



TOWN OF ESSEX  
**Harbor Management Commission**



29 West Avenue • Essex, Connecticut 06426  
Essex Harbor Master (860) 767-0032

**Executive Board**  
*Jeffrey Going, Chairman*  
*Joseph Zaraschi, Vice Chair*  
*Terry Stewart, Treasurer*

**Regular Members**

*John Senning*  
*Walter Wiegert*

**Alternate Members**

*Earl Fowler*  
*Kit Schellens*

**MINUTES - Regular Meeting**  
**Thursday, December 21, 2017 at 7:30 P.M.**

The Essex Harbor Management Commission conducted their regularly scheduled meeting on Thursday, December 21, 2017 in Room A of the Essex Town Hall.

**Attending Members**

Jeffery Going, Chair  
Joseph Zaraschi, Vice Chair  
Terry Stewart  
Earl Fowler seated for seated for W Wiegert  
John Senning joined the meeting at 7:36p.m.

**Absent Members**

Walter Wiegert  
Kit Schellens

**Ex Officio Member:** Paul Riggio, Harbor Master

**Staff:** Stella Beaudoin, Recording Secretary

**Others Present:** Doug Domenie, Brewer Dauntless Shipyard & Marina

**Audience:** There was no one in the audience.

**1. Approval of November 16, 2017 Regular Meeting Minutes**

**MOTION** made by T Stewart to approve the November 16, 2017 meeting Minutes with the following change: 1) Page 2, Item 4, Under Treasurer's Report to read: "T Stewart stated that he will obtain and download an accounting from Online Mooring *for the deposit*"; **SECONDED** by J Zaraschi; **Voting In Favor:** J Zaraschi, T Stewart, E Fowler; **Opposed:** None; **Abstaining:** None; **Approved:** 3/0/0.

No further Discussion.

**2. Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

**3. Financial Report**

T Stewart, presented the Treasurer's report as of December 21, 2017:

- Liberty Checking Account Balance as of 11/1/2017; \$1,008
- Liberty Public Access Account Balance as of 11/1/2017; \$981.76
- Liberty General Account Balance as of 11/30/2017; \$53,568.03, with the Total funds, \$55,323.63

**MOTION** made by J Zaraschi to approve the December 21, 2017 Treasurer's report as presented; **SECONDED** by E Fowler; **Voting In Favor:** J Zaraschi, E Fowler; **Opposed:** None; **Abstaining:** T Stewart; **Approved:** 2/0/1.

No Discussion.

T Stewart reported on the Online Mooring Financial Summary – November 2017. Mooring Renewals \$4,850; Wait list \$60; Online Mooring transaction fee \$480; Convenience Fee \$194.65 ; Total \$674.65; Net Income vs Expense \$4235.35; Total 675.65.

T Stewart stated that Online Mooring will generate a monthly statement with a breakdown of the above referenced categories. T Stewart stated that this Program offers info on every mooring renewed and every wait list application.

T Stewart presented an Invoice from Town for clerk's services, Stella Beaudoin and Betsy McLaughlin.

**MOTION** made by T Stewart to approve the time for Stella Beaudoin and Betsy McLaughlin related to administrative services, as presented; **SECONDED** by J Senning; **Voting In Favor:** J Zaraschi, T Stewart, J Senning, E Fowler; **Opposed:** None; **Abstaining:** None; **Approved:** 4/0/0.

No Discussion.

#### **4. Harbor Master Report**

Harbor Master Paul Riggio questioned the criteria related to the sabbatical process. J Going stated that a sabbatical is a one-time opportunity to hold a mooring status until the following year, although it will not guarantee the availability of a mooring in the next year.

P Riggio reported that the Essex Yacht Club will have a fireworks program on NYE and they have obtained the proper approvals.

D Domenie stated that although this is a private event the public will have access to view the fireworks. P Riggio stated that there will be a sizeable police force in place for this event beginning at the Baldwin Bridge.

J Going suggested that the Commission obtain a tabulation of how many will be in attendance.

J Senning suggested that the Commission look at the insurance policy taken out on this event.

P Riggio reported that out of the 110 renewals, 93 are approved. Nine applicants did not renew and P Riggio stated that this year he and Betsy McLaughlin worked to ensure that all the email data entered into the system is accurate. P Riggio reported that there are 3 sabbaticals and 13 renewals for wait list applications. There are 6 open items remaining, with some minor issues, and P Riggio stated that he hopes to have those issues resolved in the next few days.

P Riggio stated that the Essex Police is looking to upgrade and purchase a new boat.

P Riggio reported on the following:

**New wait list applications, 9:** Derek Musgrave, Main 12/11/17; Daniel O'Malley, Main 12/5/17; Frank Punzo, Middle Cove, 11/14/17; Adam Jandreau, Main 11/14/17; Michael Caulfield, Main 11/12/17; Leah Melius, Main 11/8/17; James Sibley, Main 10/23/17; Allan Inglis, Main 10/7/17.

#### **2018 Renewal Summary:**

Permits, 120. Applications approved, 93.

9 Non Renewals 2018 – Bowers, Hitchcock, Jestin, Marsh, Ryland, Smith, Spearrin, Tagatc, Stewart.

Three Sabbaticals 2018 - Skip Haskins, Chet Kitchings, Charles Whelan.

Applications awaiting documentation, 13.

Applications expired / waiting for answers, 6. Essex Boat Club and Pettipaug becoming commericals, 2.

J Going stated that the B buoy was hit and it appears that a boat drove over it. A very sharp object cut through the side of the buoy and pulled out a chunk as it sliced it.

