

# TOWN OF ESSEX

## Harbor Management Commission

29 West Avenue • Essex, Connecticut 06426

Essex Harbor Master (860) 767-0032

### **Executive Board**

*Jeffrey Going, Chairman*

*Joe Zaraschi, Vice Chair*

*Terry Stewart, Treasurer*

### **Regular Members**

*John Senning*

*Earl Fowler*

### **Alternate Members**

*Kit Schellens*

*Susan Malan*

### **MINUTES – Regular Meeting**

**Thursday July 23 , 2020 at 7:00 pm .**

#### **1. Call to Order**

The Essex Harbor Management Commission conducted the regularly scheduled meeting on Thursday, July 23rd, 2020 at 7:00 pm in Room A of the Essex Town Hall. The meeting was available on Zoom, which was used by Susan Malan, Terry Stewart, Cy Libby and Paul Riggio.

#### **Meeting Recording Link:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88553434085?pwd=UWNINnVla2l3N2dTVlUrbnRJQ3M3dz09>

**MEETING ID: 885 5343 4085**

**Meeting Password: 743264**

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#### **2. Attending Members**

Jeffery Going

Susan Malan

Terry Stewart

Earl Fowler

#### **Absent Members**

David Fasulo, Deputy Harbor

John Senning and Joe Zaraschi

Kit Schellens

#### **Ex Officious Members**

Paul Riggio, Harbor Master

#### **In Person Audience:**

Keith B. Neilson from Docko.

### **Approval of June 25th, 2020, Meeting Minutes**

**MOTION** made by Terry Stewart to approve of June 25th, 2020 Meeting Minutes as presented; **SECONDED** by Earl Fowler; **Voting in Favor:** Terry Stewart, Earl Fowler, **Opposed:** None; **Abstaining:** None; **Approved:** 2/0/0.

### **3. Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

### **4. Financial Report**

Terry Stewart presented the Treasurer's Report – July 23, 2020

- Total Funds---a/o 6/30/20: \$33,277.05
- Withdrawals: Town of Essex Clerk Invoice #40 \$312.48 Deposits: OnLine Mooring \$237.55
- Online Mooring Credit Memo \$-\$237.55 Balance Credit \$0.00
- HMC FY 19-20 Summary: Total Income: \$26,521.54 and Total Expenses \$20,344.24
- HMC Income/Expense Comparison by Category FY 18/19 vs. FY 19/20:  
Category 6/30/2020 6/30/2019 and Amount Difference  
**TOTAL INCOME \$26,521.54, \$28,069.28 and \$1,547.74**  
**TOTAL EXPENSES \$20,344.24, \$78,067.73 and \$-57,723.49**

**MOTION** made by Terry Stewart to approve the Treasurer's report as presented; **SECONDED** by Earl Fowler; **Voting in Favor:** Earl Fowler; **Opposed:** None; **Abstaining:** Terry Stewart; **Approved:** 1/0/1.

### **Invoices:**

Clerk Invoice's Kristin Gleason & Elizabeth McLaughlin - \$119.70

Dauntless Shipyard Invoice Reposition Northern and Southern Harbor Marks \$321.30

**MOTION** made by Terry Stewart to approve the Invoices as presented; **SECONDED** by Earl Fowler; **Voting in Favor:** Earl Fowler, Terry Stewart; **Opposed:** None; **Abstaining:** None; **Approved:** 2/0/0.

## **6. Harbor Master Report**

### **As of July 2020:**

There are 15 Bushnell Access Waitlist applicants.

Mooring Permit Wait List has 22 applicants

2020 Sabbaticals: 4 granted and 4 people on the 1-year waitlist sabbaticals.

Paul Riggio mentioned the U.S. Coast Guard Pollution Incident statement with an incident date of July 8<sup>th</sup>, 2020 regarding the fuel spill from Ron Levine's boat. Paul Riggio has requested an update from the USCG regarding their action towards the boat owner on this spill. Paul

Paul Riggio said the Meadows Anchorage needs to be set by an approved outside contractor, not members of the Yacht Clubs in the Meadows. Jeff Going said recommended having a bid for a commercial contractor to do the work, not to automatically assign a person to do the work.

It was mentioned the boats are in the harbor, but the usage is low. Jeff Going and Paul Riggio did a harbor tour with Mike Payton of the DEEP on July 9<sup>th</sup>, 2020 regarding the location of our Slow No Wake markers. EHMC can ask the state to move the buoys. Jeff made a comment that the Western mark is not lined up to the Eastern mark, Jeff said Mike Payton will get back to him with a follow up on his request.

On July 22, Amy Pullin, the Commodore of Pettipaug Yacht Club, submitted a letter re-concerns of boats moored farther north than normal this year. In particular the boat "Lost in Time" due to its position in front of the boat launch. Also, a former mooring permit holder decided to place a mooring and moor his boat in front of PYC. The mooring and boat will be removed this weekend.

Paul Riggio asked if there should be a vote for the commercial moorings and Jeff Going replied by saying the EHMC should hold off for now until the renewal period, and then enforce new rules and regulations.

