time Mr. Bradley and Mr. Steadman will give a presentation of the HMC's Lower Wharf improvement plans.

Out of Jurisdiction Documents:

January 14, 2011: From Land-Tech Consultants regarding an application by Charles and Sophie Urbain to DEP-OLISP for Removal of Derelict Structures at 2123 Fairfield Beach Road, Fairfield, CT.

January 26, 2011: From Land-Tech Consultants regarding an application for a COP filed with CT DEP-OLISP for minor modifications of the shoreline stabilization measures along the north bank of Ash Creek in proximity to the Black Rock Turnpike Bridge (Fairfield Metro North Project).

February 1, 2011: From CT DEP OLISP regarding an Approval of Registration, General Permit issued to Mr. Ellis Tarlton to install a dock at 1834 Fairfield Beach Road, Fairfield, CT 06824.

February 4, 2011: From DEP OLISP a notice of tentative determination to approve an application submitted by Joel Bronz and Carlo Ciardi to conduct work to remove an existing dock and stone, and install a new dock with boat davits and ladders at 21 and 23 Old Dam Road, Fairfield, CT.

III. ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS: None noted

IV. OLD BUSINESS:

Mooring Report: Harbor Master Carroll advised the HMC that there was no new business to report this evening.

Lower Wharf Report: Geoff Steadman reported that the HMC's engineering consultant Roberge Associates Coastal Engineers (RACE) has prepared a revised plan drawing incorporating the HMC's requested revisions discussed at the HMC's January meeting. Mr. Steadman also reported that he, Chairman von Conta and Commissioner James Bradley recently met with RACE representatives to review the revised plan drawing and determined that the revisions meet the directions given to RACE by the HMC. In addition, Commissioner Bradley requested that RACE prepare an additional revision to the design to include a float to be placed along the west side of the ramp and which will allow for temporary tie-ups of launched vessels and therefore facilitate use of the ramp. Commissioner Bradley and Mr. Steadman will attend the February 16, 2011 Parks and Recreation Commission meeting to present the HMC's plans for Lower Wharf improvements and request a resolution of support from the Parks and Recreation Commission. Sandye Mann noted that she was in favor of Commissioner Bradley's idea for the float to be incorporated in the plan. Commissioner Mann also suggested that the Parks and Recreation Commission may wish to consider additional boating-related and other educational programs at the Town Boat Yard following construction of the HMC's planned improvements. At the HMC's March meeting, the HMC will review the revised plans and supporting narrative description for inclusion in the HMC's revised permit application to the DEP OLISP.

Sand Management Report: Geoff Steadman distributed a January 18, 2011 proposed scope of work prepared by RACE concerning preparation of a plan and a DEP OLISP permit application for dredging the Harbor channel near the sand bar and jetty. Mr. Steadman said the proposal was requested by Chairman von Conta following previous discussion on this subject by the HMC. Mr. Steadman noted that the proposed scope of work was prepared with the understanding that the dredged sand would be utilized for beach nourishment. Mr. Steadman advised the HMC that certain items included in the scope of work described on page six in the section "Professional Services Cost Summary" (items 8.0, 9.0 and 10.0) may not be necessary as the Town of Fairfield DPW may be able to perform these items; this would reduce the cost by approximately \$13,680.00. Item 3.0 in the summary will also be reviewed for possible reduction or elimination. Following inquiry by E. Hewitt Gaynor regarding the need for another hydrographic survey as indicated in item 1.0 since RACE had conducted a survey last July, Mr. Steadman said he would discuss this matter with RACE to determine if another survey is necessary. Mr. Steadman recommended that the HMC review the proposal for discussion at the March HMC meeting.

V. NEW BUSINESS:

1. CT DEP OLISP Application by Pequot Yacht Club, Inc. to dredge the North Anchorage to a depth of 9 feet: E. Hewitt Gaynor advised the HMC that this matter will be tabled pending receipt of the comments on this application by the Shellfish Commission.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT: None noted. Discussion by Commissioners:

1. John Zygmant noted concern regarding an event ("Penguin Plunge") that had taken place off the rocks near the Town Boat Yard. Mr. Zygmant indicated that there did not appear to be any fire/safety/rescue vehicles at this event. Mr. Steadman suggested that the HMC inquire of the Parks and Recreation Department whether a permit was issued by them in connection with this event.

2. Sandye Mann inquired whether kayak launching could be restricted to a specific area of the Town Boat Yard away from the launching ramp to near the former marine railroad tracks; Ms. Mann noted that it often takes kayakers some time to get organized which results in delays for boaters trying to launch their boats.

VII. ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to come before the Commission, David Drabaski *moved* and John Zygmant *seconded* to adjourn the meeting at 4:59 p.m. *Motion passed unanimously.*

Respectfully submitted,
Betty Gabriel