

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

Unapproved

MINUTES – Regular Meeting
Thursday March 26, 2020 at 7:00 P.M.

1. Call to Order

The Essex Harbor Management Commission conducted the regularly scheduled meeting on Thursday, March 26, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom teleconference platform.

This meeting was made available to the public via Zoom:

<https://zoom.us/j/379066882?pwd=VVJ5WkNTRUxOMy9xS0xnZkozS2xtZz09>

Meeting ID: 379 066 882 / Password: 191521

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

HMC Chairman Jeffrey Going welcomed everyone to the first Harbor Management Commission remote public access meeting. Mr. Going reported that the Governor has suspended the In Person Open Meeting Requirements. In order to protect those interested in attending such public meetings, the Town of Essex is using an online audio meeting service, a new technology which allows the public to listen and participate in a meeting in real time. This service is new to us and we thank you for your patience as we learn the system.

The Harbor Management Commission and attendees announced themselves. The Chairman announced that audio attendees should mute themselves during the meeting except during public comment. Attendees were asked to please identify themselves for the record prior to making any comments.

2. Attendance

Attending Members

Jeffery Going
Joseph Zaraschi
Terry Stewart
Susan Malan seated for John Senning

Absent Members

John Senning
Kit Schellens
Earl Fowler

Ex Officio Member

Paul Riggio, Harbor Master
David Fasulo, Deputy Harbor Master

3. Approval of February 27, 2020 Meeting Minutes

MOTION made by T Stewart to approve the February 27, 2020 Minutes as presented; **SECONDED** by J Zaraschi; **Voting in Favor:** J Zaraschi, T Stewart, S Malan; **Opposed:** None; **Abstaining:** None; **Approved:** 3/0/0.

4. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

5. Financial Report

T Stewart, Treasurer provided reports on the following:

March 26, 2020:

Deposits included commercial moorings from marinas and yacht clubs along with the online mooring deposit for the month. Total Funds---a/o 2/29/2020: \$35,836.00

MOTION made by J Zaraschi to approve the Treasurer's report as presented; **SECONDED** by S Malan; **Voting in Favor:** S Malan, J Zaraschi; **Opposed:** None; **Abstaining:** T Stewart; **Approved:** 2/0/1.

Invoices:

- Clerk's Invoices: Stella Caione \$152.37; Elizabeth McLaughlin \$311.99 - Total: \$464.36
- Safe Harbor Invoice.
- HS Plaut Environmental for pyramid anchors totaling \$1,100.00.
- Online Mooring Invoice charged 11 application fees; 10 people submitted electronic payments, and one applied, and one rejected. Revenue for the month of February in the amount of \$75.75.

MOTION made by T Stewart to approve the Invoices as presented; **SECONDED** by J Zaraschi; **Voting in Favor:** T Stewart, S Malan, J Zaraschi; **Opposed:** None; **Abstaining:** None; **Approved:** 3/0/0.

Two refunds; one to David Pittsinger and a request for refund to David Wernot in the amount of \$60.

6. Harbor Master Report

Paul Riggio provided the following Essex Harbormaster Report a/o 3-26-2020

First Wave of Mooring Inspections:

Essex Boat Club:

P Riggio and D Fasulo conducted the first wave of inspections. A few moorings still need work. P Riggio inspected the EYC mooring on 3-22-2020 and he noted that many of them are incomplete. EYC is facing some challenges as the COVID-19 has the two people that do mooring repairs under self-isolate in their home for a minimum of 14 days. There have been no other inspections thus far.

P Riggio stated that flexibility is key with our dates during these difficult times.

J Going stated that it is important to be understanding, accommodating, warm and flexible in the midst of these uncertain times, which is in keeping with the spirit of conveying that Essex is a welcoming place.

P Riggio stated that he is experiencing issues again with the Harbormaster emails being forwarded to him, noting that he did speak to the Selectman's office regarding these issues. They are working on resolution.

Dave Pittsinger documentation / paperwork containing our required documents did not get to P Riggio due to this email problem and D Pittsinger's mooring permit is in process of being approved.

Mooring Permits:

2019: 109 Mooring Permits

2020: 93 approved mooring permits (Betsy McLaughlin is working with OLM to submit Pittsinger, plus waiting for Dunn payment which will bring us to 95 approved permits.)

