

ESSEX HARBOR MANAGEMENT COMMISSION



**Town of Essex
29 West Avenue
Essex, CT 06426**

**Regular Meeting
Thursday, March 24, 2016
Meeting Room A**

1. Call to Order

Chairman Jeff Going called the regularly scheduled meeting of the Essex Harbor Management Commission to order at 7:35 p.m.

2. Attendance

Members Present

- Jeff Going, Chairman
- Earl Fowler, Alternate
- Kit Schellens, Alternate
- Joe Zaraschi, Vice Chairman

Ex Officio Members Present

- Buddy Hitchcock, Deputy Harbor Master
- Paul Riggio, Harbor Master

Others Present

- Doug Domenie, Brewer Dauntless Shipyard & Marina
- Cy Libby, Brewer Dauntless Shipyard & Marina
- Terry Lomme
- Craig Zoll

Earl Fowler was seated for Terry Stewart and Kit Schellens was seated for John Senning.

3. Approval of February Regular Meeting Minutes

The February 25, 2016 regular meeting minutes were reviewed.

Motion: Joe Zaraschi moved to approve the February 25, 2016 regular meeting minutes. Kit Schellens seconded the motion. Those in favor: Earl Fowler, Kit Schellens, and Joe Zaraschi; 3-0-0 motion unanimously approved.

4. Public Comment

Mr. Terry Lomme thanked whoever was responsible for getting rid of the abandoned dock behind his house. He was present at the meeting to ask if he needed anyone's approval to replace the rotted boards on the top of his bulkhead. He was informed that no approval was needed.

5. Financial Report

Jeff Going presented the March 24, 2016 Treasurer's report in Treasurer Walter Wiegert's absence.

Motion: Earl Fowler moved to approve the March 24, 2016 Treasurer's report. Kit Schellens seconded the motion.

Discussion: Kit Schellens asked about the Dor-Mor purchase included in the financial report and the replacement program was explained to him.

Those in favor: Earl Fowler, Kit Schellens, and Joe Zaraschi; 3-0-0 motion approved.

Four invoices were presented for approval:

- Town of Essex - \$108.08 for January Harbor Plan Update Project Clerk Services;
- Betsy McLaughlin, Clerk - \$288.20 for March 2016 Clerk Services;
- Betsy McLaughlin, Clerk - \$6.95 reimbursement for purchase of Harbor Management Commission file cabinet key;
- Betsy McLaughlin, Clerk - \$14.88 reimbursement for purchase of flash drive for Harbor Management Commission data storage.

Motion: Jeff Going moved to approve the invoices presented. Earl Fowler seconded the motion. Those in favor: Earl Fowler, Kit Schellens, and Joe Zaraschi; 3-0-0 motion unanimously approved.

6. Harbor Master Report

New Wait List Requests

- Edwin (Ted) E. Geiger, Main, check dated 2/23/16
- David T. Guernsey, Jr., Main, cash, receipt dated 3/10/16
- Christian Meisner, Main, check dated 3/19/16

A request was received from Jean Luburg to change the mooring permit in Pierre Boulanger's name to her name. Paul advised her to fill out a wait list application consistent with Harbor rules.

Cy Libby, Buddy Hitchcock and Paul have gone through the final layout of the mooring field and are starting to do the pre-inspections. He noted the change in the harbor layout this year with fewer large boats and more small boats. Although it would appear this would allow space for more boats to have moorings in the outer rows, putting small boats there presents a risk of them sinking.

Paul and Jeff still need to get together with Rick Carlson at Essex Boat Works to see what we are going to do there. They will try to meet with him the week after next.

Paul is suggesting that we give the western line to Essex Island and the southern line to Essex Boat Works. There was discussion as to the proper names/ownership of the different entities and it was noted that the paperwork should be reflected appropriately, i.e., River Properties, so that it is clear to everyone.

Harbor Management Business

- **Capital Projects:** None.
- **Town Access Ways**

Bushnell Public Access applications were sent to the 2015 small vessel permit holders and wait list applicants on March 1 with a response deadline of March 15. Applications were made available to the public on March 15. The registration process was advertised in the local paper and posted on the Harbor website. Sixty-eight applications have been received to date. Permits will be issued until the maximum storage capacity of 75 small vessels is reached, at which point applicants will be placed on a Wait List. There is no residency requirement because it is a public access.

7. Correspondence

An invitation was received to attend a symposium on ways to identify and advance nitrogen reduction strategies for Long Island Sound, the Peconic Estuary, and the South Shore bays. The symposium is being co-hosted by Restore America's Estuaries and The Nature Conservancy and will be held on Tuesday, May 3, 2016 at the Hilton Garden Inn on the campus of Stony Brook University, New York.

A COP Application was received from DEEP for removal and replacement/relocation of seven existing fixed wood docks and associated piles with seven floating docks, associated piles, three ramps and one fixed platform at Brewer Essex Island Marina.

New Business

Paul noted that in doing research for a client on public access ways, he realized that when the public access ways were surveyed in 1989 or 1990, they were never officially filed in the Town records. Jeff has authorized Paul to have the maps filed properly and printed.

Jeff noted that CMTA in conjunction with the Guilford Fire Department, a large professional fire department, is doing some fire safety training focused on marinas. The Essex Fire Department is sending two or three officers to make sure they stay in touch with what's going on and Doug Domenie is sending some people as well.

Chris Going is leading a proposal to prepare a grant application to replace the aging Essex Fire Boat and has asked for information from the Harbor Management Commission as to the number of moorings in the Harbor and the number of private docks in Town. Paul Riggio has already responded to this request and Betsy McLaughlin will provide additional information.

Old Business

- **Confiscated Vessel Auction**

No update due to John Senning's absence. Joe Zaraschi will contact John Senning about the auction, which is planned for April.

- **Harbor Management Plan Update**

No update.

- **Newsletter**

Jeff gave everyone copies of the last newsletter done in 2013 and suggested we simply update that. Content, format and printing options were discussed. Jeff will have a draft for the next meeting.

- **North Cove Piling Update**

Doug Domenie stated that the pilings on the east side of the channel have been reset. He needs to go back at low tide to find one that was laid over, but they have set another one in that approximately area. Doug asked if he could tether a boat between two of the pilings and was told he could not without a permit.

- **Wally Schieferdecker Recognition**

No update due to Terry Stewart's absence. Terry will provide an update at the April meeting.

11. Adjournment

Motion: Joe Zaraschi moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 p.m. Earl Fowler seconded the motion. Those in favor: Earl Fowler, Kit Schellens, and Joe Zaraschi; 3-0-0 motion unanimously approved.

Respectfully Submitted,

Betsy McLaughlin, Clerk