



CITY OF STAMFORD, CONNECTICUT
HARBOR MANAGEMENT COMMISSION

Minutes of January 20, 2015

DRAFT

A Scheduled Meeting was held on Tuesday, January 20, 2015 at the Stamford Government Center – Training Room, 6th Floor.

Called to order at 6:30 p.m., Chairman Ortelli presiding.

In Attendance:

Commissioners: Dr. Damian Ortelli; Robert Karp; Paul Adelberg; Jeffery Saunders; Robert J. Strada; Michael Pensiero, Alternate
Staff: Eric Knott, Harbor Master; Sgt. Bob Monck, Stamford Police Dept.; Frank Fedeli, COS; Geoff Steadman, Consultant
Absent: Ray Redniss; Griffith Trow; Steven Loeb, Alternate; Sean Elumba, Marina Supervisor

Guests: Bill Buckley and Max Haub, BLT/Harbor Point; Erin McKenna, Land Use Bureau; Devin Santa, RACE; Matt Rakowski, RACE; Tom Young, Boating Advocate; Gary Sorge, Stantec Consulting.

1) Review and Approval of December 16, 2014 Meeting Minutes.

Commissioner Karp moved to approve minutes. Seconded by Commissioner Adelberg. Approved Unanimously

2) Chairman's Report: D. Ortelli

- a) Brief discussion on grant money for dredging project at Cove Inlet
- b) Newly created CT. Port Authority. Deferred to New Business – Part 2.

6) New Business - Part 1:

a) Cummings Park/Beach/Marina Master Plan Update: Plan includes West Beach. Presentation given by Gary Sorge, Stantec Consulting, Devin Santa and Mat Rakowski, RACE, who discussed in detail various design options. Much discussion centered on a new layout for the Marina. A reduction in the quantity of slips is necessary to accommodate larger boats and a new boat launch. Pavilion and parking layout concepts were also presented. The consultants are trying to attract broader public and stake holder input before finalizing a master plan.

3) Staff Reports:

a) Financial –Frank Fedeli presented 4 documents (copies attached to these minutes): 1) Fiscal Year 2015/2016 Mayor's Proposed Operating Budget (by Category); 2) Fiscal Year 2015/2016 Category Breakdown Report; 3) spreadsheet from the Controller's office detailing account activities for the Harbor Commission with a total Balance of \$21,260.05; 4) spreadsheet Account History Inquiry by Date-Mooring Permit Fees collected (7/10/14-9/10/14) totaling \$10,598.13. Discussion held on status of payments due Consultant Steadman and HM Knott. Fedeli to request additional appropriation to cover fund shortfall in SHMC's account due largely to mayor's requirement that all Commission and committee meetings be video recorded. This shortfall is cited as causing delayed reimbursements to the HM. Ms. Vazquez-Goncalves to follow up with the city's accounting dept. regarding Mr. Steadman's fees which had been submitted and approved for payment.

b) Harbor Master – E. Knott

In his capacity as a state official Knott met on 12/30/14 with BLT's John Freeman, and reported having a general discussion on a variety of harbor and marine related topics.

- On January 8, 2015 dock and equipment damage reportedly caused by barges in the West Branch at O&G docks.
- 2015 Mooring stickers need to be ordered. Fedeli to follow up on processing 100 stickers.
- Collating a list of contact details for all barge operators in the harbor and the tug companies they use. Will circulate when completed.
- Has worked up operational figures for the Harbor Commission boat for the last six months. This will help determine future costs for maintaining the boat. Fedeli commented funds for this purpose are earmarked for the Harbor Master in the Police Department account.
- Copy of Harbor Master's full report is attached to these minutes.

4) Committee Reports:

Safety – R. Strada reported on meeting held January 15, 2015:

- Discussed a meeting with Mr. B. Nussbaum's representative, regarding safety concerns. Committee recommended property owner post No Trespassing signs on its property.
 - Discussed setting up a conference call with Ted Jankowski, Public SH&W Director, and Coast Guard regarding safe anchorage of vessels inside the moveable Hurricane barrier during severe storms for better clarification.
 - Discussed vendor AST for cameras in the Harbor. Ted Jenkowski will be meeting with the Army Corps of Engineers regarding the cameras.
- Full committee discussion available on website video and written minutes.

