

**REGULAR MEETING**  
**Minutes of Tuesday, March 17, 2009**  
 7:30 PM, East Lyme Town Hall  
 108 Pennsylvania Ave.,  
 Niantic, CT 06357

Present: Chairman Don Landers, Treasurer Steven Dinsmore, Secretary Frank Skewes, Marvin Schutt, Barbara Johnston, Bill Mountzoures

Absent: Greg Murin.

Also Present: Harbor Master Joseph Hitchery, Ex-Officio Jack Hogan, Jaxon Vibber, Cliff Kramm

**1 Call to Order**

Chairman Landers opened the Regular Meeting at 7:30 PM.

**2 Approval of Minutes of Regular Meeting of February 17, 2009**

**MOTION 1: A motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 17, 2009 was made by Mr. Mountzoures, seconded by Mr. Schutt. Motion carried (6-0).**

**3 Public Delegations**

None

**4 Old Business**

**A. Mooring Permits**

Mr. Skewes reported that approximately 102 applications had been received with checks; three new applications and the rest renewals. The checks are being recorded and forwarded to the Town Finance Department.

**B. Harbor Management Plan – Reports from Sub-Committees**

Mr. Dinsmore asked for final comments on the previously reviewed section, and passed out copies of the next section to be reviewed by the sub-committee.

**C. Connecticut Harbor Management Association**

Mr. Dinsmore reported that he thought we would have an opportunity to talk to members of the Association at their next meeting in March.

**5 New Business**

**A. Correspondence**

**Outgoing**

None.

**Incoming**

1. DEP COP No. COP-2009-032-MG dated 3/2/09, John Ranelli, Stone wall repair at Giants Neck
2. DEP Permit Consultation Form, dated 3/9/09, Stephen and Susan Hopkins, Dock Modifications on Smith Cove in Niantic
3. Bill from New London Day for Public Notice

4. Email on Marina Summit Meeting scheduled for 3/31/09 at 3:00PM in Main Conference Room at EL Town Hall
5. Mooring permit application correspondence

**MOTION 2: A motion to approve the Permit Consultation Form in paragraph A.2. as being consistent with the Harbor Management Plan with a general comment expressing concern about the aesthetics of lift docks was made by Mr. Dinsmore, seconded by Mr. Mountzoures. Motion was defeated (2-4) with Mr. Mountzoures and Ms. Johnston vote in favor.**

The disposition of the Permit Consultation Form (Paragraph A.2.) was tabled to the next meeting.

Chairman Landers stated that he would not be able to attend the Marina Summit meeting. Ms. Johnston asked if First Selectman Formica could be prepared to talk about the coming improvements to the Railroad drawbridge at the Marina Summit meeting.

**B. Discussion of 2009/2010 Budget and Purchase recommendations (rain gauge, GPS, etc.)**

Mr. Dinsmore reported that the budget had been reviewed by the Board of Selectmen and forwarded to the Board of Finance. Mr. Hogan addressed the funding for update of the Harbor Management Plan.

WELSCO has purchased rain gauges which obviates the need for our Commission to purchase rain gauges.

**MOTION 3: A motion to use the Kumpitsch Fund to purchase a handheld GPS for the use of the Harbor Master and the Commission in managing the mooring locations was made by Ms. Johnston and seconded by Mr. Schutt. Motion carried (6-0).**

**6 Reports**

**A. Shellfish Warden**

Not present.

**B. Harbor Master**

Mr. Hitchery met with several government representatives since the last meeting. A mooring permit form is being designed, a mooring inspection certificate is being designed, and outhaul mooring (pole mooring) regulations and standards are being developed. He would be attending two meeting of state harbor management organizations this month, and also would attend the Marina Summit meeting this month.

Chairman Landers reported about a 13-foot Boston Whaler owned by Dominion that might be available as surplus equipment for the Harbor Master's use.

**C. Treasurer**

Mr. Dinsmore reported that the shellfish warden payroll account was under spent. He suggested that we should transfer funds from that account to the harbor maintenance account.

**MOTION 2: A motion to approve the Treasurer's Report was made by Mr. Schutt and seconded by Mr. Mountzoures. Motion carried (6-0).**

**D. Ex-Officio**

Mr. Hogan reported on the budget earlier in the meeting. He also reported about additional budget that has been allocated for additional marine patrols by the East Lyme Police Department and coordination of those patrols with the Waterford Police Department.

#### **7 Comments from other Commission Members**

Chairman Landers informed the Commission that he would be deposed next month in the discrimination case brought against the Town in the Oswegatchie Hills Landmark suit.

Ms. Johnston reported that she had inspected the outhaul moorings (mooring poles) at the end of Smith Street and that the situation there was a serious problem with regard to the public's access to the water. Harbor Master Hitchery reported that he was aware of the problems there.

#### **8 Adjournment**

**MOTION 3: Mr. Skewes moved the meeting be adjourned at 9:30 PM, seconded by Mr. Dinsmore. Motion carried (6-0).**

Respectfully Submitted,  
Frank Skewes, Secretary