

# ESSEX HARBOR MANAGEMENT COMMISSION



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

**Regular Meeting  
Thursday, February 23, 2017  
Meeting Room A**

## **1. Call to Order**

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

## **2. Attendance**

### **Members Present**

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

Kit Schellens was seated for John Senning and Earl Fowler was seated for Walter Wiegert.

### **Ex Officio Members Present**

- Paul Riggio, Harbor Master

### **Others Present**

- Doug Domenie, Brewer Dauntless Shipyard & Marina
- Cy Libby, Brewer Dauntless Shipyard & Marina
- Randel Osborne, Essex Resident

## **3. Approval of January Regular Meeting Minutes**

The January 26, 2017 regular meeting minutes were reviewed.

*Motion: Terry Stewart moved to approve the January 26, 2017 regular meeting minutes. Joe Zaraschi seconded the motion. Those in favor: Earl Fowler, Kit Schellens, Terry Stewart, and Joe Zaraschi; 4-0-0 motion unanimously approved.*

## **4. Public Comment**

None.

## 5. Financial Report

Terry Stewart presented the February 23, 2017 Treasurer's report.

***Motion: Joe Zaraschi moved to approve the February 23, 2017 Treasurer's report. Earl Fowler seconded the motion. Those in favor: Earl Fowler, Kit Schellens, and Joe Zaraschi, Terry Stewart abstained; 3-0-1 motion approved.***

Three invoices were presented for approval:

- Betsy McLaughlin, Clerk - \$307.97 for February Clerk Services;
- Betsy McLaughlin, Clerk - \$300.25 Reimbursement for USPS pre-stamped mailing envelopes;
- Essex Printing - \$261.31 for newsletter layout and design.

***Motion: Joe Zaraschi moved to approve the invoices as presented. Earl Fowler seconded the motion. Those in favor: Earl Fowler, Kit Schellens, Terry Stewart, and Joe Zaraschi; 4-0-0 motion unanimously approved.***

## 6. Harbor Master Report

- **Commercial Renewals**

All commercial renewals were received except the Essex Yacht Club, and Essex Boat Works did not sign the required form. Follow up notifications will be sent regarding same.

The commercial renewal language needs to be reviewed and updated before mailing. Paul Riggio will ask John Senning to review this.

Brewer Dauntless Shipyard & Marina wants to reduce the number of commercial rental permits from 48 to 40 this year. Since the wait list is minimal, this presents an opportunity to allow for more spacing between boats in the southern area where concerns have been expressed in the past. If we take action on this now, we would be taking advantage of the economic situation and increase spacing without hardship to others. This option was discussed. If Brewer does reduce the number of permits, it was recommended that they apply for the Wait List for those eight spots to ensure they have them if they decide to increase the number next year.

***Motion: Terry Stewart moved to accept the Brewer Dauntless Shipyard & Marina reduction of eight commercial rental permits for the 2017 season and to use this space to give more room between boats, and to recommend to Brewer Dauntless that they apply for the Wait List for these permits in case they want to rethink the number of permits in the following season. Joe Zaraschi seconded the motion. Those in favor: Earl Fowler, Kit Schellens, Terry Stewart, and Joe Zaraschi; 4-0-0 motion unanimously approved.***

- **Below Top Ten Wait List Applicants**

Mooring permit applications were sent to 16 Wait List applicants listed below the Top Ten applicants. Four did not respond, two from the Main anchorage requested a sabbatical, and one is giving up a spot in North Cove.

- **Wait List Renewals**

Two of the nine Wait List renewals that were sent were not responded to and will be taken off the list.

## 7. Harbor Management Business

- **Capital Projects**

None.

- **Town Access Ways**

No update in light of the snow. Joe Zaraschi and Kit Schellens are still planning to review the access ways and put together a bullet list of what needs to be done.

- **Town Dock Maintenance/Replacement**

Strick Hyde will be making some recommendations for repair of the Town dock, hopefully by the next meeting.

## 8. Correspondence

A copy of a CT DEEP COP application form was received from Docko, Inc. to retain and maintain 74 ½ feet of existing wooden bulkhead and install 74 ½ feet of new wooden bulkhead on the waterward side of the existing bulkhead on behalf of Dr. George Tenney & Dr. Carol Lippia-Tenney, 8 Scholes Lane, Essex. No action on this is required by the Harbor Management Commission.

Brewer Dauntless Shipyard & Marina provided a quote in the amount of \$3,600.00 to replace the Town Park float. The quote to repair it is \$2,308.75. There was discussion as to whether to replace or repair the Town Park float.

***Motion: Earl Fowler moved to replace the Town Park float rather than repair it and to approve the quote from Brewer Dauntless for same. Kit Schellens seconded the motion. Those in favor: Earl Fowler, Kit Schellens, Terry Stewart, and Joe Zaraschi; 4-0-0 motion unanimously approved.***

Cy Libby will invoice the Harbor Management Commission upon completion of the replacement.

Docko, Inc. provided a letter with thoughts about the process and estimated costs for the Thatched Island Restoration project and Jeff reviewed this with Commission members.

## 9. New Business

Joe Zaraschi has been exploring the use of software for the purpose of on-line permit renewals and this was discussed. Joe will research this further and it be on the agenda for the next meeting.

## 10. Old Business

- **Confiscated Vessel Auction**

No update.

- **Harbor Management Plan Update**

No update.

- **Oil Spill/Catch Basins**

Steps are being taken by the Town to assure proper maintenance is performed as required.

- **Picard COP Application**

Jeff reported that DEEP is well aware of the Harbor Management Commission's stance on Mr. Picard's COP application for a dock retention project at 175 Saybrook Road and they are in support of it. They are not going to allow the large floating dock that had been there, and the size of the two electric hoists that have been proposed will be reduced.

- **Thatchbed Island Preservation**

Jeff provided an update on the Thatchbed Island Preservation project and next steps needed if it is to move forward. The project was discussed at length and questions were raised as to ownership of the island, funding of the project, and whether or not this fits with the Harbor Management Commission's purview.

At the end of the meeting, Jeff distributed copies of the recently completed newsletter and noted that the Bushnell Access renewal paperwork will be sent out on March 1, 2017.

## **11. Adjournment**

*Motion: Terry Stewart moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:15 p.m. Kit Schellens seconded the motion. Those in favor: Earl Fowler, Kit Schellens, Terry Stewart, and Joe Zaraschi; 4-0-0 motion unanimously approved.*

**Respectfully Submitted,**

**Betsy McLaughlin, Clerk**