

**EAST LYME HARBOR MANAGEMENT & SHELLFISH COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
OCTOBER 21, 2025  
EAST LYME TOWN HALL**

Chairman  
Stephen Dinsmore

Treasurer  
Hull Manwaring

Secretary  
Jim Allen

**Members Present:** Steve Dinsmore, Don Landers, Jim Allen, Ron Johnson, Hull Manwaring, Susan Gonzalez

**Members Absent:** Craig Mason,

**Ex-Officio(s) Present:** Jason Deeble

**Also Present:** Jim Spang Harbormaster, Marc Berger, Deputy Harbormaster

**CALL TO ORDER:** S. Dinsmore called the meeting to order at 7:01 PM

**1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**A. September 16, 2025, Regular Meeting:**

**MOTION: (Allen/Johnson) to approve the minutes as presented. Vote: APPROVED unanimously**

**2. PUBLIC DELEGATIONS**

**a. Melissa Root, Port Authority Liaison**

M. Root introduced herself and said she has been with the Port Authority for 10 years. The SHIP Grant is in its 5<sup>th</sup> round and has appropriated 5 million annually by the state legislature. Last year they expanded who is eligible for grants which now includes private entities and large harbors. Some of the things the grant can be used for are docks, infrastructure, dredging, ramps, etc.

The grant is a reimbursement grant and requires a 20% match.

She said the best-case scenario for the next round to be approved will be in January.

Representatives from the Black Point Beach Association said they are working on two projects for submittal-repair and fortification of a groin and pier and an access way with a dock and kayak landing.

M. Root suggested they make an appointment for a pre meeting. She confirmed that if a SHIP grant is awarded for a project, then it has to allow public access because the grant is taxpayer funded. Also, if a project is awarded then the applicant would have a better chance for a follow up grant award so the project can move forward.

She said there is a rubric and municipalities get priority over private entities

**b. Public Delegations**

Mike Theiler wanted to publicly thank Harbormaster Jim Spang for his work the last 3 years and said the Commission was fortunate to have him and the quality of past harbormasters.

**3. REPORTS**

**A. Treasurer**

H. Manwaring said the only bills that have come in are \$85.00 to haul a mooring and the cost of the recording secretary. The account has a deficit of \$2144.00

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**B. Ex-Officio:**

J. Deeble reported the capital improvement subcommittee has been meeting to determine what capital projects will be considered and suggested the Commission look to see what they should put forward.

**C. Harbor Master:**

J. Spang said he has received the mooring stickers and submitted the invoice as well as an invoice for fuel to be split with Waterford in the amount of \$175.00. He informed them of an issue with the bilge pump. The slow/no wake buoys on the Pattagansett have been pulled. S. Dinsmore has written a letter of recommendation for the new Harbormaster and will submit to the state, along with J. Spangs resignation letter.

**4. OLD BUSINESS**

**A. Shellfish Area Signage-no report**

**B. Fishing line Disposal Units**

S. Dinsmore noticed a trash can at Cini Park which seems to discourage people putting trash in the fishing line disposal units.

**C. West Black Point Shellfish Area**

S. Dinsmore said that Paul Grady has had a difficult time coordinating with DABA and could not find enough shellfish for testing

**D. Small Harbor Improvement Projects Program (SHIPP Grant)-discussed earlier**

**E. Requirement for Insurance for Moorings**

S. Dinsmore said he has not had a chance to call other towns to see if they require insurance. It was determined that Old Lyme, New London and Stonington require insurance. Old Lyme requires a minimum of \$100,000.

**5. NEW BUSINESS:**

**A. DEEP Wake Boat Request for Comments**

S. Dinsmore asked if anyone had any comments as they are due the next day

**6. COMMUNICATIONS**

**Letter from the Twon Clerk concerning rules and guidelines**

**7. FINAL COMMENTS-none**

**ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION: (Landers/Allen) to adjourn at 7:53 PM. Vote: Approved Unanimously**

Respectfully Submitted  
Sue Spang  
Recording Secretary

2025 Meeting Dates:  
, November 18, December 16