



Harbor Management Commission

www.essexct.gov

Executive Board
Jeffrey Going, Chairman
Terry Stewart, Treasurer

Essex Town Hall
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Essex Connecticut 06426
Telephone: 860-767-4340
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Regular Members
John Senning
Earl Fowler
Kit Schellens

Alternate Members
Susan Malan

Ex-Officious Members
Paul Riggio, Harbor Master
David Fasulo, Deputy Harbor Master

Meeting Minutes Regular Meeting, Thursday, March 25th, 2021, at 7:00 P.M.

1. **Call to Order** - Chairman Jeff Going welcomed everyone to the Harbor Management Commission. Members and attendees announced themselves. Attendees were asked to please identify themselves for the record prior to making any comments.

This meeting was made available to the public via Zoom:

INVITE LINK:

ZOOM MEETING- INVITE LINK:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89803627845?pwd=czR5bEtWbU12YUJp0dBK2dFY1UxZz09>

Meeting ID: 898 0362 7845

Passcode: 184349

Dial by your location: +1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

2. Attendance:

Attending Members

Jeffrey Going
Kit Schellens
Susan Malan (*seated for Earl Fowler*)
Terry Stewart
John Senning

Absent Members

Earl Fowler

Ex Officious Members

Paul Riggio, Harbor Master
David Fasulo, Deputy Harbor Master

Attendance:

3. Approval of the February 25th, 2021, Meeting Minutes:

MOTION: made by Terry Stewart to approve the February 25th, 2021 meeting minutes as presented; **SECONDED:** by Kit Schellens; **Voting In Favor:** Terry Stewart, Kit Schellens, John Senning; **Opposed:** None; **Abstaining:** None; **Approved:** 3/0/0. **Discussion:** No further discussion.

MOTION: made by Terry Stewart to postpone the Thatchbed Island topic from the agenda to next month's meeting. **SECONDED:** by Susan Malan; **Voting In Favor:** Terry Stewart, Kit Schellens, John Senning; **Opposed:** Kit Schellens; **Abstaining:** None; **Approved:** 3/1/0. **Discussion:** No further discussion.

4. Public Comment:

None.

5. Financial Report:

Terry Stewart provided reports on the following balances as of the end of February 2021.

Total Funds Balance---Total Funds--2/28/21 \$41,886.80
Refund receipt from Online Mooring: \$163.47 | REFUND NO. P18737

MOTION made by Susan Malan to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented. **SECONDED** by Kit Schellens; **Voting In Favor:** Susan Malan, John Senning, Kit Schellens; **Opposed:** None; **Abstaining:** Terry Stewart; **Approved:** 3/0/1. **Discussion:** No further discussion

Invoices:

- Clerk Invoice #48 from the Town of Essex: \$335.22
- Lighthouse Printing Invoice for permit labels: \$274.00

MOTION made by Kit Schellens to approve the invoices as presented; **SECONDED** by John Senning; **Voting In Favor;** John Senning, Terry Stewart, Kit Schellens, Susan Malan; **Opposed:** None; **Abstaining:** None; **Approved:** 3/0/0. **Discussion:** No further discussion.

6. Harbor Master Report:

Paul Riggio provided the following Essex Harbormaster Report. Paul mentioned that we are in the process of doing mooring inspections.

Jeff and Paul are working on the new markers for Middle Cove. Dave Fasulo is working with Cy Libby and Paul on doing a printed layout of the Meadows Anchorage. Dave has also sent out with Betsy's help a notification to all Meadows Anchorage mooring holders, that all moorings

will now be set and removed by a commercial provider. The time has come for more control so we can maximize that anchorage.

97 approved mooring permits.

1 sabbatical

No new waitlist requests

Stephen Dix, Meadows, was removed from the waitlist as he did not renew.

Waiting to hear about the Brewer commercial moorings and Betsy is working on small vessel renewals now. Jeff Going is going to need the approval of small vessel permits.

