

**ESSEX HARBOR MANAGEMET COMMISSION
29 WEST AVENUE
ESSEX, CT 06426**

Regular Meeting Minutes, February 21, 2012

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Jeff Going called the regularly scheduled meeting of the Essex Harbor Management Commission to order at 7:30 p.m.

2. Attendance

Jeff Going – Chairman
Wally Schieferdecker – Vice Chairman
Walter Wiegert – Treasurer
Buddy Hitchcock was seated for Joe Zaraschi

Ruth Hockert, Clerk

Doug Domenie, Dauntless Shipyard
Cy Libby, Dauntless Shipyard
Cecil Lyons, Dauntless Club

3. Election of Officers

Motion – Buddy Hitchcock moved that all current officers, Chairman Jeff Going, Vice Chairman Wally Schieferdecker and Treasurer Walter Wiegert serve another term of office, Wally Schieferdecker seconded 4-0-0 motion approved unanimously

4. Minutes – January Meeting

Motion – Walter Wiegert moved to approve the Minutes as distributed, Wally Schieferdecker seconded 4-0-0 motion approved unanimously

5. Public Comment – none

6. Financial Report

Walter Wiegert distributed the February Treasurer's Report and reviewed it with the Commission.

Motion – Wally Schieferdecker moved to approve the Treasurer's Report as distributed, Buddy Hitchcock seconded 3-0-1 motion approved, Walter Wiegert abstained

7. Harbor Master Report

In the absence of the Harbor Master the clerk reported the following:

Abandoned vessel moved by order of the Harbor Master update – Attorney John Senning sent notification to the Commission that the sale of the vessels was moving forward on February 28th.

Request for sabbatical – Robert Wolff has requested a sabbatical

Notification of month long cruise – Dennis Powers

Permit Renewal Update – most of the positions in the harbor have been filled

At the last meeting the Commission had voted to not offer Ned Costello a permit for the 2013 season for failure to submit the required documents, Mr. Costello has provided the required documents. The Clerk inquired as to the Commission's next step.

**Motion – Wally Schieferdecker moved to offer Mr. Costello a mooring permit for the 2013 season because Mr. Costello belatedly provided the documents. The Commission will do this once for Mr. Costello. Buddy Hitchcock seconded
4-0-0 motion approved unanimously**

Wait List – Richard Gill wants a mooring in North Cove

8. Harbor Management Issues

A. Capital Projects/Funding

Rock Pile Removal Update – A draft of the RFP is in process.

B. Harbor Management Issues

Update Harbor Management Plan – Review Ordinances

C. Town Access Ways

New Rack for Bushnell Park –

Town Dock Railing – will need to wait until snow melts

9. Correspondence

2/4/2013 Dauntless Club letter regarding the overhang of a vessel and the question of riparian rights.

Doug Domenie, Manager of Dauntless Marina and Shipyard asked about the difference in authority between the Harbor Master and the Harbor Management Commission. Chairman Jeff Going stated that the Harbor Master role is one of enforcement and permitting of moorings with the

Commission's role being one of compliance with the Harbor Management Plan.

Jeff Going asked Mr. Domenie if he wanted to respond to a July 12th letter that he received. The letter indicated that the Dauntless Club was more concerned about the marina issuing a contract for the season for the vessel with the large over hang than it would for a transient vessel. Mr. Domenie felt he could take no action because a contract with the vessel owner was in place. He did not respond to the letter because there was nothing he could do. Mr. Domenie spoke with Mr. Lyons and Mr. Jeter but has not taken any other action.

Jeff Going spoke regarding "riparian rights" which he feels is not well defined including what angle the riparian line is drawn from shore. He feels that a violation of riparian rights might be a difficult argument. He feel that if a marina has a pier and it can overhang a vessel without interfering with an abutting owners access to deep water that it can put that large a vessel on the pier. A boat that large that blocks the visual of the river which everyone considers a valuable property asset could be of concern. Jeff feels there should be a gentlemanly way to address the concerns.

Wally Schieferdecker asked Mr. Domenie why he did not respond to Mr. Lyons letter.

Mr. Domenie responded that he felt it unnecessary to respond because there was nothing he could since the contract was in place.

Cecil Lyons spoke regarding his letter. He felt the Dauntless Club was not asking for action to be taken this past summer because he understood the contract was in place but want to ask that it not happen in coming years.

There was discussion.

Mr. Domenie wants to find out what he is legally entitled to do and then he will do it.

Jeff Going wants it clearly stated in these minutes that the Harbor Commission brought both parties together; the Commission members present expressed their opinions and at this point the next step would be to approach DEEP for their opinion.

2/5/13 letter from Lower Connecticut River Valley Council of Governments (COG) regarding their study "A Viewshed Model for the Lower CT River and Coast Region.

Jeff Going mentioned that First Selectman Norm Needleman is looking for a volunteer to go to a meeting every so often of the Long Island Sound Councils. Commission members present thought perhaps Joe Zaraschi would be interested.

10. New Business

Jeff Going mentioned that he had seen an article in POINTS EAST magazine that stated the National Hurricane Center has revised its Hurricane Warning definition and he requested that the Clerk research this new definition. This revision may impact on the Harbor Commission's current hurricane policy.

11. Old Business

Discussion regarding developing a Harbor Commission newsletter
The Clerk will get quotes for 1000, 500 and 200 copies of a couple of material types.

Draft for proposed submission to Essex Events – Members should review the draft and any comments, corrections, etc. should be brought to the next meeting so as to finalize a submission for the next issue.

12. Adjournment

Motion – Wally Schieferdecker moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Ruth Hockert, Clerk