

**EAST LYME HARBOR MANAGEMENT & SHELLFISH COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 18, 2023
EAST LYME TOWN HALL**

Chairman
Stephen Dinsmore

Treasurer
Donald F. Landers Jr.

Secretary
Jim Allen

Members Present: Steve Dinsmore, Don MacKenzie, Jim Allen, Greg Murin, Don Landers, Rick Kanter Craig Mason

Members Absent: none

Ex-Officio(s) Present: Anne Chicciello

Also Present: Ron Johnson, Harbor Master, Mark Berger Deputy Harbor Master

1. CALL TO ORDER: S. Dinsmore called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF MARCH 21, 2023.

MOTION: (Landers/Allen) to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of March 21, 2023 as presented. Vote: APPROVED unanimously

3. PUBLIC DELEGATIONS-none

4. REPORTS

C. Treasurer:

D. Landers informed the members that the budget is 108% spent.

So far, \$1625.00 has been collected by the town for moorings and approximately \$11,500 has been submitted through Online Mooring. A. Chicciello stated the special revenue fund will be approved by the BOS and set up by the Finance Director, Kevin Gervais (kgervais@eltownhall.com.) Any purchases would need a purchase order submitted to K. Gervais.

E. Ex-Officio: A. Chicciello reported she attended the Zoning Commission which had a public hearing for properties on Main Street. Niantic Cinema has been taken over by Niantic Bay Playhouse who just received zoning approval to serve alcohol.

F. Harbor Master

R. Johnson reported there are 92 approved moorings, 62 waiting for approval and 135 which have not submitted a renewal. There is a wait list of 8 in Giants Neck. He said that if all the moorings listed paid it would amount to approximately \$21,675. Three Belles currently has 28 moorings. R. Johnson said he does not know if the moorings approved by DEEP to the previous owner were carried over to the new owner. Three Belles have moorings in the river as well.

The issue of mooring owners passing on their mooring spots was discussed; it was noted the ordinance does not allow transfer of mooring spots. The mooring needs to be taken out of the water if no longer needed and if it opens a spot it goes to the next person on the wait list.

D. MacKenzie informed the members that the dredging in Long Island Sound has been stopped due to New York objections. The issue is still in the courts.

The Harbormaster boat needs a slip. M. Berger will talk to T. Londregan about the availability of a slip and the price.

Discussion of Harbormaster Boat

D. MacKenzie informed the members the boat swap is close to being resolved and verbal agreements are in place. He read a letter from Lieutenant Mike Macek outlining the dissolution date of the grant and agreeing the swap between the boats would be advantageous to both sides.

RECEIVED FOR RECORD
EAST LYME, CT
2023 APR 19 P 11:08
Caulfield
TOWN CLERK

Renewal of mooring permits-extension

Due to the launch of the new mooring system and the late start of notification, the late fee for year 2023 has been extended to May 12, 2023.

Consideration of Harbormaster salary adjustment

The Commission discussed a salary increase for the Harbormaster. The State provides \$450 per year for salary, the town does not supplement the salary. It was the consensus of the Commission that the salary should be more but they would wait until the special revenue account was set up to evaluate the Commissions expenses. The salary adjustment will be in future agendas.

5. OLD BUSINESS

A. Shellfish Lease / Londregan Lease Renewal:

S. Dinsmore has been reviewing the Shellfish Management Plan. He said sections 1 and 2 weren't bad, section 3 was ok but section 4 needed work. He stated he needs a point of contact for an attorney to discuss and straighten out the Shellfish Plan. He would like to create a flow chart for the process of submitting/renewing shellfish leases. Some of the area designations have changed.

B. Shellfish Management Plan- discussed above.

C. Sign Replacement/Sign Maintenance

S. Dinsmore contacted Sign Craft and he has the original print, the blanks for the signs cost \$60.00. He spoke to DA/BA and they are not sure of the signage requirements. D. Landers said the Commission should go to the MOU between the Commission and DA/BA. The red and white signs for shellfish areas were discussed. The members discussed placing a sign with the state hotline number for shell fishing instead of the red and white signs.

D. Expanding open areas to west side of Black Point

S. Dinsmore said that if they were to expand into the west side of Black Point, they would need to take additional samples at seven locations. They would need to have access to the islands as well.

6. NEW BUSINESS

A. McCooks Raft Mooring

The members discussed a mooring for the existing raft at McCooks. It was determined that the raft would need two moorings. S. Dinsmore will contact the Park and Recreation Director.

7. FINAL COMMENTS:

The dredging for Bridebrook was discussed.

The cost of the shellfish lease renewal needs to be discussed and passed onto the applicant.

8. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: (Landers/Murin) to adjourn at 8:05 PM. Vote: Approved Unanimously

Respectfully Submitted
Sue Spang
Recording Secretary

Meetings are conducted on the third Tuesday of the month.
*Meetings are conducted on the third Monday of the month
The meetings will start at 7:00