Mooring Permit Sabbaticals 2020:

Peter Woolston, Main

Andrew Kressley, North Cove

Wait List Sabbaticals 2020:

Harold Guidotti, Main

Frank Punzo, Main

Brett Haskins, Meadows

Wait List Update:

11 on Main

2 on Mack Lane

3 on Meadows

2 on North Cove

1 on South Cove

All forms and payments received.

Three new applications since last meeting:

2/27/20, Edward Baker, Main

3/3/20, David Courcy, Meadows

3/14/20, Edward D'Agostino, Meadows

D Fasulo suggested that the Commission waylay sending out the previously drafted letter on behalf of the Essex Harbor Commission informing of the Policy Update to mooring holders and outlining new policies. Members were in agreement.

Other

There was no other business.

7. Harbor Management Business

J Going presented an invoice from HS Plaut Environmental in the amount of \$1360 for replacement of the old chain and the associated labor and installation of the four new anchors.

MOTION made by T Stewart to approve the expenditure of \$1360.00 for harbor marks; **SECONDED** by J Zaraschi; **Voting in Favor:** T Stewart, S Malan, J Zaraschi; **Opposed:** None; **Abstaining:** None; **Approved:** 3/0/0.

- **Harbor Marks**

At the February meeting techniques for marking the north cove channel utilizing reflective marker was discussed. J Going proposed starting from the channel at the end of the dolphin moorings, going north and placing a gate with a red and a green marker. The remainder of the way will be designated with red markers for a total of 11 markers. At that meeting, J Going asked members to think about how they wish to move forward, and to come up with a financial proposal for further discussion at the March 26th HMC meeting.

At this evening's meeting J Going suggested that the Commission move forward with the markings for the North Cove channel at a cost of around \$2500 to purchase materials and set up of the pipes. The project involves purchase of 3" diameter PVC white pipe with official red triangles or green rectangles, number reflected. J Going suggested to start with 20-foot pieces that would be cut-down and done in a way that the panels would be above water during periods of high water. J Going recommended starting with the gate at the pilings heading north and end up with 11 or 12 red markers going up to Heritage Cove.

MOTION made by T Stewart to move forward with markers for the North Cove channel; **SECONDED** by J Zaraschi; **Voting in Favor:** T Stewart, S Malan, J Zaraschi; **Opposed:** None; **Abstaining:** None; **Approved:** 3/0/0.

MOTION made by T Stewart to spend up to \$2500 for the installation and purchase of 3" PVC pipe and quantities required to complete the markings for the North Cove channel project; **SECONDED** by J Zaraschi; **Voting in Favor:** T Stewart, S Malan, J Zaraschi; **Opposed:** None; **Abstaining:** None; **Approved:** 3/0/0.

- **Town Access Ways - Joseph Zaraschi provided a report on Small Vessel Renewal/Wait list period as of 3/26/2020**

March 1st: (76) renewal notices were issued to current permit holders.

March 15th: (62) responded requesting a renewal.

Only 1 person responded that they did not wish to renew their permit (Street w/2permits)
The balance did not respond: Bell, Gatto, Kessley, Lima, Lowenthal, Millard, Morse, Opalski (2), Perkins, Ryan, Stillwaggon.

March 16th: (12) Wait listed persons were sent notices.

Hodson declined offer, Rector (2) did not respond by expiration date 3/24.

March 24th: Grasso & Osinski offered and accepted permits (now in process).

March 25th: Desmond, Noonan, Sauvigne-Kirsh extended offer---no response to date
Becker declined offer and being removed from wait list.

- **Lawsuit for Dredging Materials:**

No update.

8. New Business

J Going stated that there has been discussion that Safe Harbor be allowed to retain the bridge to Essex Island for week or two beyond their April 15th deadline to a possible May 1, 2020 date. J Going noted that the bridge when in position provides better and faster access for first responders. It was noted that depending on the direction in which COVID is moving there may be difficulty staffing the ferry.

9. Correspondence

There was no correspondence

10. Adjournment

MOTION made by T Stewart to adjourn the meeting at 7:36 pm to the next scheduled meeting which will be conducted on April 23, 2020 at 7:00pm, Essex Town Hall, Conference Room A, 29 West Avenue, Essex, CT; **SECONDED** by J Zaraschi; **Voting in Favor:** J Zaraschi, T Stewart, S Malan; **Opposed:** None; **Abstaining:** None; **Approved:** 3/0/0.

Respectfully submitted,

Stella A Caione
Recording Clerk