

MAYOR
MICHAEL A. PAVIA



CHAIRMAN
RAYMOND L. REDNISS
VICE CHAIRMAN
JEFFERY SAUNDERS
SECRETARY/TREASURER
DR DAMIAN ORTELLI

PAUL ADELBERG
JACK CONDLIN
STUART SOBEL
ROBERT STRADA

MICHAEL PENSIERO, ALTERNATE
ART RUFFLES, ALTERNATE

**CITY OF STAMFORD, CONNECTICUT
HARBOR MANAGEMENT COMMISSION**

Minutes of the February 19, 2013 Meeting

DRAFT

A regular meeting of the Stamford Harbor Commission was held on Tuesday, February 19, 2013 at the Stamford Government Center – Operations Room – Tenth Floor.

Roll Call

In attendance were:

Commissioners: Paul Adelberg; Jack Condlin; Dr. Damian Ortelli; Michael Pensiero, Alternate; Ray Redniss; Art Ruffles, Alternate; Jeffery Saunders; Robert J. Strada

Staff: Frank Fedeli, Customer Service Supervisor; Sgt. Bob Monck, SHC Stamford Police Dept. Geoff Steadman, Consultant; Captain Frank Fumega, Deputy Harbormaster

Absent: Stuart Sobel, Commissioner; Mike Taylor, Harbor Master (excused); Doug Hamilton, City of Stamford-Marina Dept.

Identification of Guests

Maureen Boylan, Save Our Boatyard; Carolyn Goldenberg, Save Our Boatyard; Cynthia Reeder; Randy Dinter, Save Our Boatyard; Steven M. Loch; Kevin Dailey; Melissa Bontemps; E. Kim, Advocate; John Josel, Public Trust Beneficiaries.

Call to Order

Chairman Redniss called the scheduled meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Harbor Master Mike Taylor has an excused absent.

Old Business

1) **Review and Approval of December 18, 2012 Minutes.** Minutes were reviewed.

**Condlin made a motion to approve the minutes of January 15, 2013 with the modification.
Seconded by Adelberg Unanimously Approved**

2) **Review of any unfinished business:** Comments after the reports on 205 Magee Avenue.

New Business

1) **Non-application related guest issues.** None.

2) **Correspondence:** A letter received from Attorney Elizabeth Barton at Day- Pitney regarding 36 Wallacks Drive and 52 Wallacks Drive for applications for docks. This will be discussed in the applications report.

3) **Chairman's Report:** Chairman Redniss stated there is a lot of activity that will be discussed on the 205 Magee site during the application report. He also reported that the Commission was invited by Rep. Dan Fox to the Cove Neighborhood Association Annual Meeting on Thursday, February 28, 2013, at 7:00 p.m. at Chelsea

Piers to discuss Emergency Safety Procedures and general Harbor Commission issues. Chairman Redniss and Harbor Master Taylor will be away and cannot attend. Geoff Steadman, and Commissioners Ortelli and Pensiero volunteered.

4) Staff Report: Mr. Fedeli stated the outstanding invoices approved for payment to Geoff Steadman and Mike Taylor have been paid. Mr. Fedeli briefly discussed Cummings Marina, moorings and FEMA.

5) Committee Reports:

Application Committee: Commissioner Condlin discussed 3 applications reviewed at the Plan Review Committee meeting held on February 12, 2013:

1- Miltco Property, 700 Fairfield Avenue. The application is for a COP to do maintenance dredging under the dock that is in conformity to a previous dredging permit that was issued. The Committee has recommended that it is compliant with the Harbor Management Plan.

Paul Adelberg made a motion to send out the letter stating the application is compliant with the Harbor Management Plan, along with the notes about the previous permits on this location.

Seconded by Damian Ortelli

Unanimously Approved

2- Two applications for docks on Wallacks Drive: A) Ron Harvey dock at 52 Wallacks Drive. B) Daniel McCloud at 36 Wallacks Drive. These applications were originally submitted prior to the adoption of the Harbor Management Plan. The Committee only received the tentative findings from DEEP, no actual application was submitted. Chairman Redniss received communication from DEEP that they will extend the comment period, and correspondence from Attorney Elizabeth Barton who is representing the Wallacks Point Association. Included with Attorney Barton's letter was correspondence sent to the DEEP from the Cove Island Wildlife Sanctuary.

Jack Condlin made a motion to request full copies of these permits from the DEEP in order to appropriately review and comment.

Seconded by Mike Pensiero

Unanimously Approved

Moorings Committee/Long Range Planning and Safety Committee: Commissioner Pensiero presented the following with respect to a joint committee meeting, held on February 14, 2013:

1- Harbor speed zones, and the Public Meeting to be held on March 6, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. at the Government Center, 4th Floor Cafeteria; proposed changes to the 2013 mooring placements and the possibility of creating specific areas within On-Line Mooring-Harbormaster Taylor to follow up; funding to place the markers; timing for implementation. Discussion was held with respect to the implementation process.

2- 205 Magee Avenue. Commissioner Saunders recused himself from this discussion. Chairman Redniss recused himself from participation however reserved his right to conduct the meeting. Commissioner Pensiero reported on a number of safety concerns of the Commissioners, as well as correspondences submitted by the commercial tug and barge companies. A draft letter was presented for discussion. Chairman Redniss reiterated the facts in the record and confirmation of receipt of the full application package including full size drawings on which he had highlighted the critical depths and dimensions of the channel.

Chairman Redniss stated neither the applicant nor DEEP has any questions of the Harbor Commission or Dr. Ortelli. Therefore, he does not need to attend the hearing tomorrow. They have scheduled an additional continuance of the hearing to March 4, 2013.

Commissioner Ortelli offered a draft of a letter to be sent to Hearing Officer Kenneth Collette with respect to the Public Hearing on February 6, 2013. The letter recited 3 main safety concerns of the Commission: A) The proximity of the proposed floating docks to the federal channel and the potential for conflict between barges navigating the channel and recreational vessels using the docks; B) the lack of any protective structures to buffer the recreational boating facilities from commercial vessels; and C) the restricted depths along the westerly part of the federal channel, which affect the ability of the commercial vessels to navigate a safe distance away from the area of the proposed project. Discussion of the issue highlighted the significance of

these issues and the need to state that without appropriate resolution to the satisfaction of the commercial operators, Army Corps of Engineers and the Harbor Commission, the plan would not be consistent with the harbor Management Plan.

**Jack Condlin made a motion to modify the letter with the language discussed.
(Alternates Pensiero and Ruffles participating and voting in place of Redniss & Saunders)
Seconded by Damian Ortelli Unanimously Approved**

Concerns regarding statements by Brian Thomson in a January 10, 2013 letter made in response to our December 20th cover letter to Attachment E were raised and discussed.

**Robert Strada made a motion to write a letter to Mr. Thomson in specific response to objectionable statements in the January 10th letter.
Seconded by Jack Condlin Unanimously Approved**

Harbor Master: No report.

6) Transact other new business.

The next scheduled meeting has been scheduled for Tuesday, March 19, 2013 at 6:30 p.m. in the Operations Room, Tenth Floor.

**Condlin made a motion to adjourn.
Seconded by Adelberg Unanimously approved**

The meeting adjourned at 8:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted
Maria Vazquez-Goncalves
February 26, 2013

Cc: Commissioners; Michael A. Pavia, Mayor; Ernie Orgera, Director of Operations;
Board of Representatives; Town Clerks Office