

ESSEX HARBOR MANAGEMENT COMMISSION



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

**Regular Meeting
Thursday, April 23, 2015
Meeting Room B**

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
- John Senning
- Walter Wiegert, Treasurer
- Joe Zaraschi

Ex Officio Members Present

- Buddy Hitchcock, Deputy Harbor Master
- Paul Riggio, Harbor Master

Others Present

- Doug Domenie, Brewer Dauntless Shipyard & Marina
- Betsy McLaughlin, Clerk

Earl Fowler was seated for Wally Schieferdecker.

3. Approval of 3/26/15 Meeting Minutes

The March 26, 2015 meeting minutes were reviewed.

Motion: Walter Wiegert moved to approve the March 26, 2015 meeting minutes as written. John Senning seconded the motion. Those in favor: Earl Fowler, John Senning, Walter Wiegert, and Joe Zaraschi; 4-0-0 motion unanimously approved.

4. Public Comment

Doug Dominie noted that AIM Publications is having a Trawler Fest, which is a boat show and seminar series, from June 2 – 7 at Essex Island. They are making the arrangements for parking, transportation and with the Fire Marshal, and everything appears to be in order.

5. Financial Report

Treasurer Walter Wiegert reviewed the April 23, 2015 Treasurer's report.

Motion: Joe Zaraschi moved to approve the April 23, 2015 Treasurer's report. John Senning seconded the motion. Those in favor: Earl Fowler, John Senning and Joe Zaraschi; Walter Wiegert abstained; 3-0-1 motion approved.

Walter presented one invoice for approval:

- Betsy McLaughlin, Clerk - \$269.08 for April 2015 Clerk Services.

Motion: Walter Wiegert moved to approve the one invoice presented. Joe Zaraschi seconded the motion. Those in favor: Earl Fowler, John Senning, Walter Wiegert and Joe Zaraschi; 4-0-0 motion unanimously approved.

6. Harbor Master Report

Paul Riggio stated that inspections are well under way. He reviewed the 2015 sabbaticals, and the wait list was reviewed and discussed. Paul noted that Mr. Campbell, who was taking a sabbatical this year, has changed his mind and asked if he can take a mooring. Paul is checking to see if this is possible.

Doug Dominie asked about someone who doesn't have his hardware yet and is past deadline. Paul will follow up on this.

New Wait List Requests

- Peter Cooms, Main, check dated 3/25/15
- Andy Flick, Mack Lane, cash payment, application dated 3/27/15

Paul gave an update on the harbor master retraining program that he and Buddy Hitchcock are attending. He provided everyone with a copy of the handout on the change in the abandoned boat law, which defines when a boat is abandoned. Paul thinks this is a step in the right direction. John Senning will review the Act and provide Paul with his comments before the next training session. The pump out boat program was also discussed. Brewer's is providing the pump out facility and boat, and everything will be the same as before.

After the retraining program is completed, Paul and Jeff will set up a meeting with the Essex ambulance, police and fire departments to share the program with them in an effort to establish contacts and enhance the chain of communication with everyone in case of an emergency.

The Wait List renewal applications have been mailed, and the response deadline is April 30, 2015.

7. Harbor Management Business

- **Capital Projects:** None.
- **Town Access Ways**

Fifty-three small vessel permits have been issued for Bushnell Park public access, and three more applications have been received to date.

8. Correspondence

Correspondence has been received from the Connecticut River Museum asking for the Harbor Management Commission's support regarding a proposed change in the floating dock usage. This will be discussed under New Business.

9. New Business

Jeff Going has talked with Thomas Klin, Trustee of the Connecticut River Museum ("Museum") about the Museum's canoe and kayak paddle program. Safety concerns with regard to the program were expressed and discussed at length.

Correspondence from the Museum regarding their plans to apply to DEEP for a COP to expand the range of permissible uses for the existing, permitted floating dock configuration was reviewed and discussed. The Museum is proposing to extend the opportunity for Museum members to tie up at the floating docks during Museum operating hours.

Mr. Klin will attend the May 27, 2015 Harbor Management Commission meeting to discuss both topics.

Doug Domenie asked about the contract for installing the markers in the river. Paul Riggio will provide him with a contact for this.

10. Old Business

Joe Zaraschi spoke with CT River Dock & Dredge about the piling repairs needed and was given a figure of \$800 per piling to straighten the pilings.

Motion: Earl Fowler moved that we authorize an amount of \$2,400 and not to exceed \$3,000 for repair of the three pilings. Walter Wiegert seconded the motion. Those in favor: Earl Fowler, John Senning, Walter Wiegert and Joe Zaraschi; 4-0-0 motion unanimously approved.

Joe Zaraschi noted that the marks for the rock pile at the southern end are faded. He will look into getting them replaced.

Given the time, Jeff suggested that the Harbor Management Plan update project next on the agenda be discussed at the next meeting. The objective will be to go through the plan page by page, starting with the Existing Conditions.

11. Adjournment

Motion: Walter Wiegert moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 p.m. Joe Zaraschi seconded the motion. Those in favor: Earl Fowler, John Senning, Walter Wiegert and Joe Zaraschi; 4-0-0 motion unanimously approved.

Respectfully Submitted,

Betsy McLaughlin, Clerk