

WATERFRONT AND HARBOR MANAGEMENT COMMISSION
MINUTES OF MEETING

The Waterfront and Harbor Management Commission conducted a regularly scheduled meeting on Wednesday, July 13, 2016, in room 213 of Stratford Town Hall, 2725 Main Street, Stratford, CT 06615 pursuant to notice duly posted.

1. CALL TO ORDER: At 7:30 p.m.

PRESIDING: Chairman Ed Scinto

COMMISSIONERS IN ATTENDANCE: Edward Scinto, Scott Corner, Bill Rock, Thomas Logan, Patrick Gribbon, Jonathan Ackley, Henry Halverson

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE: Administrator Geoff Steadman, Harbormaster Ross Hatfield, Tom Hamilton - Riverlights Event Coordinator, Patrick Cumins – Audubon Manager at 207 Prospect Drive.

DOCUMENT DISTRIBUTED: June 2016 balance sheet – distributed by Mr. Gribbon.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES — Mr. Rock made a motion to approve the minutes of regularly scheduled meeting of June 8, 2016 to include Mr. Corner’s amendment re: change the word “transmission” to “transom” on page 2, paragraph 2. The motion was seconded by Mr. Corner and passed unanimously.

3. PERMITS AND REVIEWS — Certificate of Permission application received from CT DEEP re: expand an existing “living shoreline” in the intertidal zone adjacent to the northern shore of the former Lordship Gun club. The living shoreline will include an artificial reef and subsequent establishment of a smooth cordgrass (*Spartina alterniflora*) marsh. In total, the project will provide an additional 750 feet of coastal erosion control and approximately 4.5 acres of intertidal wetland habitat. The artificial reef will be constructed using pre-cast cement “reef balls” and will serve as a strategically placed barrier to dissipate wave energy and associated scour. Alteration of these processes will create favorable conditions for the establishment of smooth cordgrass, which is intended to restore the marsh that was historically present at the site.

Mr. Steadman presented a descriptive look at the area 2 years ago along with photos. Sporting Goods properties is supportive of the project. The project is proposed for the north shore, the structures are concrete and are made in Florida.

Questions were posed to Mr. Cumins re: sand dredging, level of growth of spartina, completion of lead remediation. Currently there are 61 reef balls at the site, 275 more are proposed.

Mr. Steadman presented a few comments and recommendations: WF&HMC supports the plan for erosion control and remediation, on-going monitoring, natural character of the shoreline, support expansion of the project for use of sand for shore protection in the future.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. ROCK, SECONDED BY MR. CORNER TO FORWARD CORRESPONDENCE TO CTDEEP IN SUPPORT OF THE PROJECT WITH THE CORRESPONDENCE TO INCLUDE THE COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS AS ARTICULATED BY MR. STEADMAN. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

4. CORRESPONDENCE — Mr. Scinto forwarded a few invoices to Mr. Gribbon.

Mr. Scinto allowed Item #8 – New Business – Riverlights coordinator to Speak at this time. Mr. Tom Hamilton, Coordinator for the Riverlights event, presented this year's event plan. Riverlights, 9th year of operation, will no longer act in a competitive capacity. The activity is planned for Sept. 17 at 7:15 to 7:30 p.m. He will be forwarded an indemnity agreement. The event is a fund-raising activity for Swim Across the Sound.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. CORNER, SECONDED BY MR. LOGAN TO DONATE \$700.00 TO SWIM ACROSS THE SOUND. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

5. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a. Plans and Recommendations – Mr. Gribbon reported on the Town Council meeting of July 11. The Council appointed Tom Gloersen, Henry Halverson and Reese Mitchell to the WFHMC.
- b. Dredging Update — Mr. Rock reported that the current dredging plans are on track. 300,000 cubic yards will be dredged. This project is the largest state funded dredging project in state history.
- c. Vessel Maintenance —Mr. Corner reported. The vessel has fuel/water/drain tank problems. The grant is due by Aug. 8. \$2,000.00 was received for the old motor. Mr. Corner requests an executive session prior to conclusion of this meeting to discuss personnel issues.
- d. Ramp Maintenance – Mr. Corner reported a very busy ramp season. The overlook at the pier is finished, deck was power washed and coated. It is too late to stripe the parking lot this year.
- e. Finance — Mr. Gribbon reviewed the above-cited balance sheet. Questions were posed to Mr. Gribbon. The account balance is \$165,358. David Shafter requests a \$125.00 launching permit refund. Mr. Hatfield shared the unusual circumstances of the request.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. CORNER, SECONDED BY MR. LOGAN TO APPROVE THE REQUEST FOR A \$125.00 REFUND. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

- f. Information and Technology – No report.

- g. Special Events — No new business.
 - h. Municipal Pier — No report.
 - i. Bonds Dock subcommittee — No report.
 - j. Birdseye concession subcommittee — No new information.
 - k. State and Regional Organizations — The Port of Authority officials will set up a meeting with each coastal harbor town.
 - l. Shore Road — Mr. Gribbon reported that a group of residents from a portion of Stratford Ave. are requesting the street name to be changed to Shore Road.
 - m. Review/Study/Update Harbor Management Plan subcommittee — No report.
 - n. Coastal Resiliency study — No new information.
 - o. Fire Rescue Vessel subcommittee — No new information.
6. HARBORMASTER REPORT – Mr. Hatfield reported. Boat traffic and harbor congestion during July fireworks, unknown boat was parked at Breakwater Key (traced to Trumbull registration), photographer at the light house at night.
7. OLD BUSINESS — Placement of signage at Bonds dock discussed.
8. NEW BUSINESS — None
9. OTHER BUSINESS

Waterfront and Harbor Management Commission meeting recessed into Executive session: 9:30 p.m.

Waterfront and Harbor Management Commission meeting reconvened: 9:50 p.m.

10. ADJOURNMENT — There being no other business to discuss, Mr. Corner made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Mr. Ackley and carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 9:52 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted, Carol Cabral, Secretary