### **Actions:**

1. I contacted a mooring holder, Mike Sperzel. Originally, he had volunteered to allow Lost in Time to be relocated to his mooring (his boat has had some engine issues). However, he is now hoping to use the mooring, so he would prefer not to volunteer the mooring.
2. I contacted Richard Gill. He has two moorings near PYC that are not currently being used. He

plans to sail more in the fall and use the moorings. He is willing to allow Lost in Time to be relocated until August 15<sup>th</sup> on his southern mooring (#558, although it is marked #546).

3. I contacted Kristen Carafe, the owner of Lost in Time. She is willing to move her boat to a new mooring, but not on the inner row (since she likes to swim off her boat and prefers deeper water). The Gill mooring is in the inner row. She would also want confirmation that the new mooring is in the 200lb range to accommodate her boat. Also, currently, the engine on Lost in Time is not working. She would need to be towed to the new mooring if one is available.

Unless the Lost in Time mooring is relocated, I am not sure it can be relocated to another mooring that is already set. I do not believe PYC will open for the season, so the junior program is not affected. At this point, the ramp is open to members, so the Scow fleet, and a number of other small sailboats and powerboats use the ramp. Picture of Lost in Time below.

I plan to map out the Meadows this summer. Over the winter, I believe Paul Riggio, myself, Cy Libby, and Dan R. as well as representative from the Essex Boat Club and PYC should go over a layout plan for the 2021 season.

## **7. Harbor Management Business**

- Town Access Ways/Bushnell Access/Mack Lane

- **Bushnell Access:** Mention of a kayak stolen at Bushnell Access Point. The Essex Resident Trooper's Office is investigating the theft.
- **Mack Lane:**  
Mention of recent vandalism with two small trees/shrubs cut down and removed from Mack Lane.
- **Novelty Lane Access:**  
Jeff Going said that the new ladder was installed and that he needs to get reimbursed by the town's treasurer for the ladder purchase. Paul Riggio says the EHMC needs to do something with the floating dock. Terry Loomer put up a section of fencing for safety purposes. Jeff says there is no pilings out there and that the EHMC needs to come up with a way to attach it there.

### **A National Estuarine Research Reserve for Long Island Sound:**

Jeff Going gave an update on the Connecticut's approval of the first major milestone in designating a reserve. The National Estuarine Research Reserve System is a network of 29

coastal sites designated to protect and study estuarine systems, the unique areas where rivers meet the sea. The status update mentioned was to nominate a National Estuarine Research Reserve (NERR) in Connecticut has selected a preferred site, which includes the following state-owned properties. Lord Cove Wildlife Management Area; Great Island Wildlife Management Area; Bluff Point State Park, Coastal Reserve, and Natural Area Preserve; Haley Farm State Park; and, The public trust portions of water bodies defined by the Long Island Sound ranging approximately west to east from the mouth of the Connecticut River to Mason's Island and north to south waterward of the mean high water shoreline to just shy of the Connecticut state boundary in Long Island Sound.

- **Lawsuit for Dredging Materials** – A newsletter was sent to Jeff Going by the CMTA stating the “US District Court in New York recently upheld the designation of the Eastern Long Island Sound Disposal Site (ELDS) rejecting the State of New York's lawsuit against the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). While it paves the way for the use of the ELDS, we will await word on any appeal and now will work in coordination with DEEP and the ACOE on the site's use for dredged material disposal.”
- **Thatchbed Island.** – Discussed above.
- **Papanier Dock Proposal/Docko**

Keith B. Neilson from Docko provided proposal drawings at the meeting for the electric lifts for bigger boats and jet skis. Questions and concerns were opened to the audience. Some members of the EHMC expressed some concerns about the lift plan, especially in the nearby known “quiet” coves. Keith reassures the audience it is a small dock, and that the lift would not disturb vegetation. Also, there is high and low profile lift options that can be used. Susan Malan said there needs to be more of a descriptive plan for this project and by next meeting to possibly motion for a vote. 7:42-59pm

## 8. New Business

None.

## 9. Correspondence

Jeff Going mentioned he is going to submit the annual report to the Board of Finance.

**MOTION** made by Earl Fowler to approve reimbursement to Jeff Going for the ladder at the Novelty Lane Access; **SECONDED** by Susan Malan; **Voting in Favor:** Earl Fowler, Susan Malan; **Opposed:** None; **Abstaining:** None; **Approved:** 2/0/0.

**10. Adjournment**

**MOTION** made by Earl Fowler to adjourn the meeting at 8:01 pm  
**SECONDED** by Susan Malan; **Voting in Favor:** Earl Fowler, Susan Malan, **Opposed:** None;  
**Abstaining:** None; **Approved:** 2/0/0.

Next Regular Meeting: Thursday, August 27th, 2020, at 7:00 pm.  
Essex Town Hall, Conference Room A, 29 West Avenue, Essex, CT.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristin Gleason  
Recording Clerk