Applications – D. Orтели (for G. Trow) reported on meeting held January 5, 2015:

- Discussed additional detail report from Bill Buckley, BLT representative, regarding operations of the temporary boatyard at former Yacht Haven West. Much discussion concerned operating hours and dates. The committee noted that schedule appears to be out of compliance with the conditions imposed by the Zoning Board. Discussion on timeframe for completion of remediation and bulkhead restoration on the former Yacht Haven West site, including site where the temporary boatyard is, Mr. Buckley stated that as long as the temporary boatyard is open, even during winter months, remediation and bulkhead repairs cannot be completed. The committee noted that because one of the conditions of the approval of the temporary yard by the Zoning Board is that it remains in operation until the permanent yard is restored "to the site," it appears to create a "catch 22" challenge. Upon committee recommendation, Commission to contact Land Use Bureau Chief N. Cole for clarification of the required conditions for operating the temporary boatyard.
 - Consultant Steadman discussed the Stamford Landing/Davenport Landing pre-application meeting that he and Commissioner Karp attended convened by the Land Use Bureau Chief Norman Cole on 12/18/15. Applicant BLT is also requesting relief from condition 7 of the GPoD requiring a fully operational boatyard be maintained on the 14-acre former YHW site. It was the sense of the Committee that the Commission contacts Mr. Cole to clarify whether this request is part of the Davenport Landing application to the Land Use Bureau or a separate request that, as such, should be reviewed separately by the SHMC.
 - Discussion of review and committee protocol, procedures and application forms regarding permits and COP's.
 - Discussion on the Walter Wheeler Drive Zoning Board Application 208-06 Modification (S3)-Lighting Plan: Commissioner Karp summarized the process of this application. Because of the lack of information the committee was unable to fully review the application, and therefore recommended it be found inconsistent with the Harbor Management Plan. Comm. Orтели to discuss with ZB Chair Mills.
- Full committee discussion available on website video and written minutes.

Planning/Moorings – D. Orтели (for S. Loeb) reported on meeting held January 12, 2015:

- Discussion held to review/revise "Regulations for Mooring and Anchoring Vessels in the Stamford Harbor Management Area". Revised draft submitted to the SHMC for approval. Commission tabled final adoption pending further clarifications until Commission's meeting in February. Meanwhile Harbor Master Knott to send out a Notice to mooring owners of the pending regulation changes, including insurance coverage requirement increasing from \$200,000.00 to \$500,000.00 effective at the start of the 2015 boating season.
- Full committee discussion available on website video and written minutes.

Harbor Management Plan Review – D. Orтели reported on meeting held January 12, 2015:

- Committee recommended Ray Redniss to be the Chair of the HMP Review Committee

Due to Ray Redniss absence, alternate Commissioner Pensiero will be voting.

Commissioner Karp made a motion to approve Ray Redniss as the Chairperson of the HMP Review Committee.

Seconded by Commissioner Pensiero.

Approved Unanimously

General discussion held on process for reviewing/revising HMP.

- HMP to be installed on google doc so that it can be easily edited and color coded by each editor.
- Meetings to coincide on same date and location as the Planning/Mooring Committee.
Full committee discussion available on website audio and written minutes.

5) Old Business: NONE

6) New Business – Part 2:

b) Consultant Steadman, a member of the CT Harbor Management Association, reported on concerns raised over the newly created statewide Port Authority; specifically as to funding implications for small and mid-size harbors. It's feared that the "Big Three" harbors (Bridgeport, New Haven and New London) will co-op most of the funds for dredging and other projects. Status of the state harbor master program might also be in jeopardy if it becomes orphaned within the bureaucracy of various state agencies. Ortelli to forward CHMA's concerns to members of SHMC. Steadman recommends key state legislators be informed of the situation. Senator Carl Leone, a member of the legislative Transportation Committee, was mentioned.

7) Public Participation – The following addressed the Commission:

Tom Young – spoke in reference to another letter he sent to the Coast Guard regarding protocols for manning undocked boats inside the movable hurricane barrier during major storms, but has yet to receive a response.

8) Next scheduled Commission meeting: Tuesday, February 17, 2015 at 6:30 p.m., 6th Floor Training Room.

Upon motion by Commissioner Karp, seconded by Commissioner Pensiero, Commission voted unanimously to adjourn at 9:51 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Robert M. Karp
Secretary/Treasurer
January 22, 2015

Cc: Commissioners; David Martin, Mayor; Ernie Orgera, Director of Operations;
Board of Representatives; Town Clerks Office