7. Harbor Management Business

-Public Access: Attorney Royston has advised Jeff regarding the situation with the property on Novelty Lane (public access). In the past, there was discussion of trying to figure out property situations. The town has claimed ownership and has a survey for the public access. The Public Access is a pedestrian pathway. Anyone could launch a kayak or a canoe there, but not likely because people must haul it from a parking place on either Main Street or they try sneaking into the nearby boatyard parking lot and carrying it down the foot trail there. Attorney Royston is working on putting together an easement to try and cover all the little spots that make it more complicated. Attorney Royston would like to work out with Safe Harbor and the town of Essex and have in writing in a document to establish where the town snowplows would plow and where they are supposed to deposit the snow and turn around. Attorney Royston plans on obtaining a proper map that indicates the two driveways which partially touch or cross onto Novelty Lane.

Terry Stewart asked if there is anyone who is willing to temporarily fulfill ex-Vice Chairman Joe Zaraschi's duties. Jeff asked the commission members if anyone would like to step forward to do so, the commission members will review and get back to Jeff.

- **-Bushnell Access:** There is a kayak that has been abandoned by its owner. The owner has written into the EHMC giving it up to the commission. EHMC Clerk Kristin Gleason has offered to take the kayak. The commission can review their policy on how they want to go about releasing the kayak.
- **-Mack Lane/Novelty Lane:** None.

8. Correspondence

No correspondence.

9. New Business

Water Fowl feeding at the Essex Docks

Essex resident Isabel Becker wrote to EHMC concerning the feeding of the waterfowl at the foot of the Main Street. She is concerned about the overall health and the effects that happen when feeding waterfowl bread. Isabel requested for the EHMC to invest and put up two 18x24 educational signs around so people can be aware of the harmful effects of feeding the waterfowl, as well as the environment (caused by uneaten food, which pollutes the river).

John Senning expressed his concern that the sign might be too large for the area, and that more signs will be unattractive to the area. Kit Schellens agreed with John that the signs for the waterfowl are not needed and that even if the waterfowl do not consume the bread, some other wildlife will. Susan Malan expressed her opinion in favor of the signs and believes the educational signs can inform people of the harmful effects. Susan stated how she does not want to preach to people what to do and using the signs for an educational purpose.

Dredging

EYC, DYC, marinas, and the museum recently met about dredging. They have begun the process to update and plan for dredging their locations. and possibly taking the rocks pile away and replacing it with a berm. There has been discussion on where they can put dredging materials.

Jeff updated the Commission on the status of the rock piles at the southern end of the anchorage. HMC has previously gotten COPs (Certificate of Permission) from DEP/DEEP to remove the rock piles, which are hazards to navigation. However, the project proved to be too costly. The situation may have changed with the issues regarding dredge material placement and potential habitat restoration. Keith Neilson from Docko has been working closely with Jeff on this. There is no formal proposal for this project yet. There were some questions from numerous EHMC members on how much involvement they will have in this future project. The proposal is to move rocks to create a berm with the intention of DEEP allowing for dredge materials to be put there, which could make dredge material disposal significantly less expensive. Paul Riggio expressed some concern with current high costs and is hoping to get local marina involvement on this project.

MOTION made by Susan Malan to add a new agenda item regarding the election of new commission officers to April's meeting; **SECONDED** by Kit Schellens; **Voting In Favor:** Susan Malan, Kit Schellens; **Opposed:** None; **Abstaining:** None; **Approved:** 2/0/0.

10. Adjournment

MOTION made by John Senning to adjourn the meeting at 7:47 p.m; **SECONDED** by Kit Schellens; **Voting In Favor:** John Senning, Kit Schellens; **Opposed:** None; **Abstaining:** None; **Approved:** 2/0/0.

Next Regular Meeting: Thursday, April 22nd, 2021, at 7:00 pm.
Essex Town Hall, Conference Room B, 29 West Avenue, Essex, CT.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristin Gleason
Recording Clerk