### **5. Harbor Management Business**

#### **Capital Projects - SHIPP Grant Proposal Update**

J Going stated that the mission related to the SHIPP grant proposal has been re-written and the Request for Proposal (RFP) is being prepared to go out. The \$42,500 grant allocation is under the heading of update to the Harbor Management plan and J Going stated that a baseline is needed which could be accomplished through updated surveys. The RFP will include a land survey of the remnants of thatched bed island.

J Going stated that he initiated a conversation with Essex Land Trust (ELT) and indicated that if they wish to participate they may contribute \$500 and the HMC will ensure that a survey is registered in the Town, and the ELT will be provided with a survey. J Going stated that the HMC will request surveys of all of Middle Cove, a survey of primarily the navigational areas of North Cove which, and if there is a value in doing so, may include the area out to the cut.

J Going stated that the services of a soil scientist would be beneficial in identifying vegetation and subaquatic habitat in both the Meadows and the thatched bed. A wave and tide analysis would be useful

particularly as related to the effects in the main anchorage area and a sub-aquatic vegetation survey of middle, south, harbor area would also be helpful. J. Going stated that preservation of habitat is in keeping with the Harbor Management plan.

J Going reported that the verbiage for updating the Plan has been completed and he noted that a RFP associated with a grant requires the submission of three bids which can be accomplished by publishing on the State of CT website for response. Spring 2018 is the target for completion.

D Domenie reported that the Guilford Yacht Club is in-process of dredging, and those materials will be deposited in upland disposal sites. D Domenie stated that there are a tremendous amount of low marshes and the GYC who is leasing with option to buy a hydraulic dredge with walking spuds is working with DEEP to possibly do restoration work in the marshes to the north.

### **Town Access Ways**

J Zaraschi stated that the diseased Maple trees at Bushnell have been removed. Augie Pample, Tree Warden will replace with a different species.

### **Town Dock Maintenance/Replacement**

J Going reported that he spoke with Keith Nelson, Docko related to the Town Dock replacement proposal. K Nelson proposes to fill and pull back from backside edge and install a double bench. A railing will be included in the plan, to be installed on the north side, however the railing will not immediately be installed. The plan will increase the useable deck of the structure and increase the use of the benches. Taking the float in its current location and extending it up to ten feet closer to land on the west side. Two pilings will be installed, one on the east side between the float and the solid structure, and one on the north side. The DEEP is amenable with this plan. J Going stated that the Town may need to utilize a backhoe to clean up some rocks where the float will be situated. This is public access and the DEEP recognizes the high use and prominence of this public use access. For re-decking look at options of keeping the bench as same materials or perhaps go to a synthetic.

**MOTION** made by J Senning to approve the filing for a COP for the upgrade plan for the town dock replacement and to authorize T Stewart to issue a check in the amount of \$187.50 for the State of CT application fee; **SECONDED** by E Fowler; **Voting In Favor:** J Zaraschi, T Stewart, J Senning, E Fowler; **Opposed:** None; **Abstaining:** None; **Approved:** 4/0/0.

**Update of Harbor Plan;** J Going stated that he has received reports back from the 6 clubs and Pettipaug Sailing Academy. Not counting privates, there are over 400 slips and 89 commercial moorings.

## **6. Correspondence**

J Going reported receipt of Tidewatch from Safewater Publication.

## **7. New Business**

J Going attended a presentation at UConn Avery Point on the Long Island Sound Blue Plan, This "Blue Plan" legislation establishes a process by which Connecticut will develop an inventory of Long Island Sound's natural resources and uses and, ultimately, a spatial plan to guide future use of the Sound's waters and submerged lands. Currently, Connecticut's Coastal Management Program (CMP) protects coastal resources and guides development along the immediate coast. The development of a Blue Plan for Long Island Sound will supplement the CMP's existing authority in the deeper offshore reaches of the Sound.

J Going reported that the Long Island Sound Blue Plan will help minimize conflicts between marine life and human uses of the Sound, such as navigation and aquaculture. The Blue Plan is intended to prioritize the protection of existing natural resources and uses such as fishing, aquaculture, and navigation from future conflicting or incompatible activities and would not create new regulatory restrictions for them. Under the Blue Plan bill, an inventory of Long Island Sound's natural resources and uses must be completed by a Long Island Sound Inventory and Science subcommittee that will be convened by the University of Connecticut. The inventory will be based on the best available information and data on the Sound's plants, animals, habitats, and ecologically significant areas in nearshore and offshore waters and their "substrates" (surfaces where marine organisms grow). The inventory must also include the human uses of Long Island Sound's waters and substrates. These uses include boating and fishing, waterfowl hunting, shellfishing, aquaculture, shipping corridors, as well as energy facilities and interests including electric power lines, gas pipelines, and telecommunications crossings in the Sound. Once the resource and use inventory is complete, that information will be used to develop the Blue Plan, a spatial plan that will help avoid use conflicts in Long Island sound by identifying and protecting special, sensitive and unique estuarine and marine life and habitats. The Plan will foster sustainable uses of the Sound that will make the most of economic opportunity without significantly harming the Sound's ecology or natural beauty.

J Senning stated that he would like for the HMC members have an opportunity to voice their opinion on this project and to have a role in the outcome.

## **8. Adjournment**

**MOTION** made by J Senning to adjourn the meeting at 8:44 pm until the next regularly scheduled meeting which will be conducted on January 25, 2018 at 7:30pm, Essex Town Hall, Conference Room A, 29 West Avenue, Essex, CT; **SECONDED** by E Fowler; **Voting In Favor:** J Zaraschi, J Senning T Stewart, E Fowler; **Opposed:** None; **Abstaining:** None; **Approved:** 4/0/0.

Respectfully submitted,

Stella C. Beaudoin  
Recording Secretary